

D Kelly O'Day

From: "D Kelly O'Day" <dkod@comcast.net>
Date: Thursday, October 31, 2013 8:37 PM
To: "Shawn Garvin" <Garvin.Shawn@epa.gov>
Subject: Street Litter in PWD's Outfall Discharges to Tookany-Tacony Creek

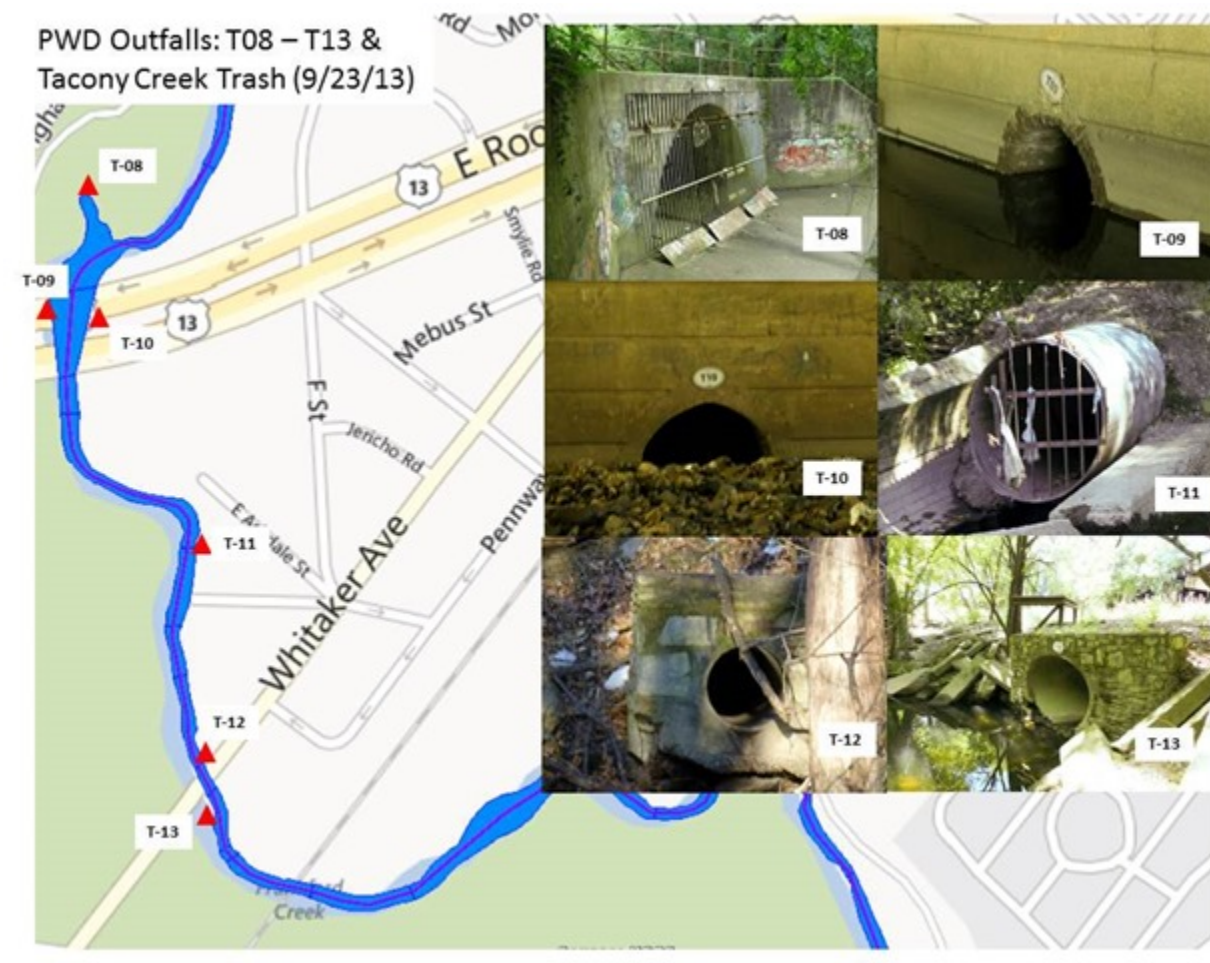
Dear Mr. Garvin

I have been documenting street litter related trash in the Tookany â€ Tacony Creek for the past year and have identified 11 PWD outfalls that discharge trash to the Creek during stormwater overflow events. You can find my PWD Creek trash documentation [here](#).

As a supporter of PWDâ€™s Green City, Clean Waters Program (GC,CW Ambassador), and as a retired environmental engineer, I am very concerned that PWD is not adequately addressing floatables control on small creeks like the Tookany â€ Tacony Creek. PWD is relying on trapped inlets to address floatables control. While PWDâ€™s trapped inlets do a good job with true floatables, they are not adequate for neutral buoyancy material like plastic bags. I have documented significant quantities of plastic bags and food wrappers downstream of 11 of PWDâ€™s Tacony Creek outfalls. Some of the street litter plastic bags are passing through the traps and being discharged to the Tacony Creek.

This slideshow shows the Tacony Creek from Roosevelt Blvd to Friends Hospital on 9/23/13. It shows 6 PWD outfalls and the extensive Creek trash along the banks of this 0.4 mile stretch of Creek.

Click [link](#) or image to view 9/23/13 Tacony Creek Trash Tour



I am sure that you agree that this level of street litter in the Tacony Creek is unacceptable and needs to be addressed. We will need more than flow reduction to make a significant dent in the Creek trash.

Conditions in Rock Creek below PWD's T-01 CSO is actually worse than the conditions in Tacony Creek from Roosevelt Blvd to Friends Hospital. This is not just a CSO problem, the Mill Run, downstream of PWD's MS4 outfall are also quite bad.

I request the opportunity to meet with you or your representative to discuss my research on PWD's floatables discharges to the Tacony Creek. I would like to review my Creek trash monitoring, the link between PWD outfalls and Creek trash and the need for PWD to provide additional street litter control in the Tacony Creek Watershed.

My contact information is below.

I look forward to hearing from you.

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