



January 1, 2024

Dear Neighbor,

I am writing to inform you that the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) identified an existing stormwater pond between Haislip Court and Fall River Lane, known as the Pine Knolls Pond, for retrofit and enhancement. The pond retrofit is being designed to increase the capacity of the pond and provide better treatment of stormwater runoff. We invite you to attend a virtual public meeting in early 2024 to learn more about the project and ask any questions. Further details regarding the virtual meeting will be communicated in a follow-up notification, and additional information regarding this project can also be found at <https://res.us/mococounty/>

The DEP's Clean Water Montgomery program (CWM) is focused on revitalizing the health of our natural ecosystems and waterways in Montgomery County through the implementation of projects like this and by inspiring action and critical thinking about how our behaviors impact our water. The CWM program provides resources, incentives, and educational opportunities for residents and businesses to reduce stormwater pollution and improve the health of our waterways. To learn more about these opportunities, please visit DEP's website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/

Stormwater management ponds like the Pine Knolls pond capture and temporarily store stormwater to help reduce the amount of pollution (sediment, nutrients, trash, etc.) entering our waterways. Stormwater management facilities come in many shapes and sizes, from large regional ponds to small backyard measures. There are also many underground structures beneath parking lots and roadways. Stormwater management facilities help maintain our water resources' ecological integrity, quantity, and quality. These facilities help reduce the harmful effects of uncontrolled stormwater runoff, such as flooding, stream erosion, and poor water quality. The stormwater captured in these facilities is released slowly, reducing the erosive impact of stormwater runoff on our streams. These practices may include ponds, lakes, bioretention facilities, sand filters, rain gardens, and maybe new installations or retrofits of existing facilities.

I serve as an Outreach Coordinator for the CWM program for this project. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (240) 583-7922, and I will be happy to answer any questions and assist you.

Sincerely,

Elsa Arias

Program Manager