



MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

B U F F A L O
SEWER AUTHORITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR BROWN, BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY ANNOUNCE THE RELEASE OF RAIN CHECK 1.0 REPORT

Buffalo - Mayor Byron W. Brown and the Buffalo Sewer Authority have released their first report on the achievements of Rain Check, Buffalo's Green Infrastructure program. Officially launched in 2015, Rain Check aims to protect and restore the health of Buffalo's waterways by addressing today's most pressing water-related challenge—stormwater. The release of Buffalo Sewer's Rain Check 1.0 report describes the City's stormwater challenge, the unique role green infrastructure plays in addressing it, what has been done so far, and how the City will take green infrastructure to the next level.

"Our Great Lakes water is one of Buffalo's most important assets. Since 2006, my Administration, in partnership with Buffalo Sewer, has made a strong commitment to protect that water and dramatically reduce combined sewer overflows through the implementation of its Long Term Control Plan. We are proud that green infrastructure, with its demonstrated impact on economic and neighborhood revitalization, is a major component of our water protection strategy," stated Mayor Brown.

The City of Buffalo's first generation of green infrastructure investments concentrated on areas of the environment that created the most runoff from stormwater – streets, parking lots, and roofs. Green infrastructure investments throughout the City include the implementation of green streets, green parking lots, demolitions and rain barrels/downspout disconnection. Collectively, these investments have the potential to keep nearly 17.5 million gallons of water from entering the underground sewer system during a typical rainfall event. At the end of the day, these investments are helping to solve the stormwater challenge by reducing the frequency and impact of sewer overflows into our local waterways.

Oluwole A. McFoy, P.E. General Manager, Buffalo Sewer Authority stated, "This Rain Check 1.0 report is a celebration of the power of partnerships to protect our water and revitalize our City. We are proud of the close working relationships between Buffalo Sewer, fellow City agencies, not-for-profits, philanthropy and community members. Together, we have successfully transformed over nine miles of streets, hundreds of green demolition sites, and several community parking assets. The City of Buffalo is hard at work investing in, planning for and implementing the next generation of green infrastructure projects in Buffalo to protect our Great Lakes water supply and ensure that every resident can access and benefit from clean, healthy water resources."

Rain Check 1.0 Report has been published on www.raincheckbuffalo.org.

As part of Buffalo's Long Term Control Plan, approved by state and federal regulatory agencies in 2014, Buffalo Sewer, under the leadership of Mayor Brown, committed to investing \$380 million over 20 years on projects to reduce combined sewer overflows into local waterways. Working hand-in-hand with local, state, and national water protection partners, Buffalo Sewer is implementing a careful balance of traditional gray infrastructure projects with smart infrastructure approaches and green solutions.

Buffalo Sewer is implementing green infrastructure solutions because they provide opportunities for a holistic approach to managing stormwater, while positively impacting the City and supporting Mayor Byron W. Brown's vision to make Buffalo a more sustainable and equitable city.

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