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# Thurston Nature Center Work To Curb Flooding

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Residents of the Bromley and Orchard Hills subdivisions will soon be getting relief from the spring and autumn floods that have been plaguing those areas.

The Board of Education voted last night to approve a proposal by city officials to begin drainage improvements in the Thurston Nature Center area, thereby providing flood relief to the nearby residents.

The Nature Center's pond area, which is southeast of Thurston School, will receive two improvements proposed by Frederick Mammel, the city's director of public works:

- 1) A berm — an earthen embankment — of a 30-40 foot width will be built along the edge of the pond in order to give it protection from flood residue.
- 2) Three sewer lines will be built within the school property to act as "overflow structures" to control the water level of the

pond and to insure increased drainage.

The school board, which owns the Thurston Pond property, will pay for the sewer line which will run in a northeasterly direction, from the end of Renfrew Rd. to the pond.

The Orchard Hills' developer will pay for the two sewer lines running south to the pond from Bluett and Antietam Rds. and west to the pond from Georgetown Rd.

The developer will also supply the berm earth, while the city will meet some of the engineering costs.

The city is responsible for clearing the ditch that runs south from Plymouth Rd., for providing additional inlets at the end of Renfrew Rd. and for building another roadway outlet on Bluett Rd.

The school board agreed to pay approximately \$8,600 as its share of the project, on Plan-

ner-Expediter Soeren Gozmani's recommendation.

Dr. William Stapp, the outdoor education consultant for the Ann Arbor schools, who has been intimately involved with the Nature Center, gave his approval to the project. He said that the berm and sewer pipes would "do only a limited amount of damage" to the site and would "minimally damage" the plantings around the pond.

Stapp said, however, he was concerned about oil, gas, and other materials draining into the pond in the future, when the proposed junior high school on Bluett and Nixon Rds. is completed.

The school board's decision to authorize the city to proceed with the drainage improvements was met with approval by the citizens from Orchard Hills who were attending the meeting.