



Draft

Impervious Cover Assessment for Helmetta Borough, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Prepared for Helmetta Borough by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program

February 1, 2015

Introduction

Pervious and impervious are terms that are used to describe the ability or inability of water to flow through a surface. When rainfall hits a surface, it can soak into the surface or flow off the surface. Pervious surfaces are those which allow stormwater to readily soak into the soil and recharge groundwater. When rainfall drains from a surface, it is called "stormwater" runoff (Figure 1). An impervious surface can be any material that has been placed over soil that prevents water from soaking into the ground. Impervious surfaces include paved roadways, parking lots, sidewalks, and rooftops. As impervious areas increase, so does the volume of stormwater runoff.



Figure 1: Stormwater draining from a parking lot

New Jersey has many problems due to stormwater runoff, including:

- <u>Pollution</u>: According to the 2010 New Jersey Water Quality Assessment Report, 90% of the assessed waters in New Jersey are impaired, with urban-related stormwater runoff listed as the most probable source of impairment (USEPA, 2013). As stormwater flows over the ground, it picks up pollutants including animal waste, excess fertilizers, pesticides, and other toxic substances. These pollutants are then able to enter waterways.
- <u>Flooding</u>: Over the past decade, the state has seen an increase in flooding. Communities around the state have been affected by these floods. The amount of damage caused also has increased greatly with this trend, costing billions of dollars over this time span.

• <u>Erosion</u>: Increased stormwater runoff causes an increase in the velocity of flows in our waterways. The increased velocity after storm events erodes stream banks and shorelines, degrading water quality. This erosion can damage local roads and bridges and cause harm to wildlife.

The primary cause of the pollution, flooding, and erosion problems is the quantity of impervious surfaces draining directly to local waterways. New Jersey is one of the most developed states in the country. Currently, the state has the highest percent of impervious cover in the country at 12.1% of its total area (Nowak & Greenfield, 2012). Many of these impervious surfaces are directly connected to local waterways (i.e., every drop of rain that lands on these impervious surfaces ends up in a local river, lake, or bay without any chance of being treated or soaking into the ground). To repair our waterways, reduce flooding, and stop erosion, stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces has to be better managed. Surfaces need to be disconnected with green infrastructure to prevent stormwater runoff from flowing directly into New Jersey's waterways. Disconnection redirects runoff from paving and rooftops to pervious areas in the landscape.

Green infrastructure is an approach to stormwater management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly. Green infrastructure projects capture, filter, absorb, and reuse stormwater to maintain or mimic natural systems and to treat runoff as a resource. As a general principal, green infrastructure practices use soil and vegetation to recycle stormwater runoff through infiltration and evapotranspiration. When used as components of a stormwater management system, green infrastructure practices such as bioretention, green roofs, porous pavement, rain gardens, and vegetated swales can produce a variety of environmental benefits. In addition to effectively retaining and infiltrating rainfall, these technologies can simultaneously help filter air pollutants, reduce energy demands, mitigate urban heat islands, and sequester carbon while also providing communities with aesthetic and natural resource benefits (USEPA, 2013).

The first step to reducing the impacts from impervious surfaces is to conduct an impervious cover assessment. This assessment can be completed on different scales: individual lot, municipality, or watershed. Impervious surfaces need to be identified for stormwater management. Once impervious surfaces have been identified, there are three steps to better manage these surfaces.

- 1. *Eliminate surfaces that are not necessary.* For example, a paved courtyard at a public school could be converted to a grassed area.
- 2. *Reduce or convert impervious surfaces.* There may be surfaces that are required to be hardened, such as roadways or parking lots, but could be made smaller and still be functional. A parking lot that has two-way car ways could be converted to one-way car ways. There also are permeable paving materials such as porous asphalt, pervious concrete, or permeable paving stones that could be substituted for impermeable paving materials (Figure 2).
- Disconnect impervious surfaces from flowing directly to local waterways. There are many ways to capture, treat, and infiltrate stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. Opportunities may exist to reuse this captured water.



Figure 2: Rapid infiltration of water through porous pavement is demonstrated at the USEPA Edison New Jersey test site

Helmetta Borough Impervious Cover Analysis

Located in Middlesex County in central New Jersey, Helmetta Borough covers approximately 0.88 square miles. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate that Helmetta Borough is dominated by urban land uses. A total of 43.7% of the municipality's land use is classified as urban. Of the urban land in Helmetta Borough, medium density residential is the dominant land use (Figure 5).

The literature suggests a link between impervious cover and stream ecosystem impairment starting at approximately 10% impervious surface cover (Schueler, 1994; Arnold and Gibbons, 1996; May et al., 1997). Impervious cover may be linked to the quality of lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, and aquifers (Caraco et al., 1998), and the amount of impervious cover in a watershed can be used to project the current and future quality of streams. Based on the scientific literature, Caraco et al. (1998) classified urbanizing streams into the following three categories: sensitive streams, impacted streams, and non-supporting streams. Sensitive steams typically have a watershed impervious surface cover from 0 - 10%. Impacted streams have a watershed impervious cover ranging from 11-25% and typically show clear signs of degradation from urbanization. Non-supporting streams have a watershed impervious cover of greater than 25%; at this high level of impervious cover, streams are simply conduits for stormwater flow and no longer support a diverse stream community.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) 2007 land use/land cover geographical information system (GIS) data layer categorizes Helmetta Borough into many unique land use areas, assigning a percent impervious cover for each delineated area. These impervious cover values were used to estimate the impervious coverage for Helmetta Borough. Based upon the 2007 NJDEP land use/land cover data, approximately 17.6% of Helmetta Borough has impervious cover. This level of impervious cover suggests that the streams in Helmetta Borough are likely impacted.

