Equitable Collaborative Partnerships in Addressing MS4, Flooding, and Green Infrastructure

Small Wonder, Big Impact across the Delaware River Watershed.

Presented By: Chris Obroma.



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11th Annual Delaware River Watershed Forum



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Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) helps the diverse population of New Jersey adapt to a rapidly changing society and improves their lives through an educational process that uses science-based knowledge.









The RCE Water Resources Program

Our mission is to identify and address water resources issues by engaging and empowering communities to employ practical science-based solutions to help create a more equitable and sustainable New Jersey.



www.water.Rutgers.edu



NJ's Stormwater Problems

- A Strong Need to Retrofit Existing Development With Stormwater Management
- Retrofitting Existing Development is not Required by State Regulations
- Robust Partnerships and Local Champions are needed for Retrofitting to be Successful





Partners

- NGOs ANJEC, SJLWT, ALS, PDE, NJ Audubon, Citizens United, Pinelands Preservation Alliance, Highland Coalition, North Jersey RC&D
- Municipalities, Schools, House of Worship, Colleges, Counties
- Local Community Leaders, Green Infrastructure Champions



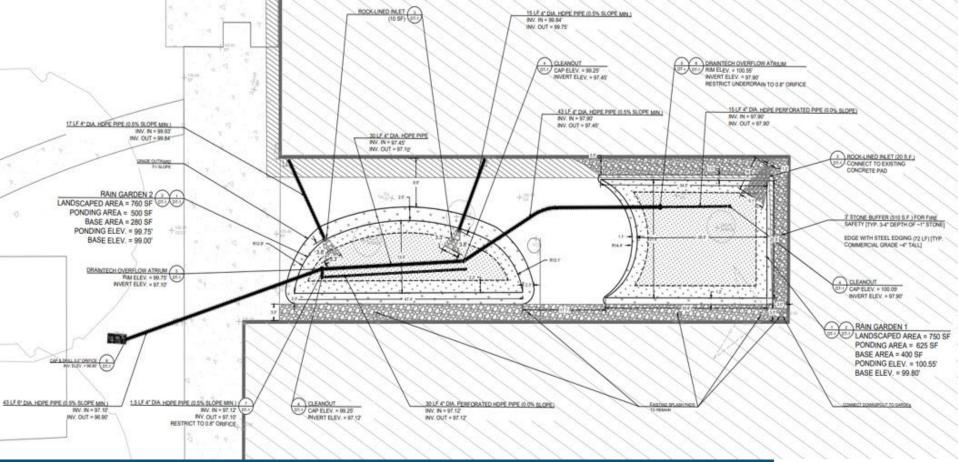


The Process

- 1. Identify a project
- 2. Identify possible partners and create a team
- 3. Identify and secure funding
- 4. Develop design
- 5. Implement design
- 6. Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance







Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed

ENGINEERING DESIGN

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Responsible Parties

- Project coordinator NGO or Local Champion
- Design Rutgers
- Implementation
 - Municipality (Public Works or Parks Department)
 - School (Board of Ed Grounds Facilities)
 - -Local Contractor
 - -Partners and volunteers
- Maintenance ???



AGood Contractor

C

AContractor that can do more than just dig





Or a Good Public Works Department







Garrison Park

- Porous Asphalt Parking Lot
- Two Rain Gardens
- Good Funding Story
- Lots of Partners







Rain Garden with Signage



Rain Garden to Take Excess Runoff from Porous Asphalt Parking Lot



Involve the Politicians

ANJEC

Convince them more is needed

Anthony Rossi Elementary School







Roadside Rain Garden near Pohatcong Municipal Building



Upper Deerfield Municipal Complex









FIRE



Fixing Problems

Inspections and Maintenance are necessary

3





Lessons Learned about Maintenance

- Good to have a formal agreement with property owner
- Volunteer groups are reliable until they are not
- Best maintenance is done by organizations that allocate resources to staff to maintain built systems
- Training does not always result in good maintenance
- If a landscaped system is messy, it is more likely to be removed even if it is functioning properly



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