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Inwood flooding meeting scheduled for Monday

By Jenni Vincent - Journal staff writer

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INWOOD - A public meeting is scheduled Monday to provide citizens and business owners with a progress report on the development of a watershed plan to help resolve flooding and stormwater quality issues within the Inwood community.

At that time, ongoing work detailed in the Inwood Land and Drainage Study will be discussed, said Curtis Keller, general manager of the Berkeley County Public Service Sewer District.

Monday's meeting will be held at the Musselman High School auditorium, 126 Excellence Way, Inwood. It will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

"Residents are well aware of the flooding problems that this area had, some of which are due to the natural characteristics of the area and some of which are due to the increased development that has occurred in this watershed," Keller said, adding that Inwood lies within a 3-square-mile watershed that is essentially a depression with no outlet for stormwater discharge.

Public input, a valuable step in identifying areas of flooding as well as frequency and details surrounding those areas prone to flooding, began in March 2009, when residents shared their photos and stories, he said.

"Since that time, significant monitoring, modeling and analysis has been completed. This meeting will outline that progress and allow for additional public input," Keller said.

For example, the result of rain gauge monitoring, as well as that which has been done in area sink holes and streams will be discussed, he said.

This type of information is important in helping identify the amount of stormwater in the area and where it's coming from, Keller said.

Stormwater modeling will allow Woolpert Inc., the company working on this project, to "develop alternatives to help remedy the situation," he said.

"We're currently wrapping up that part now and the company has developed some alternatives to address the flooding that they will present at this meeting," Keller said.

Keller said he hopes the study will be completed by mid-July, and it's important to go back to the citizens now.

"We want to show the residents the work that has been done and get their input. We want to see if there's anything we've missed before we wrap things up," Keller said.

- Staff writer Jenni Vincent can be reached at 304-263-8931, ext. 138, or jvincent@journal-news.net

Fact Box

If You Go:

What: Public meeting on Inwood water concerns

When: 7 p.m. Monday

Where: Musselman High School auditorium

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