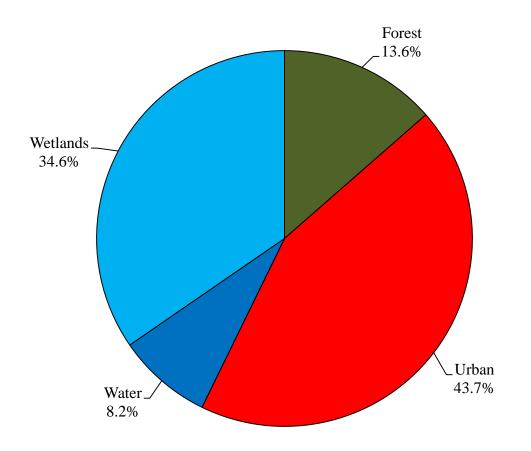


Figure 3: Pie chart illustrating the land use in Helmetta Borough

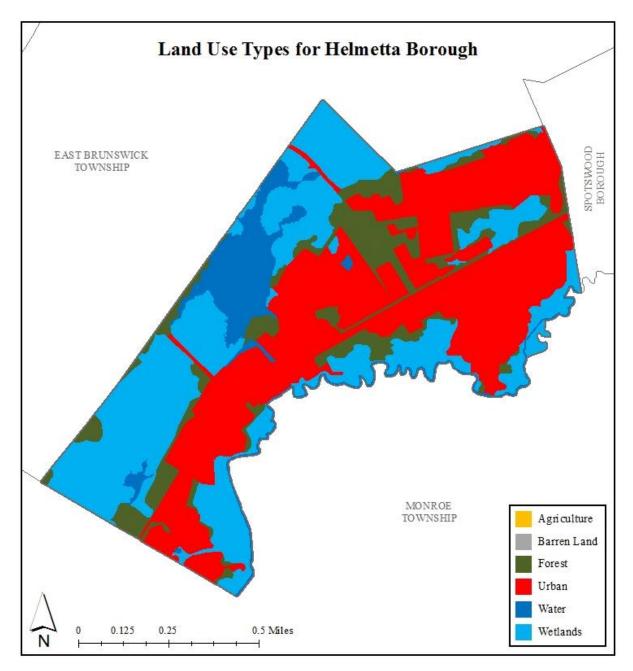


Figure 4: Map illustrating the land use in Helmetta Borough

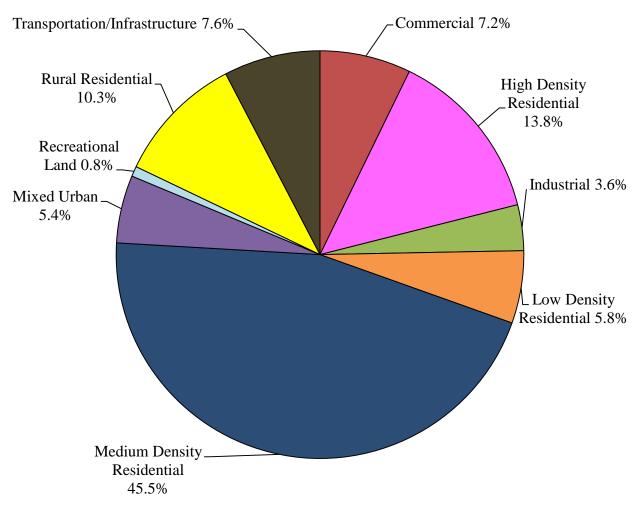


Figure 5: Pie chart illustrating the various types of urban land use in Helmetta Borough

Water resources are typically managed on a watershed/subwatershed basis; therefore an impervious cover analysis was performed for the Raritan River subwatershed within Helmetta Borough which is the Manalapan Brook subwatershed (Table 1 and Figure 6). Approximately 17.6%, or 90.5 acres, of the Manalapan Brook subwatershed consists of impervious cover. Evaluating impervious cover on a subwatershed basis allows the municipality to focus impervious cover reduction or disconnection efforts in the subwatersheds where frequent flooding occurs.

In developed landscapes, stormwater runoff from parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, and rooftops flows to drainage pipes that feed the sewer system. The cumulative effect of these impervious surfaces and thousands of connected downspouts reduces the amount of water that can infiltrate into soils and greatly increases the volume and rate of runoff that flows to waterways. Stormwater runoff volumes (specific to Helmetta Borough, Middlesex County) associated with impervious surfaces were calculated for the following storms: the New Jersey water quality design storm of 1.25 inches of rain, an annual rainfall of 44 inches, the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain), the 10-year design storm (5.1 inches of rain), and the 100-year design storm (8.6 inches of rain). These runoff volumes are summarized in Table 2. A substantial amount of rainwater drains from impervious surfaces in Helmetta Borough. For example, if the stormwater runoff from one water quality storm (1.25 inches of rain) in the Manalapan Brook subwatershed was harvested and purified, it could supply water to 28 homes for one year¹.

¹ Assuming 300 gallons per day per home

Subwatershed	Total Area		Land Use Area		Water Area		Impervious Cover		
bub water bired	(ac)	(mi ²)	(ac)	(mi ²)	(ac)	(mi ²)	(ac)	(mi ²)	(%)
Manalapan Brook	561.4	0.88	515.5	0.81	45.9	0.07	90.5	0.14	17.6%
Total	561.4	0.88	515.5	0.81	45.9	0.07	90.5	0.14	17.6%

