

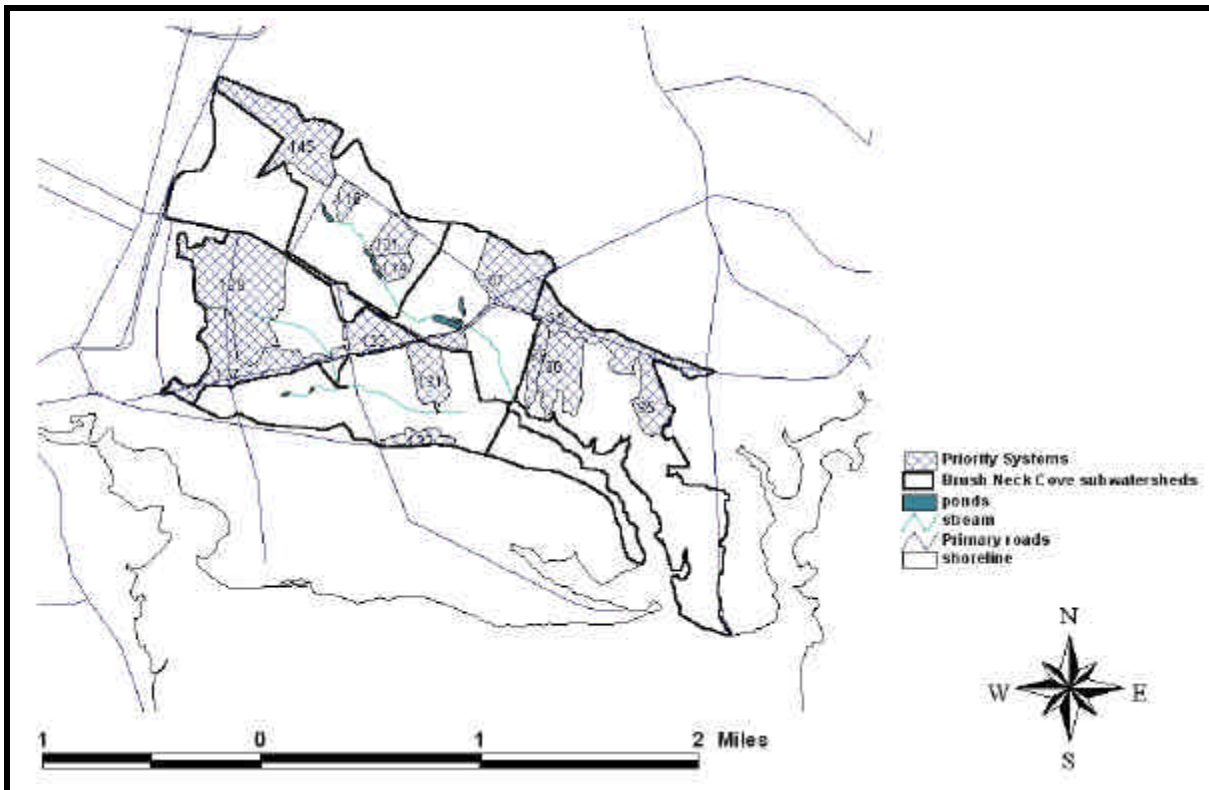
Greenwich Bay Identifying Problem Storm Water Systems

Warwick, RI

In response to the closing of Greenwich Bay to shellfishing, the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) developed and tested procedures for identifying which storm water systems are likely adding the most pollutants to the Bay. Part of the Greenwich Bay Initiative, SRICD's work allows a municipality (the City of Warwick in this case) to rank storm water systems based on the area of the system and the amount of impervious cover. Those with the largest area and highest amount of impervious cover have the

greatest potential to add pollutants to the water. SRICD developed this technique in consultation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), RI Department of Environmental Management, Coastal Resources Management Council, and the City of Warwick.

SRICD is now working in partnership with NRCS, the City of Warwick, and the Warwick Watershed Action Team on projects to remedy problems in priority storm water systems.



SRICD's technique to identify storm systems that are likely adding the most pollutants to water relies on mapping. Mapping helps to determine the area of the system and amount of impervious cover. The above mapping project for Brush Neck Cove, which empties into Greenwich Bay, identifies 14 priority systems in need of attention.