

Forge River to Receive Smart Sponge

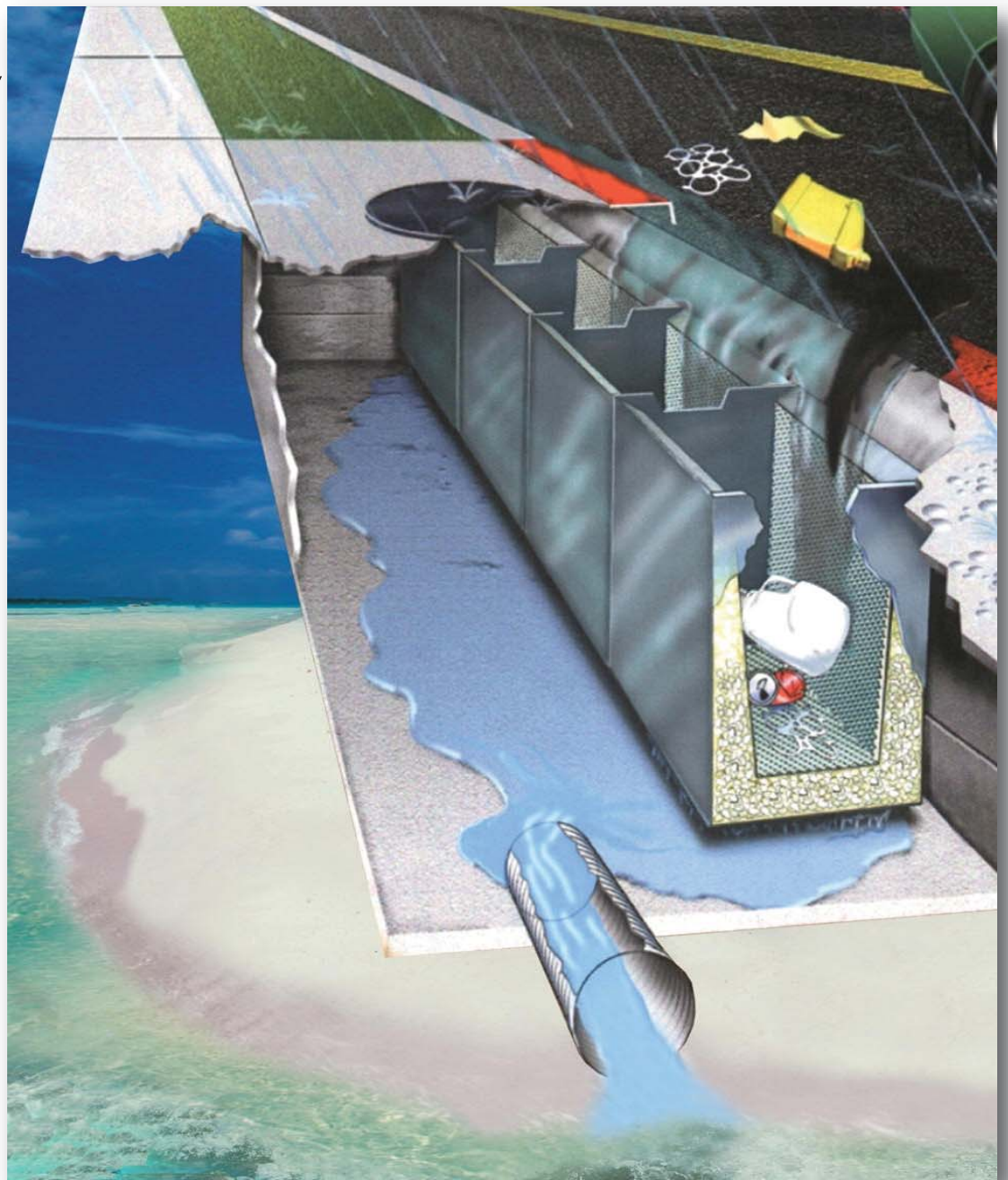
Save the Forge River, Inc. has had another massive success with the announcement of a Smart Sponge to be installed onto Overlook Drive in Mastic. Save the Forge River, Inc. successfully lobbied Assemblymen Thiele and Senator LaValle for stormwater mitigation funding. This resulted in a \$200,000 grant being awarded. Approximately \$80,000 was used last spring for drain improvements. This Smart Sponge project is the latest improvement using these funds.

What is a Smart Sponge?

A Smart Sponge is a type of stormwater filtration system designed to destroy bacteria at the street level. Smart Sponges are made of two polymers: SBS, an absorbent, and EPDM, which adds structure and elasticity. As storm water passes through, the polymers trap and solidify pollutants.

How will a Sponge help save the Forge River?

One of the causes ailing the Forge is the amount of debris that is washing into the river from stormwater run off. The Sponge is a type of filter installed at the collection point to stop the contaminants from entering the Forge. Smart Sponges are expected to be replaced every 1-3 years depending on just how much of a filtering load they have had to deal with.



Ron Lupski, President of Save the Forge River stated, “This Smart Sponge is another indication that hard work, government cooperation and persistence are vital in restoring the Forge River.”