# A natural water treatment facility...

Think of a stormwater pond as a natural water treatment facility that also protects our community from flooding by controlling the release of excess stormwater. These ponds also use naturalized vegetation to catch sediments and nutrients, allowing for clean water to drain to our creeks and river. Without the treatment a stormwater pond provides, this water would head untreated to our creeks and river.





# What not to do...

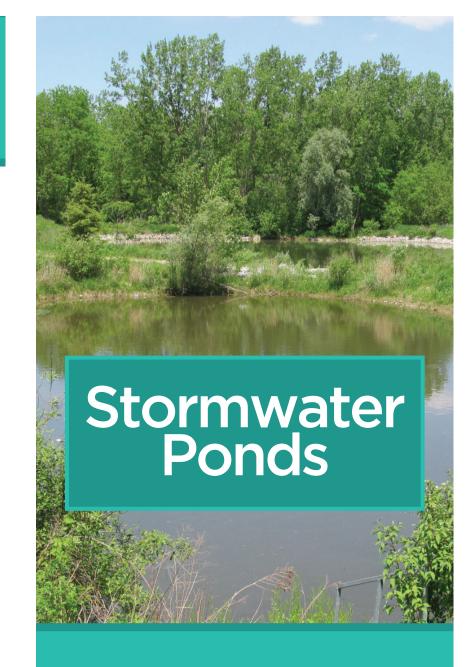
Please note that the following activities are discouraged on City's stormwater pond property:

- Planting gardens or cutting grass on pond property
- Storing yard materials on pond property
- Installing gates to access pond property from fenced yards
- Disposing of grass clippings or yard waste or garbage on pond property or into the pond
- Disturbing plants and vegetation around the pond
- · Disposing of pet fish in the pond
- Disposing of swimming pool water and chemicals on pond property or in the pond

To learn more about stormwater ponds visit **brantford.ca** 



brantford.ca 519-759-4150





#### What is a Stormwater Pond?



A stormwater pond is a man-made structure built to manage stormwater runoff from urbanized areas. It removes sediment, fertilizer, pesticides and other pollutants from the runoff. It also protects both our river and our community that would otherwise see increased risks of flooding and erosion, and to watercourse health and aquatic life.

The City of Brantford maintains many stormwater management ponds throughout the community. Because of rapidly changing water levels and impacted water quality, stormwater ponds are not for recreational purposes.

### Stay safe and protect stormwater ponds

- •Obey all signs posted at the pond. They are there for your safety.
- Stay out of the water. Water contact (swimming, wading, boating) of any type is dangerous and strictly prohibited.
- •Be aware that water levels can rise rapidly during storm events. Keep your pets and children away from stormwater ponds for their health and safety.
- •Do not trim the grass or plant gardens.
  The specifically chosen native vegetation must be left in a naturalized state to stabilize shorelines, prevent erosion, filter coarse sediments, intercept rainfall, deter geese and link regional ecosystem habitats.
- Do not stock with fish or go fishing in a storm pond. It is illegal to stock or dump fish in a storm pond.
- If there is a trail through the pond property, stay on the trail. Stay well back from the pond's side slope, vegetated barriers, and outfall areas.
- Do not dump waste products into storm sewers, creeks or ponds. These pollutants represent a community safety hazard and compromise the environment.
- Stay off the ice in winter. The run-off of road salts into the pond makes the ice thinner and weaker. Water levels and flows change rapidly making skating or other activities extremely dangerous.
- Report illegal dumping by calling the City at 519-759-4150 to register a complaint

## The important job of a stormwater pond

These ponds do an important job. When it rains and when snow melts, water flows from our rooftops, driveways, lawns, streets and sidewalks. This stormwater washes from your home and into storm drains throughout our community, collecting dirt, gravel and pollutants along the way. Underground pipes then direct stormwater to stormwater management ponds.

