Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program
Water Pages eNewsletter

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Green Infrastructure Installations in the Lopatcong Creek Watershed

A green infrastructure practice has been installed at Rath's Deli in Stewartsville, New Jersey through a partnership between the Lopatcong Creek Initiative (LCI), the North Jersey Resource Conservation and Development (NJRC&D), and the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program. A 300 square foot rain garden at Rath's Deli intercepts stormwater runoff from nearby impervious asphalt driveways and parking lots. The rain garden will not only provide positive landscape aesthetic value and wildlife habitat, but it will improve water quality in the Lopatcong Creek! Designed by the RCE Water Resources Program, the rain garden reduces the amount of surface pollutants and total water volume that otherwise flows across impervious surfaces into the Lopatcong Creek during rain events. To reduce the risk of sinkholes, common to the region, the rain garden was designed with a synthetic liner and underdrain

pipes.

The Rath's Deli rain garden was selected as a green infrastructure demonstration site in the Lopatcong Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan, funded by the William Penn Foundation.

Westwood Floodplain Restoration Moves Foward

The RCE Water Resources Program has been working with the Bergen County Floodplain Protection Program, The Land Conservancy of New Jersey, and several municipalities in Bergen County to develop floodplain restorations plans for residential areas within the floodplain. We are happy to report that the Borough of Westwood has recently approved the flood acquisition plan and concept design. They will be joining several municipalities in New Jersey in proactively leading the state in floodplain restoration. For more information on the floodplain restoration in Westwood Borough, click here!

The 2016 Water Resources Program Student Internship Program

This summer we have 17 interns with different educational backgrounds, including three landscape architect students, five engineering students, five environmental science students, one environmental policy student, one environmental planning and design student, one video film student, and one undecided. The student interns have learned how to assess sites for possible green infrastructure projects. They are learning how to use the geographic information system (GIS) to map municipal boundaries and identify sites. They are designing site plans in AutoCAD (a design software) and modeling stormwater in HydroCAD to properly size green infrastructure practices.

Our student interns have already completed five detention basin designs, 11 design plans,

six impervious cover assessments (ICAs), and two reduction action plans (RAPs). They have assessed 10 municipalities for green infrastructure opportunities as well as maintained existing rain gardens and implemented four new ones.

We are so proud of the tremendous work our intern team has accomplished so far and their eagerness to learn! Keep it up team!

RCE Water Resources Program | New Brunswick, NJ 08901 | M-F 8:30 - 4:30pm

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