Table 1: Impervious cover analysis by subwatershed for Helmetta Borough

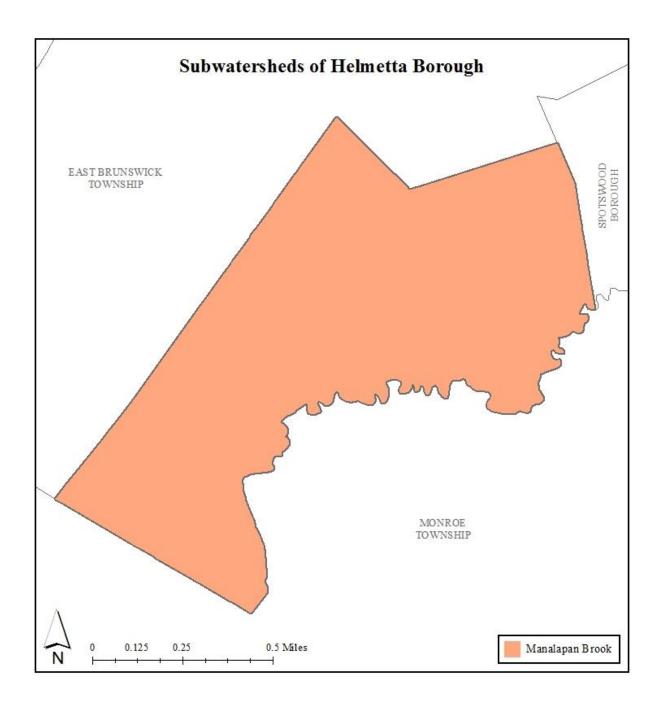


Figure 6: Map of the subwatersheds in Helmetta Borough

Subwatershed	Total Runoff Volume for the 1.25'' NJ Water Quality Storm (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the NJ Annual Rainfall of 44'' (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 2-Year Design Storm (3.3'') (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 10-Year Design Storm (5.1'') (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 100-Year Design Storm (8.6'') (MGal)
Manalapan Brook	3.1	108.1	8.1	12.5	21.1
Total	3.1	108.1	8.1	12.5	21.1

Table 2: Stormwater runoff volumes from impervious surfaces by subwatershed in Helmetta Borough

The next step is to set a reduction goal for impervious area in each subwatershed. Based upon the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program's experience, a 10% reduction would be a reasonably achievable reduction for these subwatersheds in Helmetta Borough. While it may be difficult to eliminate paved areas or replace paved areas with permeable pavement, it is relatively easy to identify impervious surfaces that can be disconnected using green infrastructure practices. For all practical purposes, disconnecting an impervious surface from a storm sewer system or a water body is an "impervious area reduction." The RCE Water Resources Program recommends that all green infrastructure practices that are installed to disconnect impervious surfaces should be designed for the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24-hours). Although this results in management practices that are slightly over-designed by NJDEP standards, which require systems to be designed for the New Jersey water quality storm (1.25 inches of rain over 2-hours), these systems will be able to handle the increase in storm intensities that are expected to occur due to climate change. By designing these management practices for the 2-year design storm, these practices will be able to manage 95% of the annual rainfall volume. The recommended annual reductions in runoff volumes are shown in Table 3.

As previously mentioned, once impervious surfaces have been identified, the next steps for managing impervious surfaces are to 1) eliminate surfaces that are not necessary, 2) reduce or convert impervious surfaces to pervious surfaces, and 3) disconnect impervious surfaces from flowing directly to local waterways.

Elimination of Impervious Surfaces

One method to reduce impervious cover is to "depave." Depaving is the act of removing paved impervious surfaces and replacing them with pervious soil and vegetation that will allow for the infiltration of rainwater. Depaving leads to the re-creation of natural space that will help reduce flooding, increase wildlife habitat, and positively enhance water quality as well as beautify neighborhoods. Depaving also can bring communities together around a shared vision to work together to reconnect their neighborhood to the natural environment.

Subwatershed	Recommended Impervious Area Reduction (10%) (ac)	Annual Runoff Volume Reduction ² (MGal)
Manalapan Brook	9.1	10.3
Total	9.1	10.3

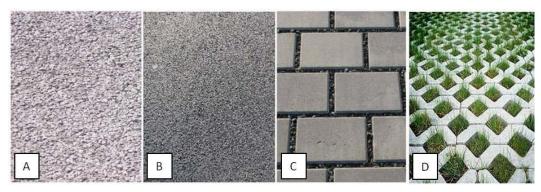
Table 3: Impervious cover reductions by subwatershed in Helmetta Borough

² Annual Runoff Volume Reduction = Acres of impervious cover x 43,560 ft²/ac x 44 in x (1 ft/12 in) x 0.95 x (7.48 gal/ft³) x (1 MGal/1,000,000 gal) All green infrastructure should be designed to capture the first 3.3 inches of rain from each storm. This would allow the green infrastructure to capture 95% of the annual rainfall of 44 inches.

Pervious Pavement

There are four different types of permeable pavement systems that are commonly being used throughout the country to reduce the environmental impacts from impervious surfaces. These surfaces include pervious concrete, porous asphalt, interlocking concrete pavers, and grid pavers.

"Permeable pavement is a stormwater drainage system that allows rainwater and runoff to move through the pavement's surface to a storage layer below, with the water eventually seeping into the underlying soil. Permeable pavement is beneficial to the environment because it can reduce stormwater volume, treat stormwater water quality, replenish the groundwater supply, and lower air temperatures on hot days (Rowe, 2012)."



Permeable surfaces: (A) pervious concrete, (B) porous asphalt, (C) interlocking concrete pavers, (D) grid pavers (Rowe, 2012)

Pervious concrete and porous asphalt are the most common of the permeable surfaces. They are similar to regular concrete and asphalt but without the fine materials. This allows water to quickly pass through the material into an underlying layered system of stone that holds the water allowing it to infiltrate into the underlying uncompacted soil.

Impervious Cover Disconnection Practices

By redirecting runoff from paving and rooftops to pervious areas in the landscape, the amount of directly connected impervious area in a drainage area can be greatly reduced. There are many cost-effective ways to disconnect impervious surfaces from local waterways.

• <u>Simple Disconnection</u>: This is the easiest and least costly method to reduce stormwater runoff for smaller storm events. Instead of piping rooftop runoff to the street where it enters the catch basin and is piped to the river, the rooftop runoff is released onto a grassed

area to allow the water to be filtered by the grass and soak into the ground. A healthy lawn typically can absorb the first one to two inches of stormwater runoff from a rooftop. Simple disconnection also can be used to manage stormwater runoff from paved areas. Designing a parking lot or driveway to drain onto a grassed area, instead of the street, can dramatically reduce pollution and runoff volumes.

