



MIDDLE SCHOOL OPENS



S. Gordon, The Day

Mon, Sept 14: Assistant Principal Davis helps students with assignments on the first day.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

ROADS & STREETS



Congratulations to **Derwin Gaston** on his [retirement](#). Derwin was with the Town for 41 years as a Heavy Equipment Operator at the Transfer Station in the Roads & Streets Division. Derwin had been part of the waste crew and an integral part of the snow plow team. He always had a smile on his face, did an excellent job, and was admired by all the residents he interacted with.



HELP PREVENT SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS

The Town's sanitary sewer system carries resident & business waste water to the Water Pollution Control Facility where it is treated for discharge back into the environment. Sanitary Sewer Overflows or 'SSO's are unusual but a costly problem caused by severe storms or clogs. **Did you know YOU can help prevent overflows?** You might know **toilets** are only for toilet paper and natural waste and **sinks** only for water and other harmless fluids. But sometimes people forget and flush or dump things that don't belong. **Fats, oils, & grease** (or 'FOG') are such problem items. These common kitchen and household products can create odors, clogs, & build up in pipes. That can cause damage, not just in the Town's sanitary sewers but in home septic systems too. So what should you do with them? **Strain and collect fats, oils & grease in containers and deliver to the Transfer Station where it is recycled & turned into biodiesel fuel OR freeze and dispose of it in your regular garbage.** Your Public Works Department & WPCF workers thank you!

TRANSFER STATION SALES
for September, <i>start of the new permit year</i>
RESIDENTIAL ANNUAL PERMITS 412
DAY PASSES 196

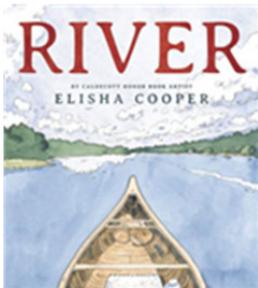
World Rivers Day

To highlight **Groton's commitment to its DEEP 'MS4'** Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit for managing storm run-off, Public Works planned events with other Town departments for World Rivers Day, Sept. 30:



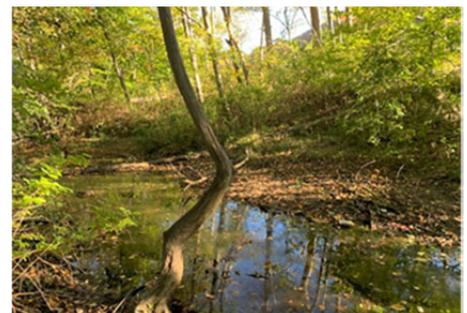
The Library aired a special edition of "Get Outside with GPL", available on the Library's website & Town YouTube channel, in which librarians visit three town boat launches.

Also ~ copies of the book 'River' for ages 4-8+, by Caldecott honored author and artist Elisha Cooper, were donated to the Library's collection and are available for check-out.



Cooper, for his part, then donated three original water-colors one each Groton's three rivers: The Thames, Poquonnock, and Mystic – which are presently on display there.

The Senior Center called for river themed poetry which was added to the PWD's Stormwater page, while **Parks & Rec Dept.** organized a community clean-up in Sutton Park, in part to highlight the 600 native seedlings planted earlier this year with a grant from The Nature Conservancy. **Pictures at right >>**



Did You Know? Year-round, DPW crews use sweeper trucks to clean Town streets and vacuum trucks to periodically pull debris from catch basins. Both tasks are pollution prevention strategies called for in the Town Stormwater Management Plan. **Residents can help pollution prevention by keeping their nearby drains clear of leaves and reporting problems to Public Works.**