



November 14, 2023 - Longtime residents of Meridian Township will soon see the demolition of the former Schuler's Book Store building located at 4800 Okemos Road. The vacant building and property were acquired in 2022 by the Okemos Consolidated Drain Drainage District to be used for stormwater management and to aid in preventing flooding at the Okemos Road and Grand River Avenue intersection and in downstream residential neighborhoods. Although the drainage project will not commence until 2024/2025, this derelict building, which continues to be vandalized, will now be torn down for public safety reasons. Up to now, the Meridian Township Police and Fire Departments have been using the building for training purposes. Watch for signs coming soon to the site explaining the future drainage project.

Okemos Consolidated Drain Project

Stormwater Management Facility

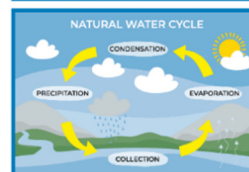
As part of the Okemos Consolidated Drain Project and in coordination with MDOT and county and local agencies, Ingham County Drain Commissioner Patrick Lindemann is working to provide stormwater management through green infrastructure and restoration. To this end, the Drainage District has purchased this and other properties to:

- Prevent uncontrolled runoff
- Protect downstream residential neighborhoods
- Protect water quality in the Red Cedar River



It starts with a drop.

The project vision is to approach stormwater management with low impact design methods using the natural water cycle to manage, absorb, and filter stormwater on site. The map above shows the initial areas that will be enhanced through green infrastructure, which will not only reduce flooding, but bring pockets of nature into this urban area. The new green spaces will link to the larger township trail system: connecting commercial, historic, and cultural areas with this new green space.



NATURAL WATER CYCLE

The water cycle is the continuous movement of water within the earth and its atmosphere. It relies on water infiltration into the ground to be cleansed by the earth as it moves toward lakes and streams.

URBAN WATER CYCLE

The development of urban areas and hard landscapes prevents water from soaking into the ground. This leads to increased flooding and erosion and habitat and water quality degradation.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Using best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater helps prevent the effects of the urban water cycle through rain gardens, bioretention areas, and wetlands. BMPs are not only functional, but add natural beauty to urban areas.



OKEMOS
consolidated drain