• <u>Rain Gardens</u>: Stormwater can be diverted into shallow landscaped depressed areas (i.e., rain gardens) where the vegetation filters the water, and it is allowed to soak into the ground. Rain gardens, also known as bioretention systems, come in all shapes and sizes and can be designed to disconnect a variety of impervious surfaces (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Rain garden outside the RCE of Gloucester County office which was designed to disconnect rooftop runoff from the local storm sewer system

• <u>Rainwater Harvesting</u>: Rainwater harvesting includes the use of rain barrels and cisterns (Figures 8a and 8b). These can be placed below downspouts to collect rooftop runoff. The collected water has a variety of uses including watering plants and washing cars. This practice also helps cut down on the use of potable water for nondrinking purposes. It is important to divert the overflow from the rainwater harvesting system to a pervious area.



Figure 8a: Rain barrel used to disconnect a downspout with the overflow going to a flower bed



Figure 8b: A 5,000 gallon cistern used to disconnect the rooftop of the Department of Public Works in Clark Township to harvest rainwater for nonprofit car wash events

Examples of Opportunities in Helmetta Borough

To address the impact of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, the next step is to identify opportunities in the municipality for eliminating, reducing, or disconnecting directly connected impervious surfaces. To accomplish this task, an impervious cover reduction action plan should be prepared. Aerial photographs are used to identify sites with impervious surfaces in the municipality that may be suitable for inclusion in the action plan. After sites are identified, site visits are conducted to photo-document all opportunities and evaluate the feasibility of eliminating, reducing or disconnecting directly connected impervious surfaces. A brief description of each site discussing the existing conditions and recommendations for treatment of the impervious surfaces is developed. After a number of sites have been selected for inclusion in the action plan, concept plans and detailed green infrastructure information sheets are prepared for a selection of representative sites.

For Helmetta Borough, three sites have been included in this assessment. Examples of concept plans and detailed green infrastructure information sheets are provided in Appendix A. The detailed green infrastructure information sheets describe existing conditions and issues, proposed solutions, anticipated benefits, possible funding sources, potential partners and stakeholders, and estimated costs. Additionally, each project has been classified as a mitigation opportunity for recharge potential, total suspended solids removal, and stormwater peak reduction. Finally, these detailed green infrastructure information sheets provide an estimate of gallons of stormwater captured and treated per year by each proposed green infrastructure practice. The concept plans provide an aerial photograph of the site and details of the proposed green infrastructure practices.

Conclusions

Helmetta Borough can reduce flooding and improve its waterways by better managing stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. This impervious cover assessment is the first step toward better managing stormwater runoff. The next step is to develop an action plan to eliminate, reduce, or disconnect impervious surfaces where possible and practical. Many of the highly effective disconnection practices are inexpensive. The entire community can be engaged in implementing these disconnection practices.

References

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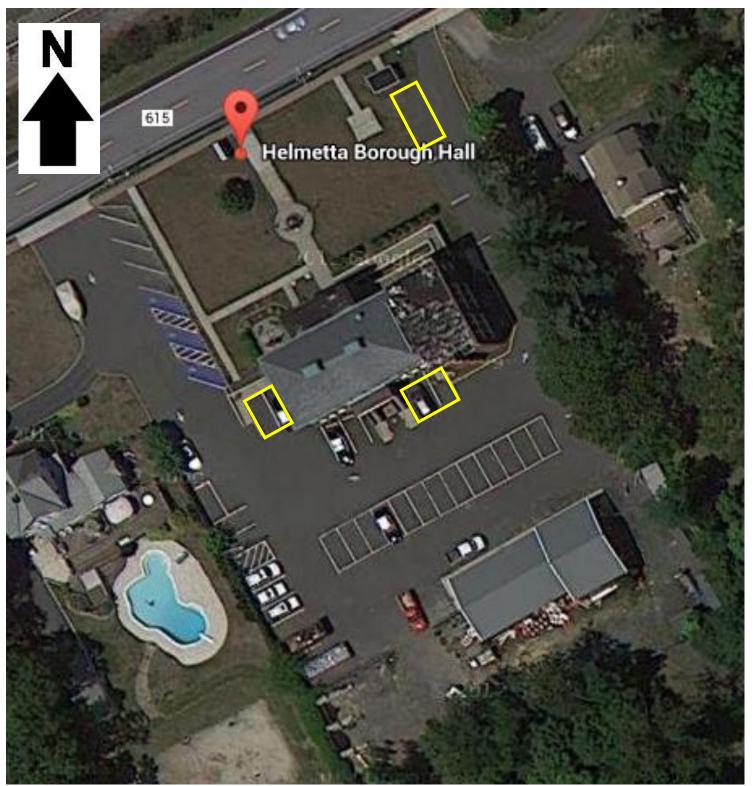
Schueler, T. 1994. The Importance of Imperviousness. *Watershed Protection Techniques*1(3): 100-111.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 2013. Watershed Assessment, Tracking, and Environmental Results, New Jersey Water Quality Assessment Report. <u>http://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains_state.control?p_state=NJ</u> Appendix A

Examples of Impervious Cover Reduction Action Plan Projects Concept Plans and Detailed Green Infrastructure Information Sheets

