



Green Infrastructure Projects Coming Soon to a City Near You



Summer 2017 is quickly becoming very busy for the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program. Several green infrastructure projects across the state are moving into the construction phase. Many of these have been in the planning and funding phases for several years. It has been exciting to see our partners receive final approvals and secure the necessary funding to begin building all of these green infrastructure projects. Look for updates in the coming weeks and months on these projects, and if you are in the area, be sure to stop by and check out the construction progress!

Paterson

Rain gardens at JohnF. Kennedy High School

Rain garden and treeplantings at Public School 28

Rain garden at PublicSchool 4, Dr. Frank Napier Jr. School of Technology

Perth Amboy

Rain gardens andporous paving at Washington Park

Porous paving at municipalparking lot RDH on Madison Avenue

Porous paving atmunicipal parking lot C on Jefferson Street

Jersey City

Downspout planters,tree trench, and porous paving at Public School 5

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission in Newark

Rain gardens andporous paving at the Administration Building

Rainwater harvestingsystem for a vehicle wash at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Camden

Construction of five green infrastructure projects including:downspout planters,rain gardens, porous paving, bioswales, tree planting

Municipal Action Teams are Moving Green Infrastructure into Action Across the State of New Jersey Update

Municipal action teams have beenformed to foster collaboration and collective action that helps the municipality speakwith a common voice and achieve a common goal while advocating for greeninfrastructure. Detailed below is an update on the various municipal actionteams across the state.

The **Camden SMART** (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) partners are working with New Jersey Tree Foundation to conduct maintenance of raingardens throughout the city. The CCMUA Green Ambassadors are learning about theCamden SMART initiative from all of the partner organizations. A new rainbarrel program has kicked off in the city where rain barrels are available tocity residents at no cost. Partners are continuing to develop greeninfrastructure projects and will be focusing programs and efforts in the NorthCamden sewersheds through a grant from the New Jersey Department of EnvironmentalProtection 319(h) program to the Camden County Soil Conservation District. For more information, visit [Camden SMART](#).

T h e **Harrison TIDE** (Transforming Infrastructure and Defending ourEnvironment) partners goal is to improve water quality and the quality oflife of our residents by addressing combined sewer and stormwater pollutionand flooding. TIDE's mission is to foster smart economic development byidentifying any opportunities to implement green infrastructure solutions andengage our community through educational programming and public outreach. Theteam is working towards implementing a green infrastructure project at thepublic library and will be present during National Night Out

Against Crime on August 1st to discuss the project with residents. For the latest updates on Harrison TIDE activities, please like our [Facebook page](#).

Jersey City Make It Green partners discussed collective impacts of green infrastructure projects throughout the city. Several demonstration projects have been implemented around City Hall and JCMUA is moving forward with green infrastructure practices at the Michael Conti Public School #5. Partners are also working towards addressing the stormwater ordinance and green infrastructure application forms to work with local community groups for future green initiatives. To learn more about the Year of Water, please [click here](#).



Newark DIG (Doing Infrastructure Green) partners are working with Civic Story to highlight the importance of green infrastructure in communities with combined sewer systems with a featured story in the fall. The Quality of Life Summit has been rescheduled for October 14th; registration and additional information will be coming soon. The program will offer residents an opportunity to engage with nonprofit organizations and city representatives to highlight sustainability efforts in the city. Rain barrels are available at no cost for residents within the Newark Downtown District (NDD); please contact the NDD at (973)622-2002 or email info@downtownnewark.com, and ask them about their rain barrel program! For more information about DIG, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Paterson SMART (Stormwater Management and Resource Training) partners are excited to watch several green infrastructure projects at schools being implemented this summer. Three rain gardens and several trees will be installed at the John F. Kennedy High School, the Academy for the Gifted and Talented Public School 28, and the Dr. Frank Napier Jr. School of Technology Public School 4. Ground breaking occurred on July 24th at Public School 4 and Public School 28. Paterson SMART will also be cohosting a public meeting on September 13th from 6:30-8:30pm at the Paterson Museum called *Make Clean Waterways a Priority in Paterson*. This public meeting will highlight how to reduce flooding and basement sewer backups through green infrastructure practices. For more information, visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Perth Amboy SWIM (Stormwater Infrastructure Management) partners are working together to design and implement green infrastructure projects at Washington Park and two municipal parking lots over the next few weeks. We hope to have the projects begin by the end of August. In addition, Perth Amboy SWIM will be participating in Family Day on Saturday, August 5th at the waterfront in Perth Amboy. There they will be hosting a rain barrel workshop and demonstration, as well as highlighting key green infrastructure happenings throughout the city. The partners recently met on July 20th for their monthly meeting and continue to meet regularly on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Technical assistance provided to these municipal action teams by the RCE Water Resources Program is funded in part by the Surdna Foundation with support from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and our local partners. For more information about the New Jersey Technical Assistance Program for Combined Sewer

New Orleans's 2017 One Water Summit



On June 27th, the RCE Water Resources Program, along with other New Jersey organizations from Jersey Water Works, met together in New Orleans, LA to represent the New Jersey Delegation. This delegation from Jersey Water Works aimed to learn from other states about the challenges and successes of achieving one water in drinking, wastewater, and

stormwater infrastructure. While the challenges faced in New Jersey are similar to the challenges faced in other states, we learned that public participation and engagement from the start is key for improving water infrastructure. Many communities across the nation are also struggling to implement green infrastructure and to gain support to replace and repair aging gray infrastructure. Even though communities across the nation have dedicated resources for green infrastructure, they are still hesitant to implement green infrastructure into capital improvement projects. The communities that seem to have the highest success rate are those that have a dedicated leader and staff to ensure that green infrastructure is considered and incorporated into all city projects. In New Jersey, our municipal action teams are just one part of the effort to encourage the implementation of green infrastructure projects as a common practice in the state.

The following is New Jersey's commitment to [One Water](#):

The New Jersey delegation represents Jersey Water Works, a statewide cross-sector collaborative working to transform New Jersey's inadequate water infrastructure through investments in sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide multiple community benefits. The collaborative has more than 300 members acting both together and individually to make measurable progress. Like Jersey Water Works itself, this year's New Jersey delegation represents diverse perspectives, including city and regional utilities, nonprofit environmental and smart growth organizations, cities (both elected officials and staff), community groups, communications professionals, academic institutions, and philanthropy. The delegation has committed to using its time at One Water Summit 2017 to explore new ways to build public and political will for improved water infrastructure and water management that provides equitable access to water services, recreation, and workforce opportunities. The group will reconvene after One Water Summit 2017 to establish actions to advance the commitment, and it will share and coordinate its efforts with the Jersey Water Works collaborative.

