

STORMWATER

Tip of the Week Week 16 - April 19, 2022

TYPES OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to managing wet weather impacts by building with nature. It is a network of stormwater management practices that can capture and infiltrate rain where it falls and reduce stormwater runoff, which will help ease water pollution of surrounding water ways.

GREEN ROOFS

Green roofs are covered with growing media and vegetation that enable rainfall infiltration and evapotranspiration of stored water. They are particularly cost-effective in dense urban areas where land values are high and on large industrial or office buildings where stormwater management costs are likely to be high. A green roof system on top of a building not only helps manage stormwater but helps reduce energy costs for cooling. *You can try this one at home on a small structure like a dog house or shed!



LAND CONSERVATION

The water quality and flooding impacts of urban stormwater can also be addressed by protecting open spaces and sensitive natural areas within and adjacent to a city while providing recreational opportunities for city residents. Natural areas that should be a focus of this effort include riparian areas, wetlands, and steep hillsides.



URBAN TREE CANOPY

Trees reduce and slow stormwater by intercepting precipitation in their leaves and branches. Many cities have set tree canopy goals to restore some of the benefits of trees that were lost when the areas were developed. Homeowners, businesses, and community groups can participate in planting and maintaining trees throughout the urban environment. City trees, or tree canopies help soak up stormwater and provide cooling shade.