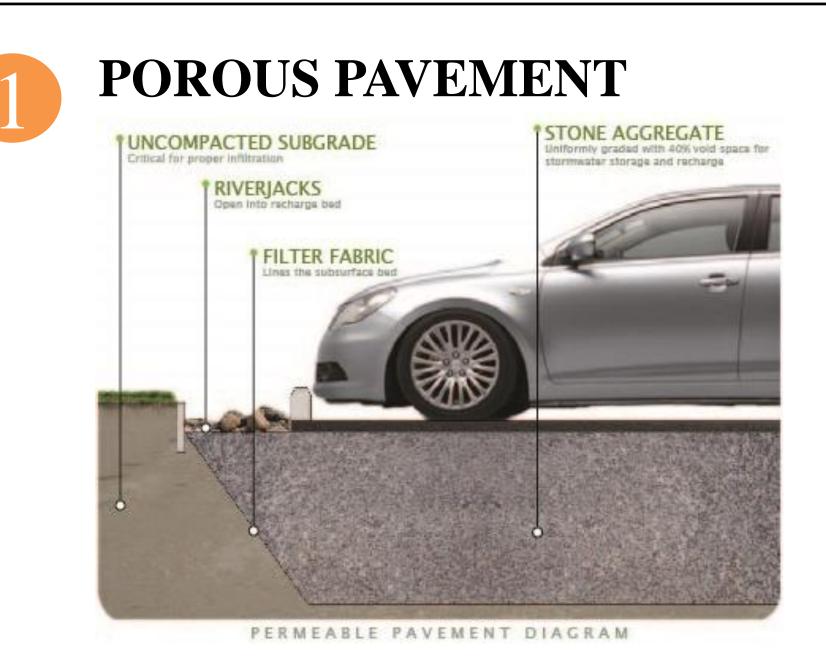
Helmetta Borough Impervious Cover Assessment Helmetta Borough Hall, 60 Main Street

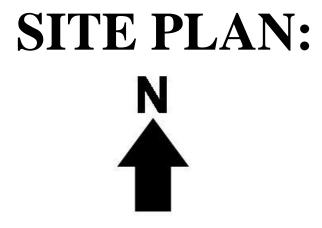
PROJECT LOCATION:

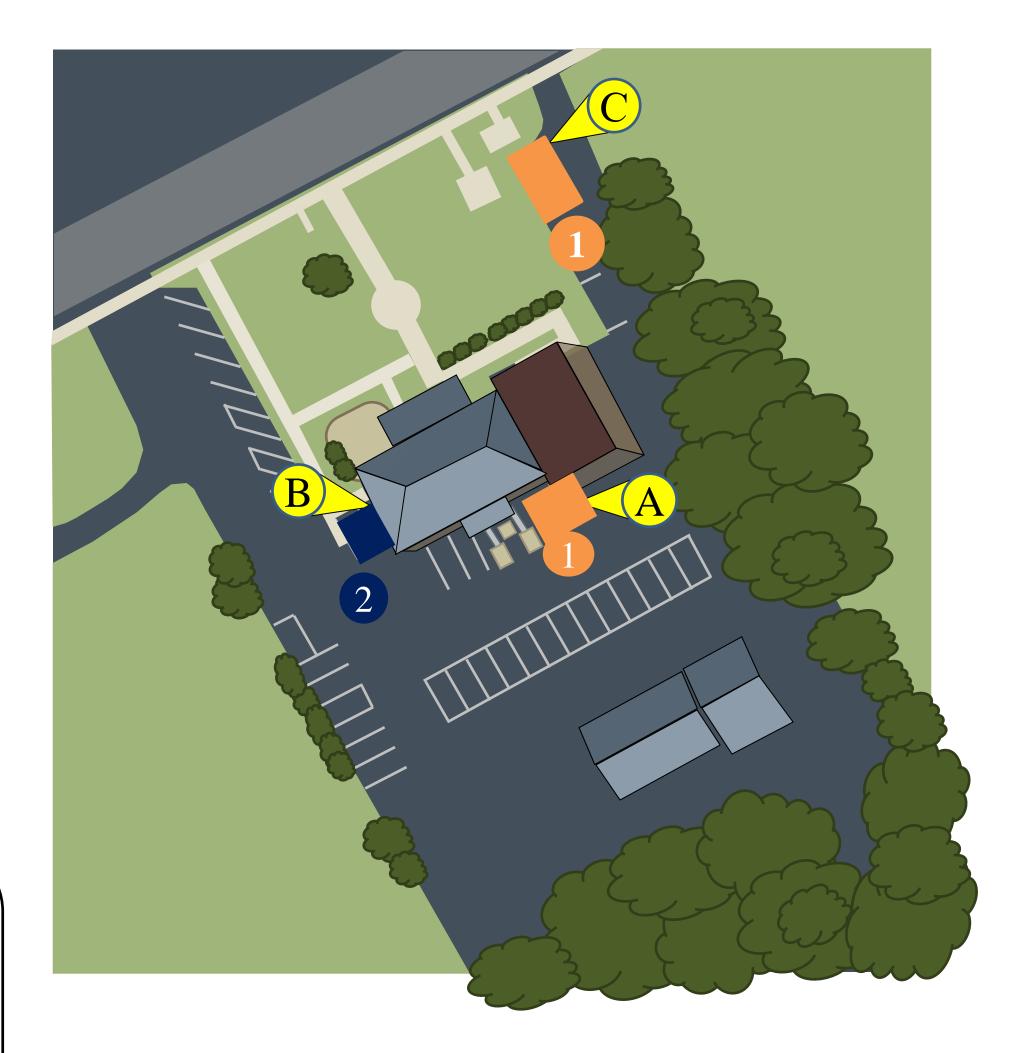


POROUS PAVEMENT: Two parking spaces adjacent to the back of the building, as well as a strip of pavement at the end of the driveway east of the building, could be repaved with porous pavement to capture stormwater runoff from the roof, parking lot and driveway. Porous pavement promotes groundwater recharge and filters stormwater.

DOWNSPOUT PLANTER BOX: Two downspout planter boxes could be installed at the southwest corner of the building to collect water from the nearby downspouts. Planter boxes reduce runoff and allow water to slowly infiltrate while treating it for pollutants.





















Helmetta Borough Hall Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Location: 60 Main Street Helmetta Borough, NJ 08828	Municipality: Helmetta Borough
	Subwatershed: Manalapan Brook
Green Infrastructure Description: disconnected downspouts stormwater planter boxes porous pavement	Targeted Pollutants: total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff
Mitigation Opportunities: recharge potential: yes stormwater peak reduction potential: yes TSS removal potential: Yes	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per Year: downspout planter box #1: 1,400 gal. downspout planter box #2: 1,400 gal. porous pavement #1: 66,000 gal. porous pavement #2 : 82,300 gal.

