

September 17, 2015

Dear Resident/Business Owner,

The State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) under the direction of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) will be performing required maintenance and repairs to the South Branch of the Park River (SBPR) which includes Trout, Rockledge and Piper Brook in West Hartford; Piper and Mill Brook in Newington and Park River down to Hamilton Avenue in Hartford. DEEP is required to perform this deferred maintenance in order for the flood control system to remain certified by NRCS.

The \$4.5 million dollar project will involve clearing trees and vegetation as well as sedimentation removal from the floodway along all reaches of these watercourses. Some concrete work will be performed on the floodwalls in various locations. This will require contractors to work in and along the existing watercourses. You may see equipment and workers in and next to watercourses as work progresses. This may include truck traffic on roads near your home. DEEP owns or has access easements along the watercourse through all properties to perform this work and will attempt to minimize the length of time the contractors will be performing work.

The SBPR flood control system was constructed starting in Hartford back in 1964 and the final (Piper/Mill Brook) section completed in 1991. The waterways involved were engineered to alleviate flooding in the upper reaches of the watershed by quickly moving flood waters out of the impacted areas. Removing decades old trees, vegetation and obstructions from these channels allows the system to function as designed. This work benefits all residents and businesses that live along the flood channel.

DEEP expects the work to commence daily (approximately 7 am to 4:30 pm) mid-October 2015 and continue through June 2016 (weather dependent). Dredging operations will involve working in the watercourse to remove accumulated sediments from existing sedimentation ponds. This work was last performed in 1999.

Please contact Dan Biron at (860) 424-3892 or [dan.biron@ct.gov](mailto:dan.biron@ct.gov) with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

**Information, plans, photos and updates are available on the DEEP State Dam website:**

**<http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2720&Q=554158&PM=1>**