



October 2019

WATER PAGES eNEWSLETTER

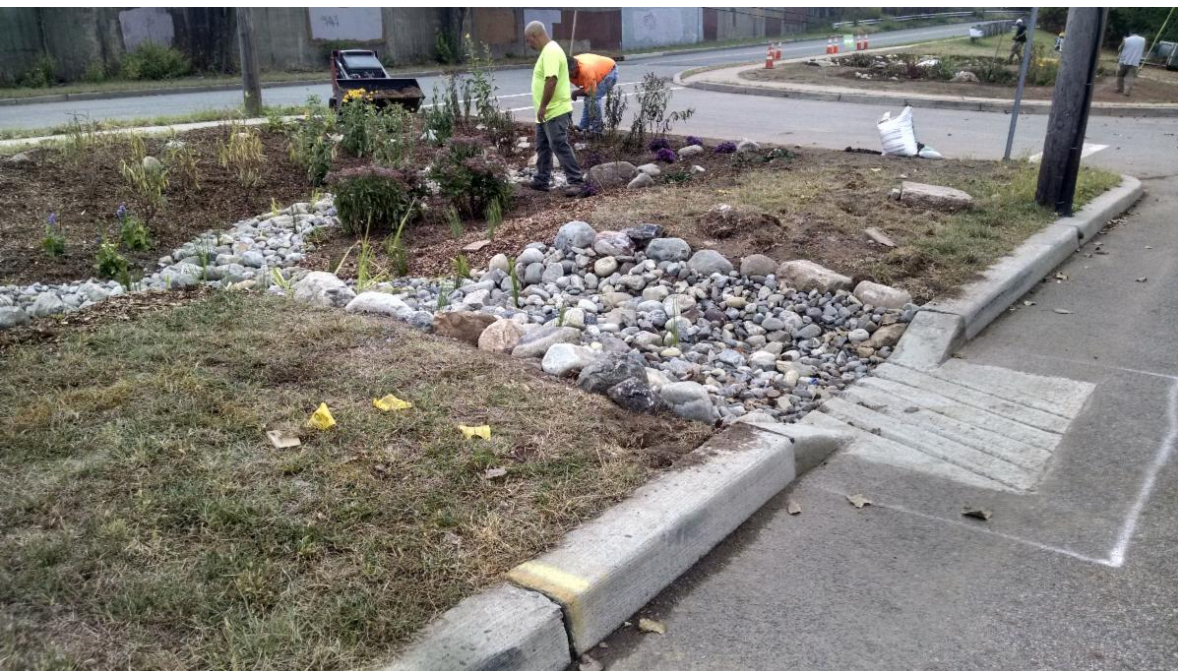
The Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program and the Township of Woodbridge partnership continues to yield great results!



The Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program and the Township of Woodbridge partnership continues to yield great results, completing the latest in a multi-year series of rain garden projects. At the intersection of Fulton Street and the Fulton Street Overpass, the latest gardens receive stormwater from an approximately 8,000-square-foot impervious roadway drainage area. The gardens were excavated and built by the Parks Department and the Department of Public Works under the Water Resources Program's supervision, with assistance from the Roads Department and the local water authority.



Approximately 1,000 native plants populate the gardens, bringing habitat for native birds and pollinators and beauty to the neighborhood. A novel inlet structure was invented by the Parks crew, adapting a cast metal inlet with a custom concrete channel to bring stormwater from the street under the sidewalks and into the gardens. In the upper gardens, the water flows into the first area, spreading out and infiltrating into the soil, part of which was replaced with a high-infiltration “bio-retention mix” composed of sand, soil, and compost to increase storage and infiltration. After spreading in the first upper area, the stormwater overflows into a lower area where it continues to infiltrate into the ground and provide the plants with moisture. During the largest rainstorms, the gardens are designed to overflow into the existing sewer system via a stone-lined cascade and an existing Fulton Street catch basin. The site will soon receive a special sign that will welcome visitors and residents to Woodbridge, calling out the innovative practices of green stormwater infrastructure that are happening all over town, making Woodbridge not only more sustainable but more beautiful as well.



Green Infrastructure Champion training is back!

Starting on Friday, January 17, 2020, the highly successful Green Infrastructure Champions Program will be offered in partnership with Duke Farms in Hillsborough, NJ. We piloted this program last winter into the spring and 37 people were certified as Green Infrastructure Champions. The pilot program was made possible by support from New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Jersey Water Works. This year we will add Duke Farms as a partner.