Existing Conditions and Issues:

This site contains several impervious surfaces including driveways, parking areas, and buildings. The site's impervious surfaces produce stormwater runoff during rain events. A downspout from the pitched roof at the back of the building drains onto the pavement, from which runoff flows off the site into local waterways. Two downspouts from the pitched roof on the west side are connected through the pavement and drain directly into local waterways. Three downspouts from the flat roof are also connected and drain directly into local waterways. The pavement appears to be in relatively good condition in most areas, with pooling occurring at the end of the driveway east of the building due to the slope of the driveway.

Proposed Solution(s):

The two downspouts at the west side of the building could be disconnected into two downspout planter boxes along the walls to capture, treat, and infiltrate some of the rooftop runoff. Two parking spaces to the east of the back entrance of the site could be converted to porous pavement to capture more roof runoff from the disconnected downspout. A strip of pavement at the end of the driveway on the east could also be converted to porous pavement to capture runoff from the parking lot and driveway. Porous pavement will treat the stormwater runoff and slowly allow it to infiltrate into the ground.

Anticipated Benefits:

Stormwater planters are estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). If designed to capture and infiltrate runoff from the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), the planter systems will achieve approximately a 95% pollutant load reduction for TN, TP, and TSS flowing into local waterways. The planter boxes would also aesthetically enhance the site near an entrance. Porous pavement allows stormwater to infiltrate through to soil layers which will promote groundwater recharge as well as intercept and filter stormwater runoff. These systems are expected to achieve a 95% pollutant load reduction for TN, TP, and TSS.

Helmetta Borough Hall Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Possible Funding Sources:

Helmetta Borough mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs local social and community groups

Partners/Stakeholders:

Helmetta Borough local community groups (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Estimated Cost:

Each stormwater planter would cost approximately \$300 to purchase and install. Two stormwater planters have been proposed for this site. The total cost of the stormwater planters is \$600. The porous pavement would cover approximately of 1,020 square feet and have a 2 feet deep stone reservoir under the surface. At a cost of \$25 per square foot, the total cost of the porous pavement would be approximately \$25,500. The total cost of the proposed project will thus be approximately \$26,100.

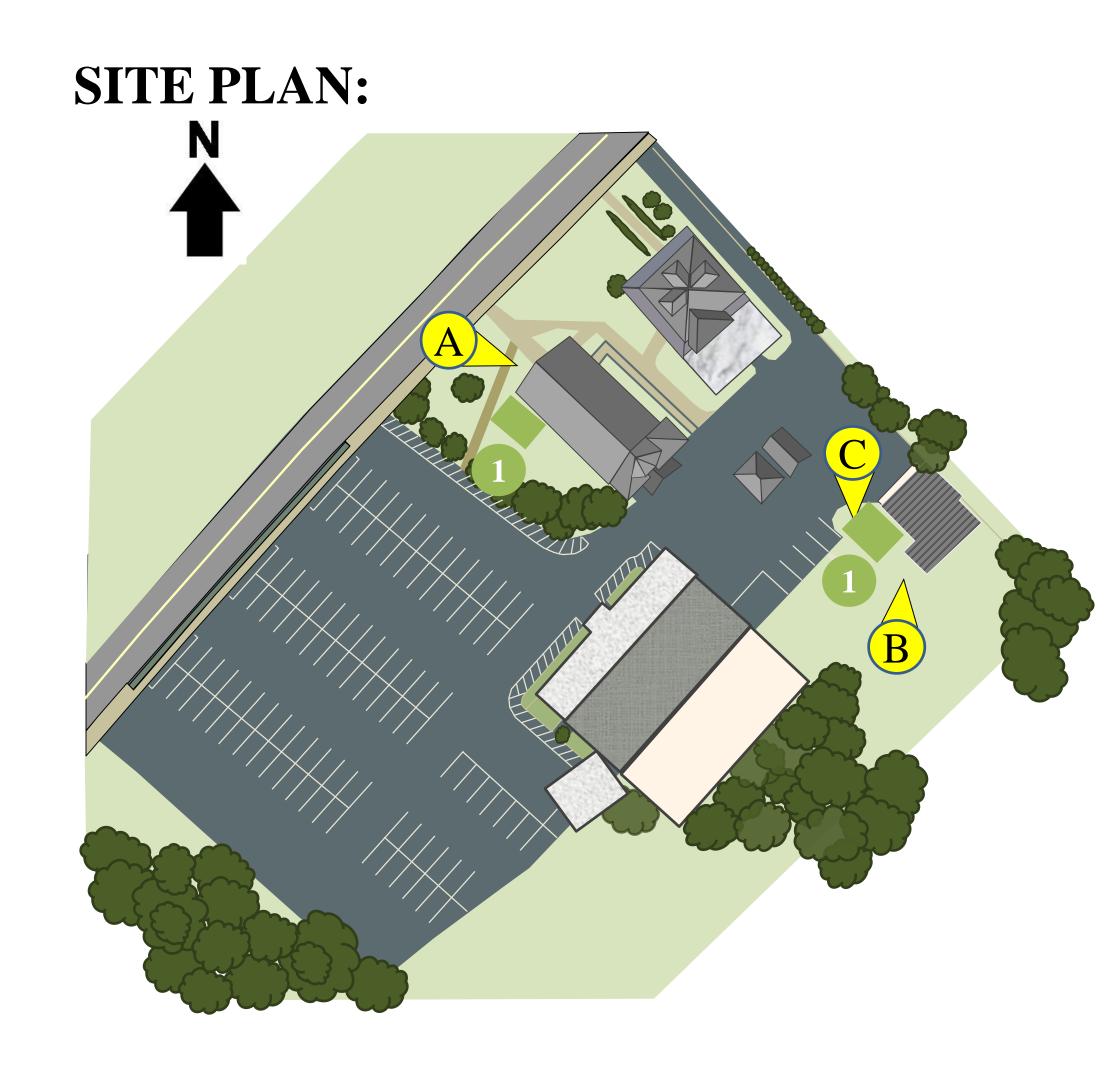
Helmetta Borough Impervious Cover Assessment Holy Trinity Church, 100 Main Street

PROJECT LOCATION:



BIORETENTION SYSTEM: A bioretention system could be installed along the west side of the church to capture stormwater runoff from the roof, and a second bioretention system could be installed in the turf grass area next to the storage building at the back of the site to capture stormwater runoff from the driveway.









