

ATTENTION RESIDENTS LIVING NEAR BRUCE BROOK WATERCOURSE!

Please be advised it is *against the law* to throw anything into a watercourse. Severe infrastructure damage and environmental pollution is caused by the disposal of debris and waste into the Bruce Brook watercourse. Failure to follow Stratford Town Ordinance §172-110 - §172-129 will result in fines (see below).

As a resident, you are responsible for keeping your part of the watercourse free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation, and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate, or impact the flow of water through the watercourse.

Flooding and damaged infrastructure results in *high \$ costs* to the Town and residents along the stream.

- Chemical pollutants may include, but are not limited to: paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; liquid and solid wastes

Environmental pollutants include but are not limited to: yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, and litter; animal wastes, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers or other discarded or abandoned objects. *The dumping of yard trimmings such as sticks, grass, and leaves is also prohibited in Bruce Brook, or in any other watercourse in Stratford.*

Instead, take advantage of the Town's seasonal collection of yard trimmings (i.e., April through mid-December). Collections are made every other week on the day AFTER recycling collection. Simply bundle it up and place at the curb—grass, leaves and shrubbery clippings must be contained in brown yard waste bags or loosely in cans. DO NOT dispose of it in the stream.

We have to work together to keep our costs down and streams clean! Remember that Bruce Brook, and any pollution in it, empties into Long Island Sound.

This ordinance has been and will continue to be enforced in order to prevent further degradation of the watercourse and infrastructure; as these damages result in costly repairs to the Town. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Environmental Conservation Superintendent, Kelly Kerrigan, at (203) 385-4006 or kkerrigan@townofstratford.com.



This photo of Bruce Brook shows a significantly damaged concrete headwall and clogged culvert pipes caused by debris.

Stratford Town Ordinance §172-126: "The owner or agent of any premises where a violation of any provision of this article has been committed or exists, or the lessee or tenant of any premises where such violation has been committed or exists, or the owner, agent, lessee or tenant of any part of the premises in which such violation has been committed or exists, or any other person who commits, takes part or assists in any such violation or who maintains any premises in which any such violation exists, shall be fined \$100 for each day that such violation continues; but, if the offense is willful, the person who commits such violation shall be fined \$250 for each day that such violation continues. Such fines or penalties may be enforced or collected in any manner applicable under federal, state or local law."