Narragansett Bay Watershed SCP
Saint Mary’s Pond (RI0007035L-05)
Portsmouth, RI

Subwatershed Summary

- The subwatershed is located in Portsmouth, RI.
- The subwatershed is 546 acres and 8.3% impervious.
- The general land uses within the subwatershed are deciduous forest, cropland, developed recreation, and medium- and high-density residential.
- The subwatershed does not contain any RIDOT roads or any “other RIDOT roadways”.
- RIDOT maintained property in the subwatershed is 8.8 acres and 6.1 impervious acres.

Site Description

Saint Mary’s Pond (RI0007035L-05) is located within the Narragansett Bay Watershed (Figure 1-A). The subwatershed is located in Portsmouth. Saint Mary’s Pond does not have any tributaries as it is close to the top of the overall watershed discharging to Upper East Passage via Lawton Brook. The pond is surrounded on all sides by a combination of woodland and cropland. There are some high-density residential neighborhoods, in the eastern portion of the subwatershed, along East Main Road (Route 138), Union Street, and Middle Road. Union Street contains the majority of the RIDOT drainage system that carries runoff from east to west and outfalls indirectly to the pond near Shamrock Farm. RIDOT maintained property in the subwatershed is 8.8 acres; 6.1 acres of which is impervious.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) water quality classification for the Saint Mary’s Pond is Class AA. Class AA waters are designated as a source of public drinking water supply (PDWS) or as tributary waters within a public drinking water supply watershed, for primary and secondary contact recreational activities and for fish and wildlife habitat. According to RIDEM’s Clean Water Act (CWA) Integrated List of Waterbodies – Appendix A 2016 Index of Waterbodies and Category Listing, the impairments affecting this waterbody segment are total phosphorus and total organic carbon (TOC). RIDEM has classified Saint Mary’s Pond as a Category 5 waterbody that is not supporting fish and wildlife habitat or public drinking water supply. The waterbody is fully supporting primary and secondary contact recreation, and is not assessed for fish consumption. A TMDL is under development for the phosphorus and total organic carbon impairments and scheduled to be adopted in 2019.

According to 2011 land use data obtained from the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS), the general land uses within the Saint Mary's Pond subwatershed are deciduous forest, cropland, developed recreation, and medium- and high-density residential. The subwatershed is approximately 546 acres, 8.3% of which are impervious based on impervious cover data from RIGIS.

The Saint Mary's Pond subwatershed (RI0007035L-05) has less than 10% impervious cover; therefore, preparation of an SCP is not required for Saint Mary's Pond.

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2 Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program, Photo Science, Inc. www.rigis.org