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Holy Trinity Church Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Location: 100 Main Street Helmetta Borough, NJ 08828	Municipality: Helmetta BoroughSubwatershed: Manalapan Brook
Green Infrastructure Description: bioretention systems (rain garden)	Targeted Pollutants: total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff
Mitigation Opportunities: recharge potential: yes stormwater peak reduction potential: yes TSS removal potential: yes	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per Year: rain garden #1: 36,477 gal. rain garden #2: 52,111 gal.

Existing Conditions and Issues:

This site contains several impervious surfaces including driveways, parking areas, and three buildings. These impervious surfaces are directly connected to a storm sewer system. The site's impervious surfaces produce stormwater runoff during rain events. Near the front entrance of the building, a downspout from the west side of the site drains into the lawn, and a downspout on the east side is directly connected to local waterways. A catch basin captures roof runoff from a downspout behind the church, and downspouts from the roof of the adjacent building are connected to local waterways. The driveway behind the church slopes toward the field behind the site where pooling occurs.

Proposed Solution(s):

Two bioretention systems could be installed at this site. A rain garden could be installed in the turf grass area west of the building to treat runoff from the disconnected downspout. A second rain garden could be installed in the turf grass area next to the storage building in the southeast corner of the site. This second rain garden would capture runoff from the driveway and reduce pooling.

Anticipated Benefits:

Since the bioretention systems would be designed to capture, treat, and infiltrate the entire 2year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), these systems are estimated to achieve a 95% pollutant load reduction for TN, TP, and TSS. A bioretention system would also provide ancillary benefits such as enhanced wildlife habitat and aesthetic appeal.

Possible Funding Sources:

mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs

Partners/Stakeholders:

Helmetta borough residents Local community groups (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) students

Holy Trinity Church Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

American Littoral Society Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Estimated Cost:

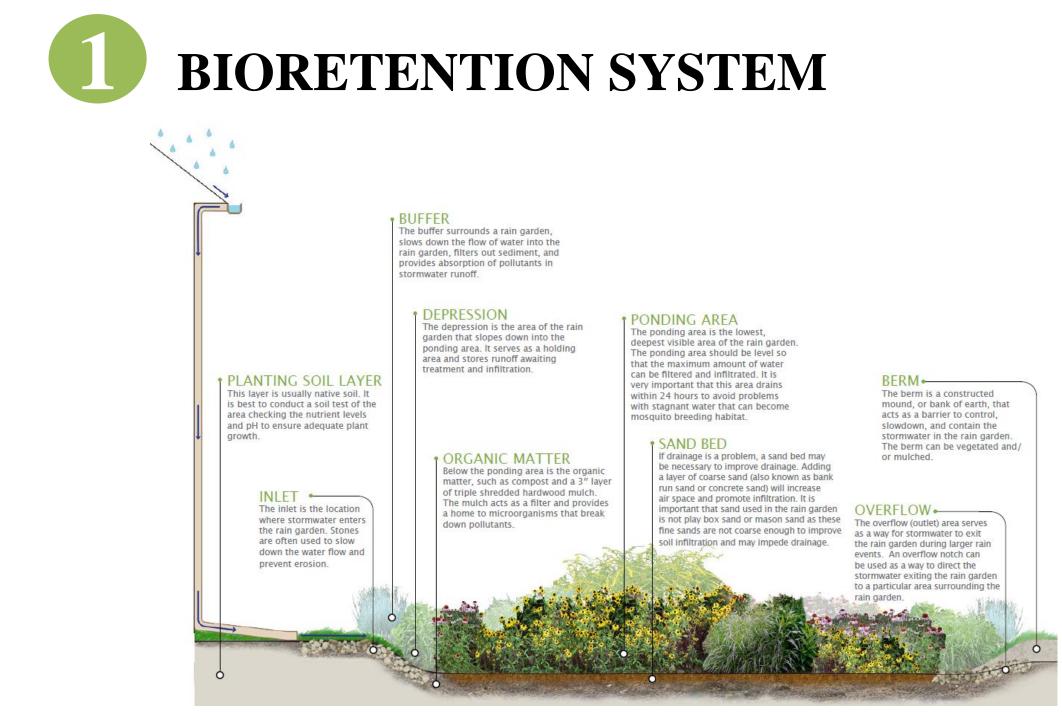
Rain garden #1 would need to be approximately 350 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$1,750. Rain garden #2 would need to be approximately 500 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$2,500. The total cost of the project would thus be \$4,250.

