



# THE FLOW N' GO

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## PROJECT WILL INCREASE DRAINAGE CAPACITY; REDUCE FLOODING

Last quarter's issue of *The Flow N' Go* featured an article that informed residents as to how they could get updates on road closures and detours in effect for the downtown drain project. Readers were directed to the Town's website at [www.marblehead.org](http://www.marblehead.org) or to the police department's Twitter account @mheadpolice or their Facebook page.

This encouraged people to ask the *Why? How? and When?* of the project. Inquiring minds want to know.

So in this quarter's newsletter we will attempt to answer some of the many questions that have been posed.



(The drain project is funded by the Town and the Water and Sewer Com-

mission is overseeing the job on the Town's behalf.)

The *Why?* can best be answered by looking at the photos scattered about in this article.



The current storm drain system in the area of Pleasant, Sewall and School streets was installed in the late 1800's and is antiquated and inadequate. Marblehead has changed a lot since then.

What was once open space with fields, grass and dirt roads is now concrete, buildings and asphalt. The open areas were able to absorb heavy rainfall; concrete, asphalt and buildings can't.

The result of this development is rain that has nowhere to go, flooding streets, homes and businesses.

Just how bad is the flooding? The photos here tell the story.

That's why this project needed to be done. Now for the *How?*

In order to move stormwater out of the downtown area faster, larger capacity pipes were installed along Atlantic Avenue. This line was then connected to the 54-inch Chestnut Street outfall that was put in by the drain department in 2003 and which has proven very successful in alleviating flooding conditions that had plagued that area in the past.

Drainage pipes in the Atlantic Avenue and Washington Street area were



reconfigured to provide a more streamlined flow path. This eliminated the numerous turns in the pipe that slowed the velocity of the flow, resulting in flooding.

*(Continued on Back Page)*

## TIP OF THE QUARTER

### Kitchen Faucet Running Slowly?

If the water from your kitchen faucet is running slowly or seems to have low pressure, try removing the screen at the tip—it should unscrew easily—and rinsing it. The screen may have become clogged and cleaning it may increase your faucet's flow and pressure.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## DRAIN PROJECT EXPECTED TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING (CONTINUED)

Decaying underground stone culverts in the area of Sewall, Pleasant and School streets will be replaced with drain pipes.



Improvements to the drain system in the vicinity of Evans Road and Roosevelt Avenue will greatly improve flow and help to alleviate flooding in those areas.

When will all of this

work be done?

Construction will be done in three phases. Phase One began last spring with work being done on Atlantic Avenue and Washington, Spring and Essex streets. This part of the project is just about completed.



Work on Phase Two or Phase Three will begin after

the completion or near-completion of Phase One and will continue over the next two years. These phases will include work on Pleasant and School streets and in the Evans Road area and will reduce the flow currently running through easements and under buildings.

Of course, no amount of drain upgrades will work if the water can't get into the system. It will benefit residents to keep the drain grates free of snow, leaves and other debris, especially during periods of heavy rain. (The drain grates are those square steel structures that look like large waffles and are usually located

on the side of the road.)

The Town and the Water and Sewer Commission appreciates everyone's cooperation and consideration and reminds residents that all businesses will be open and accessible during all phases of the construction.



(Some photos courtesy of Marblehead Patch)

### REMEMBERING WATER & SEWER SUPERINTENDENT DANA SNOW

We would be remiss if we didn't note the passing of long-time Water and Sewer Superintendent Dana Snow, who died suddenly December 17, 2013, at the age of 65.

Dana retired from the job he loved in March, 2010, after working for the Town for over 37 years, 27 of those years as Superintendent. Prior to his retirement, Dana also assumed the duties of the Director of Public Works.

He was a consummate administrator who was admired by residents, his employees and Town leaders.

He was highly-respected



by his peers throughout the region for his knowledge and expertise in water deliver and treatment systems.

Dana's advice was often sought out, even after his retirement.

Dana Snow served the Town of Marblehead well and will be greatly missed throughout the North Shore.

## Something Not Right?

Help the Marblehead  
Water and Sewer Departments  
Keep Our Waters Clean.

If you see our sewer  
system overflowing  
or contaminants  
getting into our  
drains, please  
call us anytime at  
**(781) 631-0102**



A P.S.A. from the Marblehead Water and Sewer Commission

