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Subject: Unlocking the Power of Nature

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STORMWATER REPORT

Unlocking the Power of Nature

Natural systems are one of the most powerful tools in the green infrastructure professional's arsenal. Finding new ways to maximize the benefits that wetlands, stormwater ponds, and other nature-based solutions provide must remain a priority as the stormwater management sector strives to become more sustainable. Key to this pursuit is the need to remain open to new ways of thinking about the natural tools that are often hidden in plain sight, several of which are featured in this edition of [Stormwater Report](#).

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[Stormwater Pond](#)

Sediments: The Next Frontier for Beneficial Reuse?

Landfilling is often considered the only practical option to dispose of sediments dredged from the bottom of stormwater ponds because of the presumed toxicity of the contaminants entrained in these sediments. Ontario-based contaminant forensics expert Francine Kelly-Hooper has dedicated her career toward the search for a more sustainable option for sediment disposal. [Learn more about how Kelly-Hooper's work is paving the way for a new perspective on stormwater pond sediments](#).



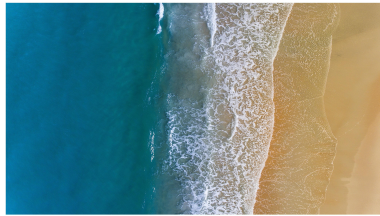
New York City Earmarks \$400 Million For Flood Infrastructure, Information

New York City municipal leaders recently allocated more than \$400 million in additional funding for two innovative flood management programs: Cloudburst and FloodNet. The extra funding will enable the programs, which respectively focus on infrastructure and information, to scale up citywide. [Get details on how these programs fit into New York City's broader plan to adapt to climate change-driven flooding](#).

Small, Disconnected Wetlands Trap Twice as Much Nitrogen

In the U.S., smaller wetlands that do not connect to larger water bodies often receive the weakest legal protections and experience the highest rate of loss due to development. However, new research suggests that these small wetlands outperform their larger counterparts

in terms of nitrogen capture. To minimize nutrient pollution, researchers call for enhanced protections for small and ephemeral wetlands.



Researchers Decipher Relationship Between Storms and 'Sneaker Waves'

Sneaker waves occur when ocean waves suddenly and unexpectedly surge inland, swallowing up to 100 m (330 ft) or more of the beachfront in a matter of minutes. Scientists know little about the causes of these rare and dangerous events, making it difficult to predict when they will occur. New research suggests that storm systems — both those on the beach and those hundreds of kilometers away — exert far more influence over sneaker waves than previously understood.

Register for the National Stormwater Policy Forum

Join staff from WEF and the National Municipal Stormwater Alliance during Water Week 2023 to discuss the most pressing issues facing the U.S. stormwater sector. This forum, which will feature preliminary results from the 2022 National MS4 Needs Assessment Survey as well as meetings and briefings on a range of stormwater topics, will take place Monday, April 24, from noon to 5 p.m. EDT. Register today to attend virtually or in-person (space limited).





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