Green Infrastructure Champions will be key players in implementing green infrastructure as a stormwater management approach town by town. Green Infrastructure Champions will be able to:

- Enhance their knowledge through green infrastructure workshops, seminars, and personal research
- Engage community leaders to adopt green infrastructure as a stormwater management solution by updating ordinances and municipal master plans
- Encourage local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and schools to incorporate green infrastructure in their existing landscaping
- Secure funding for green infrastructure
- Publicize implementation of green infrastructure through social media channels

The RCE Water Resources Program will dedicate resources to support the Green Infrastructure Champions in their efforts to advocate for green infrastructure and implement demonstration projects.

For additional details about the Green Infrastructure Champions Program as well as the topics discussed at each session please visit:

<http://water.rutgers.edu/Projects/GreenInfrastructureChampions/GIC.html>.

Municipal Action Teams' Green Infrastructure Initiative Updates

OCTOBER 2019

Camden SMART (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) met on October 9th. The meeting began with a discussion about upcoming tree plantings led by New Jersey Tree Foundation (NJTF) at Shane Chapman Memorial Park, Gateway Park, and 26th & Howell Street Park this month. The Camden County Historical Society's proposed Enslaved Africans Memorial Rain Garden construction has been postponed until the spring due to prolonged archaeological review. Camden's Environmental Summit is on Thursday, November 21st from 9AM-2:30PM. The event is free to attend for Camden residents and \$25 for others to attend. Please register [here](#). Plans for the long-term CSO

Municipal action teams have been formed to foster collaboration and collective action that helps the municipality speak with a common voice and achieve a common goal while advocating for green infrastructure. Updates on the various municipal action teams across the state are listed in this newsletter.

Technical assistance provided

(combined sewer overflow) control plan continue as portions of the sewer system are being dredged to create more capacity to move water and reduce CSO occurrences. The next monthly meeting is planned for Wednesday, November 13th at 2PM at Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority.

Gloucester City Green Team met on October 9th. The planting for the Water Department rain garden is planned for October 30th from 11:15AM -12:20PM with high school students and local volunteers. Redesigned enhanced stormwater management tree pits are being installed at the First Baptist Church and planted on November 9th. The planned construction at the Gloucester City High School is moving forward with the group discussing potential installation strategies; local contractors are being sought for the work. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13th at 1PM at the Gloucester City Municipal Building.

Harrison TIDE (Transforming, Infrastructure and Defending our Environment): The next monthly meeting has been postponed until November 14th at 2PM at Harrison Town Hall.

Jersey City START (Stormwater Treatment and Resiliency Team) members met on October 10th at the JCMUA and discussed plans for upcoming community meetings this fall pertaining to the final stages of the Long Term Control Plan for CSOs in the city. The Canco Park Conservancy held their first annual Jersey City Garden Tours and will be help organize another tour later this year. The next START meeting will be November 14th at the JCMUA at 10AM.

Paterson SMART (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) members and community members met on October 14th at the Boys & Girls Club of Paterson at 7:00PM and presented information to the club about the issues presented by CSOs and the solutions green infrastructure can provide. SMART members and members from the Great Swamp Watershed Association helped plant a rain garden at Paterson Public School 7 on October 16th with students from the 6th grade science class. The next meeting time and location are TBD but will be announced via email.

Perth Amboy SWIM (Stormwater Infrastructure Management) members will meet on Tuesday October 29th in the Perth Amboy YMCA in the Faith Room on the main floor. The group will present to a group of students from a local school on the CSO issues in the city and the possible solutions for CSOs. The group will also be discussing the two new locations for green infrastructure projects in the city, which will be implemented this fall: the Perth Amboy American Legion Post 45 and the St. Peter's Episcopal Rectory Building. The following meeting in November will be

to these municipal action teams by the RCE Water Resources Program is funded in part by the Surdna Foundation, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission with support from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), and our local partners.

Camden SMART

Gloucester City Green Team

Harrison TIDE

Jersey City START

Newark DIG

Paterson SMART

Perth Amboy SWIM

Trenton Green Infrastructure Partners

announced via email after the meeting on the 29th.

Trenton Green Infrastructure Partners (GIP) did not meet during the month of October. Members of the Green Team and the Tri State Transportation Campaign held the first Trenton Ciclovía event on September 21st, see the short movie about the event here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y2vwksaq>. On October 3rd and 4th, the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program members and Isles, Inc. members planted the newly constructed rain garden at the Joyce Kilmer Middle School with students in the 7th grade science class. The next meeting will be in November and announced via email.



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