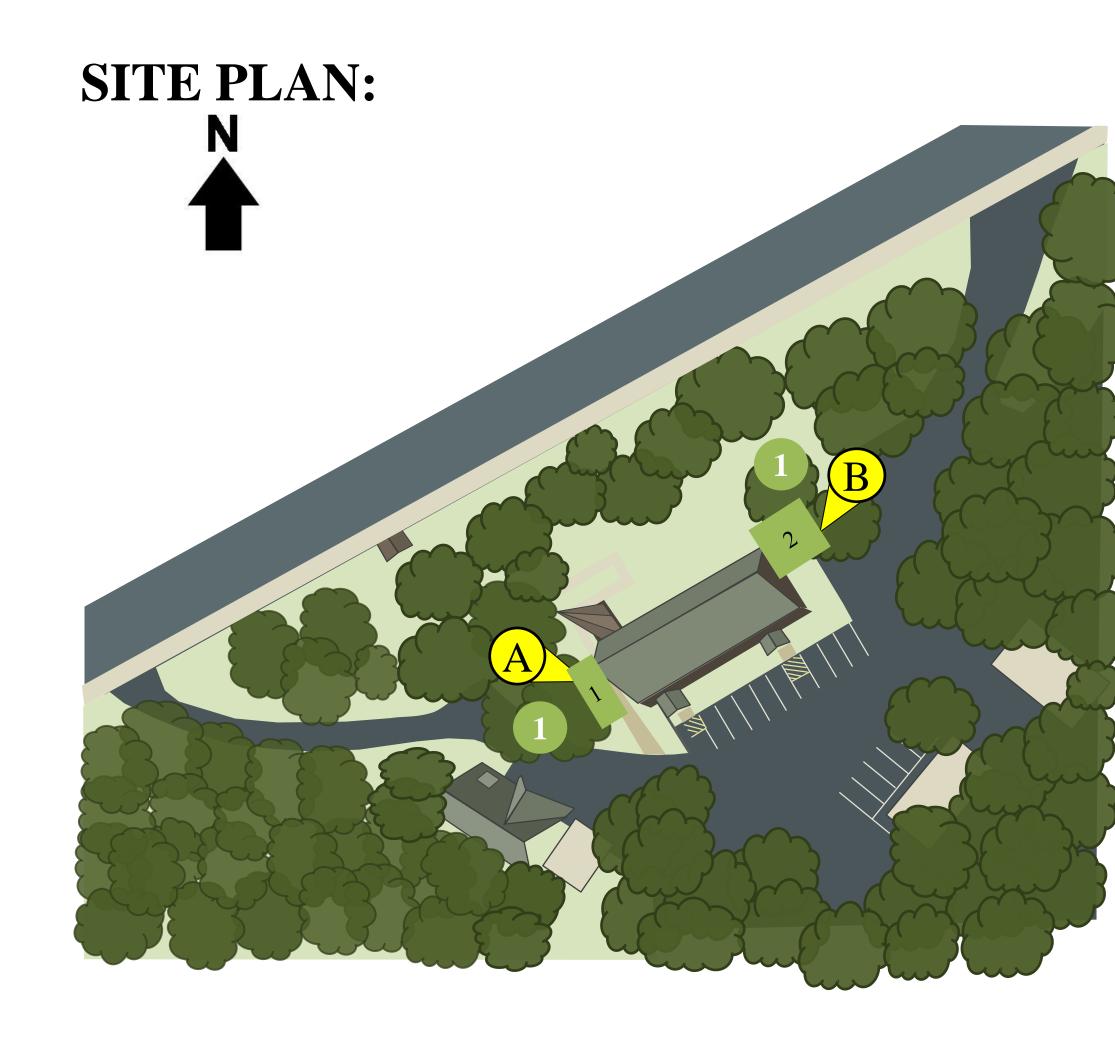
Helmetta Borough Impervious Cover Assessment Saint George's Anglican Church, 56 Main Street

PROJECT LOCATION:



BIORETENTION SYSTEM: A bioretention system could be installed at the front of the church off the southwest side of the building to collect runoff from downspouts. Another bioretention system could be installed at the east side of the building to capture roof runoff. Bioretention systems reduce sediment and nutrient loading to local waterways and promote groundwater recharge.

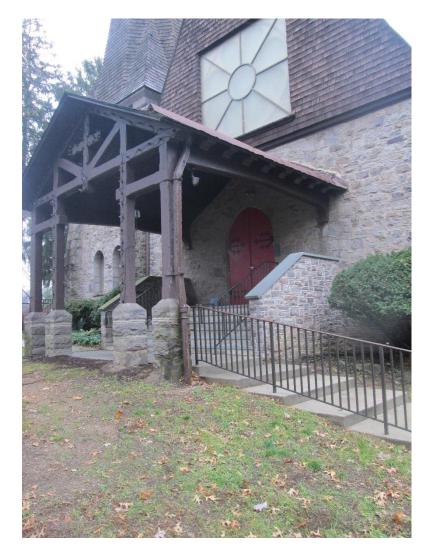
















Location: 56 Main Street Helmetta Borough, NJ 08828	Municipality: Helmetta BoroughSubwatershed: Manalapan Brook
Green Infrastructure Description: bioretention systems (rain garden)	Targeted Pollutants:total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), andtotal suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff
Mitigation Opportunities: recharge potential: yes stormwater peak reduction potential: yes TSS removal potential: yes	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per Year: rain garden #1: 7,817 gal. rain garden #2: 20,844 gal.

Existing Conditions and Issues:

This site contains several impervious surfaces including driveways, parking areas, and three buildings. These impervious surfaces are directly connected to a storm sewer system. The site's impervious surfaces produce stormwater runoff during rain events. Two downspouts at the front entrance of the building are directly connected to local waterways. The turf grass area in front of the entrance slopes toward the driveway, which drains onto Main Street. Runoff from the church and tower roofs drain along the side of the building facing Main Street, creating a stream that flows to a turf grass area at the back (east end) of the building. This area has sediment buildup.

Proposed Solution(s):

The two downspouts in the front of the church at the southwest side could be disconnected and redirected into a bioretention system (1). A second rain garden (2) could be installed at the back of the church in the turf grass area where runoff from the roof drains.

Anticipated Benefits:

Since the bioretention systems would be designed to capture, treat, and infiltrate the entire 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), these systems are estimated to achieve a 95% pollutant load reduction for TN, TP, and TSS. A bioretention system would also provide ancillary benefits such as enhanced wildlife habitat and aesthetic appeal.

Possible Funding Sources:

mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs Saint George's Anglican Church Helmetta Borough

Partners/Stakeholders:

Helmetta Borough residents Saint George's Anglican Church members local community groups (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Estimated Cost:

Rain garden #1 would need to be approximately 80 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$400. Rain garden #2 would need to be approximately 200 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$1,000. The total cost of the project will thus be approximately \$1,400.