

December 1, 2006

Subject: **Website Newest Tool Aiding New Albany's Drainage Improvement Efforts**

For Immediate Release:

The New Albany Stormwater Board is pleased to announce the launch of their new website, www.newalbanystormwater.org, a community portal designed to aid the City in managing their stormwater drainage and flooding issues as well as provide citizens with vital information and links to help resolve drainage problems.

The City is currently addressing new EPA requirements regarding operation and maintenance of stormwater drainage systems and this website is designed to be both informative and useful in the resolution of flooding and drainage issues. According to research, water pollution has been identified as the leading environmental concern among the general public and this website educates citizens on how pavement, lawns, yard waste and storm events can influence not only the amount of water, but the pollutants within run-off. In addition, the community can view maps of past drainage improvement projects, learn about stormwater pollution prevention, find out about New Albany's stormwater utility and user fees and submit complaints related to drainage, sources of pollution and even get answers to billing questions.

The website also contains a section specific to developers, which will include the City's Best Management Practices (BMP) construction guidelines, contractor workshop schedules, Qualified Professional information and other resources to help them manage stormwater drainage and pollution prevention related to new construction and site development.

As the website evolves, New Albany's Stormwater Board envisions it to be a communication hub for citizens, developers and officials to promote better stormwater drainage management and pollution prevention. Log on to www.newalbanystormwater.org and find the answers to "How do I protect myself from flooding damage?" or "Do I really need flood insurance if I live in a low-risk flood zone?" and find out how you can participate.