

Recognize Anything?

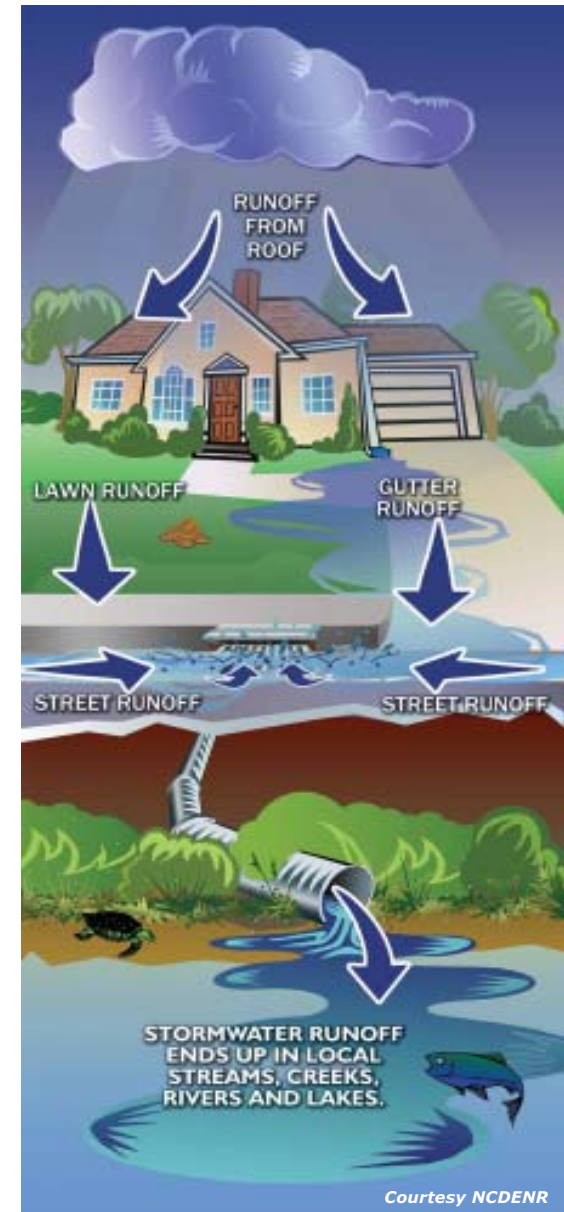
The dots on the map indicate spots where our teams of surveyors found opportunities to reduce pollution sources during our survey in the spring of 2006.

If you happen to live at one of these dots – or know someone who does – then perhaps you’d consider joining our effort to start to remedy these sources of polluted water in Spruce Creek.

Or, if you think you have some other ideas of how to make your yard more watershed-friendly, please let us know and we’ll see if we can get you some help with your project.

Spruce Creek Needs You

YOU Make All the Difference



Stormwater pollution sites identified in the Spruce Creek Non-point Source Pollution Shoreline Survey, 2005-2006.

Dear Neighbor, November 2008

Spruce Creek is at its tipping point. The water quality continues to degrade because of storm water runoff carrying pollutants into the Creek. What does that mean for all of us? It means the loss of an important natural resource for clamming, fishing, boating, swimming, and admiring nature's wonders. It also means the possibility of devalued waterfront property values.

What can we do together?

- This winter volunteer your house, invite your neighbors over and **host an informational meeting** to understand the issues facing our Creek. Our team will come and discuss the issues and possible solutions. Please contact us if you are able to help at this level.
- **Attend a neighborhood informational meeting.** Let us know if you'd like to learn, and we'll find you a social to attend if there isn't one in your neighborhood.
- Volunteer your property to **be a demonstration site.** We've begun our two-year-long Spruce Creek Watershed Improvement Project (SCWIP-1), sponsored by the Town of Kittery and funded by a Maine DEP grant.



- We are looking for 10 projects to demonstrate simple and affordable landscaping techniques. **The work and materials will be completed with the grant covering half - either half the cost of materials or half the labor - and you "matching" the other 50%.** Your yard will be on display for our Creek Day Celebration in the fall of 2009. Planning will take place now through February and work will be completed during the spring/summer 2009.

To help Spruce Creek, please contact us by returning the enclosed card, calling Marty Rea at 439-6461, or emailing scwip@comcast.net.

What can you do now?

There are plenty of things you can take care of on your own property to make sure you're limiting the quantity of storm water that "runs off" as well as eliminating the pollution that it can carry with it.

- Keep or plant gardens as a buffer at the base of hills and along the water or road's edge
- Reduce the amount of yard that is planted in grass
- Avoid using excessive pesticides, fertilizers, and water
- Mulch and plant bare spots to reduce soil erosion
- Use a rain barrel to collect rooftop rain and provide free water for your lawns and gardens



- Create rain gardens to capture runoff
- Pick up after your pet
- Compost your yard waste away from streams and the shoreline
- Have your septic system inspected and pumped at least every 3 to 5 years



Become a Creek-Friendly Home

For these and more ideas on making your home more creek-friendly consider taking the pledge online at www.protectkitterywaters.org/pledge - and you'll receive a sign to display in your yard!

Our Goals

- 10 neighborhood informational meetings
- 10 demonstration projects in place by the fall of 2009
- 500 residents informed and taking steps to improve the water quality of Spruce Creek
- Spruce Creek Celebration Day Fall of 2009

We'll be happy to answer your questions and send you additional information about the project or you can visit our website at www.protectkitterywaters.org.

Sincerely,

Sue Cobler
Project Manager
Spruce Creek Watershed
Improvement Project (SCWIP)
Town of Kittery, Maine
www.protectkitterywaters.org

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Please tell me more...

- I'd like to **host an informational meeting** to help me, my friends and my neighbors understand the issues facing our Creek.
- I'd like to **attend a neighborhood informational meeting**.
- I'd like to learn more about how to **become a demonstration site volunteer** and about the work that can be done to my property to make it Creek Friendly and help to educate other residents about ways to prevent stormwater runoff pollution.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail _____

- Please send me more information about how to make my yard Creek Friendly.

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Spruce Creek Watershed Improvement Project

Town of Kittery, Maine
200 Rogers Road Extension
Kittery, Maine 03904
www.protectkitterywaters.org



MR. HOME OWNER
123 HALEY ROAD
KITTERY ME 03904