

No singing in the rain on this street

Glenwood Ave. in
Merchantville floods
badly, worrying
residents. Relief's coming.

By Lisa Schwartz
INQUIRER CORRESPONDENT

Tall, leafy maple trees tower over Glenwood Avenue in Merchantville, a well-manicured street where colorful flower beds and gardens line front walks and porches.

Looks like a nice place to live.

But let's roll a videotape made last year by Glenwood Avenue resident Bob Press. It presents quite a different picture of the quiet street.

The tape begins with a crack of thunder and the sound of pouring rain — the view out of Press' front door. As the downpour ends, the sky clears. Next you see a body of water, which spreads from Press' front doorstep across the road to a neighbor's steps. Cars sit in water up to their front hoods. A woman is stuck inside her car, afraid to open the door.

Residents walk almost knee-deep through the road, where only trees shoot up through the foot or so of water. It is water that pours into basements and ruins appliances, foundations, water heaters and even outdoor sheds, residents say.

The flooding happens at least four times a year — during heavy downpours when water accumulates at a very fast rate, said Press. He also is concerned about sewage that sometimes backs up into the street when it floods.

Back to the videotape. Sunlight begins to peek through the clouds and shimmer on the water. But what remains is proof of a very serious problem for 16 or so homeowners who live along the section of Glenwood Avenue near Holly Avenue.

"We call it Glenwood Lakes," said Press, only half-joking.

But such images as the ones on tape should soon be only a memory for Press and other Glenwood Avenue residents. Last week, the Bor

See **GLENWOOD** on Page 8

P-I_August_23_1992_pl

Clipped By:



merchantvillenj

Tue, Jul 16, 2019