A Gravel Wet Vegetated Treatment System is a type of bio retention pond. In Bristol, the system carries stormwater runoff from the surrounding neighborhood (95 acres) to a sedimentation basin that slows incoming stormwater to prevent erosion. Pipes from this first basin then carry the water to a second basin or chamber containing wetland vegetation, which removes pollutants from the captured stormwater. Next, the stormwater passes through 24 inches of crushed stone containing bacteria-feeding microbes that further treat the water. Once through the crushed stone the treated stormwater flows into a third basin or chamber to receive a final round of vegetative filtration. The filtered stormwater then empties into the surrounding wetland before it flows cleanly to the beach.

**Gravel Wet Vegetated Treatment System Benefits**

- **Helped eliminate** beach closures in 2013
- Treats approximately **12 million** gallons of stormwater runoff per year from over 95 acres of residential property
- Over **$50,000** in increased revenue from Bristol Town Beach and Park in last five years

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**Did You Know...**

Bristol Town Beach has experienced 72 beach closure days and over 169 inches of summer rainfall between 2000 and 2012.

Seventy-two beach closure days has caused 39 employees to lose an estimated 2,808 days of work since 2000. In addition, over 600 campers are sent home everyday the beach is closed.

City parks play a vital role in the overall health and the well-being of children. The CDC reports that as of 2010 “One third of all children and adolescents in the United States are overweight or obese.” - cdc.gov

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