

## **Green Infrastructure Champions Program**

Green Infrastructure Champions are key players in implementing green infrastructure as an approach to stormwater management in their own municipality. 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

Here is what we can offer:

- Training on green infrastructure planning and implementation
- Technical support to develop a design for a green infrastructure demonstration project
- Networking opportunities with other Green Infrastructure Champions for mutual support
- Assistance with grant writing

**Become a leader, become a Green Infrastructure Champion!**

**The next training program will be offered online starting January 13, 2023.**

Contact: Hollie DiMuro ([hollie.dimuro@rutgers.edu](mailto:hollie.dimuro@rutgers.edu)) if you are interested in becoming a Green Infrastructure Champion.



## Green Infrastructure Champion Training Program Classes for 2023:

- 1. How to identify green infrastructure projects in your town  
(Friday, January 13, 2023)**  
*This workshop will provide an overview of green infrastructure practices and how to identify sites that can be retrofitted with green infrastructure. The variables that should be considered in selecting the most appropriate green infrastructure practice will be discussed. A green infrastructure site assessment checklist will be provided to all attendees.*
- 2. Moving from planning to implementation of green infrastructure  
(Friday, January 27, 2023)**  
*The various components of green infrastructure planning will be discussed including tools that can be used to help prepare these plans. The implementation of green infrastructure projects that have been identified through the planning process will be the main focus of this class. Leveraging existing projects, building partnerships, writing grants, and project costs will be discussed. Lessons learned during implementation will also be covered.*
- 3. Maintaining green infrastructure practices/projects  
(Friday, February 10, 2023)**  
*The key to long-term success of green infrastructure is maintenance. This workshop will discuss the maintenance requirements for each green infrastructure practice. Model maintenance agreements will be shared and discussed. The cost of maintenance will be covered in the class as well.*
- 4. Stormwater management regulations, policies, and ordinances  
(Friday, February 24, 2023)**  
*Many people look to state and local policies, regulations, and ordinances to actuate a long-term change in how communities address stormwater issues. This workshop will discuss the current regulations and offer examples of policies and ordinances that can help communities reduce flooding and improve the health of their waterbodies.*
- 5. Green infrastructure planning and implementation for Sustainable Jersey points  
(Friday, March 10, 2023)**  
*Green infrastructure planning and implementation activities can earn a municipality points through the Sustainable Jersey Program. This workshop discusses planning as well as implementation activities that can be completed to obtain Sustainable Jersey points.*

**6. Green infrastructure projects for schools**  
**(Friday, March 24, 2023)**

*Public, private, and charter schools all tend to provide opportunities for green infrastructure. This workshop will discuss green infrastructure projects for schools and educational programs that can accompany these projects to engage school children, their parents, and teachers.*

**7. How to design and build a rain garden**  
**(Friday, April 7, 2023)**

*One of the easiest green infrastructure practices to design and build is the rain garden. In this class, attendees will learn how to design and build a rain garden. The class will include useful tools for design including the New Jersey Rain Garden Manual and the Rain Garden App. Attendees will learn how to properly size a rain garden, how to amend the soil, and how to select plants.*

**8. Retrofitting traditional detention basins with green infrastructure**  
**(Friday, Apr. 21, 2023)**

*Detention basins have been used throughout New Jersey to reduce stormwater runoff peak flows from developed areas. While these basins do very little to reduce stormwater runoff volumes or pollutant loads, this class will discuss retrofitting detention basins to improve their infiltration capacity and enhance their ability to reduce pollutant loads. Retrofitting basins also reduces maintenance, mainly the need to mow.*

**9. Developing green infrastructure master plans for an entire site or neighborhood**  
**(Friday, May 5, 2023)**

*Many communities have installed a green infrastructure demonstration project. This class helps attendees build upon the demonstration project to create master plans for an entire site, municipal complex, school ground, corporate complex, or a neighborhood. The master plan goes beyond managing stormwater with green infrastructure and incorporates a wide range of amenities.*

**10. Using green infrastructure to promote climate resiliency**  
**(Friday, May 19, 2023)**

*Climate change, along with rising sea level, produces more intense storms, and longer periods of drought are predicted between storms. This class will discuss opportunities for green infrastructure to mitigate the effects of climate change as well as the design considerations that must be made to combat changing rainfall patterns and sea level rise, thereby promoting climate resiliency.*