



## *Water Pages eNewsletter*

### [Assessing Stormwater Detention Basins in Hillsborough Township]



The Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program has partnered with Hillsborough Township to address stormwater infrastructure issues within the Royce Brook watershed. The main objective of this effort was to assess the current conditions of existing stormwater detention basins and determine if the systems are functioning as designed. Detention basins are designed to capture stormwater temporarily before

slowly releasing the water back into a local waterbody. This management practice reduces downstream flooding, peak runoff volumes, and in some cases, is designed to address water quality.

During the summer of 2015, a total of 61 basins were identified and characterized as in need of one or more of the following:

- Maintenance
- Cleaning
- Standing water
- Structural improvements
- Infiltration improvements

The recommended actions will reduce the amount of stormwater volume and nonpoint source (NPS) pollutants discharging untreated from the basins into local waterways. The Water Resources Program is looking forward to continuing its partnership with Hillsborough Township to implement some of these

recommendations and uniting our efforts to improve the complex stormwater infrastructure in the Township.



## [Green Infrastructure in Newark's West Side Park!]



The RCE Water Resources Program partnered with the Essex County Parks, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Essex County VETS Program, New Jersey Tree Foundation, and Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission to install a 200 square foot rain garden in Newark's West Side Park.

The rain garden captures, treats, and infiltrates stormwater runoff draining from a portion of the facility's building (approximately 790 square feet). This rain garden will treat and remove from Newark's combined sewer system 25,000 gallons of stormwater runoff per year.

Stormwater runoff is a major cause of water pollution in urban areas like Newark. During rain events, the stormwater falls on paved streets and surfaces known as impervious surfaces, and the stormwater cannot soak into the ground. Newark's sewer system is



combined which means when it rains heavily, the system becomes stressed and releases both stormwater and raw sewage into our waterways.

This project was funded through a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection 319(h) grant, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, and Essex County Parks. To learn more about this project please [click here](#) or contact [Newark DIG](#) for more information!

## [Pilesgrove Township Installs a Rain Garden!]



The RCE Water Resources Program partnered with the Association of New Jersey Environment Commission (ANJEC) and Pilesgrove Township to design and install a rain garden to treat stormwater runoff draining from the parking lot at the Pilesgrove Municipal Building.

The rain garden is 1,600 square feet in size and captures, treats, and infiltrates stormwater runoff draining from approximately one-quarter of an acre of pavement. The rain garden is designed to manage up to the two-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24-hours). On an annual basis the rain garden will capture, treat, and infiltrate over 260,000 gallons of stormwater runoff.

This project was funded in part by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the William Penn Foundation, the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, the New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium, and the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation. We all hope this rain garden will be an example for the community and many more rain gardens will be constructed throughout Pilesgrove Township.



To learn more about this project and other green infrastructure opportunities for Pilesgrove Township and/or Woodstown Borough, please [click here](#) to access interactive tools, impervious cover assessment reports, and impervious cover reduction action plans.

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