

CA Watershed Advisory Committee – Responses to Resident Speak-Out July 18, 2018

Sheila Robinson, CA Watershed Rep. from Oakland Mills.

mailto:sheila_robinson@verizon.net

1. **Investigate Tarleton (rear) flooding issue** (Matador Road - brought to our attention by a resident)

Response. I need to ask **John McCoy** about this. I mentioned on the evening of the meeting that the first thing was to speak to the HOA, because it was their property, not really CA property. HOAs can work with the county program, I think, but not the CA program to help design and establish rain gardens. I don't know about the other drainage systems that are present nor who has oversight regarding their adequacy and maintenance.

If the Tarleton HOA wants to talk to someone about their drainage problems? Try Angela Morales 410-313-6586 or amorales@howardcountymd.gov or Mark Richmond 410.313.6413 or msrichmond@howardcountymd.gov.

2. **Review of stream maintenance procedures**

Response. I defer to [John McCoy](#) -CA Watershed management and [Virginia \(Ginny\) Thomas](#)-CA Board Representative. (I believe this topic was an outgrowth of Bill McCormick's remarks on the resident's behalf...) There is a process, it takes the community as a whole into account, not the impact on the individual unless imminent danger is recognized, and money for planning and implementing is budgeted bi-annually, so the path leads ultimately to the CA budget. Also there is lots of stream buffer area that CA owns and is responsible for, meaning the edges of a stream that butts upon private property with no "buffer" is a "gray area" of questionable responsibility between CA and individuals.

Re: stream maintenance There is a Howard County Watershed Restoration Action Strategy for the Little Patuxent (WRAS) (from 2002?) that lays out the guiding principles. <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=EQCnhiAiuyQ%3d&portalid=0>

3. **Correction of property erosion (3 locations)**

a. One case of "property erosion" was encroachment of trees on previously mown areas.

Response: From the perspective of watershed protection, in general terms we have learned about the ecology on public property over the last 50 years and our understanding of what is the best practice has changed so that mowing is no longer seen as the most desirable thing for the community. The CA land behind her property is being managed according to CA's best management practices as far as I know.

b. Another was brought to our attention by Bill McCormick on behalf of a resident:

Response: Thank you for sending me previous correspondence. This unfortunately is an example of a gray area where ownership of the land probably means ownership of the problem. I sent the current email chain to [John McCoy](#), even though they have been in touch previously.

c. A complaint from a resident of Thunder Hill regarding a lot of silt on Thunder Hill Road & near the path to Glenmont (near Bluecoat).
I have emailed her and arranged to meet up on the site on at 2pm on 8/9.