

WHITE OAK TAX DITCH

Volume 1, Issue 3

Fall Newsletter

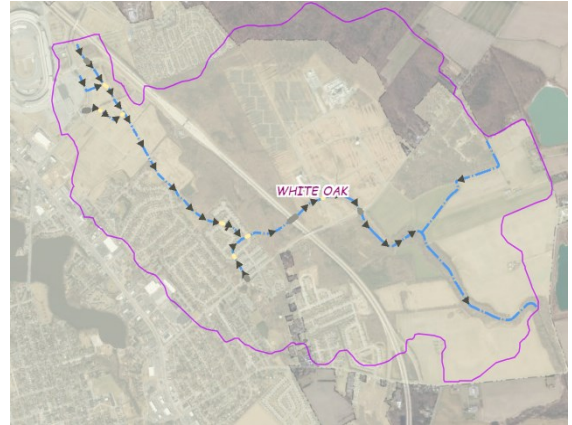
CITY OF DOVER- PUBLIC WORKS

White Oak Tax Ditch Comprehensive Plan

In late August, Bryn Wambaugh (City of Dover, Public Works) met with Gene Vanderwende (KCD), Daniel Tartt (KCD), and Melissa Hubert (DNREC) to discuss the history of the ditch and future maintenance. This meeting was scheduled in order to put together a Comprehensive Plan to keep track of needed maintenance and prioritize projects for the ditch. Public Works hopes that through utilizing the Comprehensive Plan, the overall health of the ditch will improve over time. Gene

Vanderwende and Melissa Hubert also provided recommendations for how to best handle future maintenance.

The plan in its current state and all updates will be sent to Daniel Tartt to keep an updated file on the ditch for the DNREC Drainage Program.



The White Oak Tax Ditch Watershed

Ditch Maintenance Season Coming

Scheduled maintenance of all City Maintained Ditches starts late this November, and dependent on weather, could extend until late winter 2026. The portion of the White Oak Tax Ditch Main Channel and

Prong 1 in Bay Tree is maintained annually during this maintenance. A contractor will use a brush cutter and hand tools to cut the top of the bank as well as remove woody stems in the ditch. In

addition to this segment of the White Oak Tax Ditch, four other City Maintained Ditches in the White Oak Watershed will undergo similar annual maintenance.

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Special points of interest:

- Comprehensive Plan
- Bay Tree Main Channel and Prong 1 Maintenance
- Tax Ditch Maintenance this Fall
- Spring & Fall Tax Ditch Inspections
- New Briefings on Ditch Hub



Mowing Tax Ditch Segment: White Oak Rd to 0.0



View of the Tax Ditch ROW from the Spring 2025 Tax Ditch Inspections

This portion of the Main Channel is south of White Oak Rd, across from Garrison Oak Technical Park. Public Works met on-site with Gene Vanderwende (KCD) in early 2025 to inspect this segment and discuss that it has never been dipped out before. Dipping out the Tax Ditch is necessary to remove silt build up and return the ditch to

its original design grade. Dip outs are recommended every 15-20 years but can be extended in some situations. During our meeting, we discovered that this segment was overgrown and it was impossible to access the ditch via the Tax Ditch ROW for an inspection. Under advisement from Gene Vanderwende, Public Works applied for

matching funds from KCD for mowing. Public Works was given matching funds and mowing will take place in Fall 2025. After mowing is complete, an inspection will be scheduled with Gene's successor, Daniel Tartt (KCD), to inspect the segment.

New Business: Fall Tax Ditch Inspections



Members of the Public Works Stormwater Division operate the Leaf Vac and provide support with the Street Sweeper each Leaf Pickup Season

Fall Inspections of the White Oak Tax Ditch are slated to begin in late November 2025. However, in areas where Public Works Stormwater Division Support is needed, this may be delayed because of the City's Leaf Pickup Season, October 13, 2025 to January 16, 2026. The Stormwater Division

operates the Leaf Vac and provides support with Street Sweeper to pickup leaves during the season. Public Works will try to complete these inspections in a timely manner but Leaf Pickup Season takes precedence. Letters notifying adjacent property owners of these inspections will be sent out in late

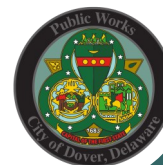
October with this mentioned.

Old Business: Spring Tax Ditch Inspections

Spring Inspections of the White Oak Tax Ditch were conducted in late May and early June 2025. Inspections were conducted by Bryn Wambaugh (City of Dover Public Works, Stormwater Coordinator) with the support of the Public Works Stormwater Di-

vision. Thank you to all the property owners adjacent to the ditch for your cooperation. These inspections sparked a need for a Comprehensive Plan, and led to the scheduling of the late August meeting with KCD and DNREC.

"These inspections sparked a need for a Comprehensive Plan"



Business Tagline or Motto

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Public Works Storymap:



The White Oak Tax Ditch is a City-funded Tax Ditch that is managed by the Department of Public Works. This quarterly newsletter is provided to keep citizens in the White Oak Watershed updated on maintenance, projects, and general tax ditch information. To request paper copies, please use the Public Works contact information.

Visit the Ditch Hub!



Ditch Hub Updates: White Oak Rd Maintenance & Regrading, Living with the Tax Ditch



White Oak Tax Ditch at Garrison Oak

Two new briefings have been added to the Ditch Hub. The first briefing, "Living with the Tax Ditch" provides information to homeowners about the Tax Ditch in your backyard and what you can do to promote good Tax Ditch function. The second briefing, "White Oak Road Ditch Maintenance & Regrading" provides specific information related to the ditch maintenance and regrading project taking

place between Mourning Dove Ln and Long Point Rd.

