Green Stormwater Infrastructure Overview







RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



The Natural Water Cycle



Impervious Surfaces





The Urban Water Cycle



What is stormwater?

Stormwater is the water from rain or melting snows that can become "runoff," flowing over the ground surface and returning to lakes and streams.



Water Quality









Water Quantity (flooding)



More Flooding





And even more flooding



Is Green Infrastructure a solution?

...an approach to stormwater management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly.

Green Infrastructure projects:

- capture,
- filter,
- absorb, and
- reuse

stormwater to maintain or mimic natural systems and treat runoff as a resource.









Green Infrastructure

Stormwater management practices that protect, restore, and mimic the native hydrologic condition by providing the following functions:

- Infiltration
- Filtration
- Storage
- Evaporation
- Transpiration



Green Infrastructure Practices

Bioretention Systems

- Rain Gardens
- Bioswales
- Stormwater Planters
- Curb Extensions
- Tree Filter Boxes
- Permeable Pavements
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Rain barrels
- Cisterns
- Dry Wells

Rooftop Systems

- Green Roofs
- Blue Roofs



TYPES OF BIORETENTION





Larger Bioretention Systems

- Single-family lots
- Commercial areas
- Parking lots

Rain Gardens

- Single-family lots
- Small commercial areas



Planters & Planter Boxes

- Highly urban areas
- Right-of-way and adjacent to buildings



Bioretention Swales/ Bioswales/Vegetated Swales

• Typically in right-ofway



Vegetated Curb Extensions

 Bioretention incorporated into right-of-way in urban and suburban areas

Rain Gardens



Lots of Rain Gardens





























Permeable Pavement

POROUS ASPHALT It is common to design porous asphalt in the parking stalls of a parking lot. This saves money and reduces wear.



DRAINAGE AREA

The drainage area of the porous asphalt system is the conventional asphalt cartway and the porous asphalt in the parking spaces. Runoff from the conventional asphalt flows into the porous asphalt parking spaces.

SUBGRADE

Porous pavements are unique because of their subgrade structure. This structure includes a layer of choker course, filter course, and soil.

UNDERDRAIN

Systems with low infiltration rates due to soil composition are often designed with an underdrain system to discharge the water.

ASPHALT

This system is often designed with conventional asphalt in areas of high traffic to prevent any damage to the system.

Permeable Pavements

- Underlying stone reservoir
- Porous asphalt and pervious concrete are manufactured without "fine" materials to allow infiltration
- Grass pavers are concrete interlocking blocks with open areas to allow grass to grow
- Permeable pavers systems are concrete pavers with infiltration between the spaces of the pavers
- Ideal application for porous pavement is to treat a low traffic or overflow parking area





<u>ADVANTAGES</u>

COMPONENTS

- Manage stormwater runoff
- Minimize site disturbance
- Promote groundwater recharge
- Low life cycle costs, alternative to costly traditional stormwater management methods
- Mitigation of urban heat island effect
- Contaminant removal as water moves through layers of system



Porous Asphalt



Pervious Concrete

Permeable Pavers

Grass Pavers

Rainwater Harvesting Systems



when the cistern is full or

when it is winterized.

CISTERN TANK This tank is designed in different sizes to accomodate the runoff from a designated drainage area.

SPIGOT

A spigot is installed near the base of the cistern tank to allow water to be removed for use without an electronic pump system.

SEDIMENT

Sediment and other pollutants that enter the tank will settle to the bottom.

Rain Barrels



Cisterns















Let's get back to flooding – bioretention is an option but does it take up too much space?















What if ...

every time we repave a parking lot in New Jersey, let's convert it into a stormwater management system. For every acre of parking lot, we can capture stormwater runoff from the 100-year storm from four to five acres of impervious surfaces. When we include a rain garden, we can further increase the benefits.

If we can't reallocate funds from the US Defense Budget, maybe can create stormwater utilities so everybody pays their fair share for their contribution to the stormwater runoff problem.