

STORMWATER

Tip of the Week

Week 22: June 2, 2021

MORE 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.

RAIN GARDENS

Rain gardens are versatile features that can be installed in almost any unpaved space. Also known as bioretention, or bioinfiltration cells, they are shallow, vegetated basins that collect and absorb runoff from rooftops, sidewalks, and streets. This practice mimics natural hydrology by infiltrating, and evaporating and transpiring or evapotranspiring —stormwater runoff.



PLANTER BOXES

Planter boxes are urban rain gardens with vertical walls and either open or closed bottoms. They collect and absorb runoff from sidewalks, parking lots, and streets. They are ideal for space-limited sites in dense urban areas and as a streetscaping element.



BIOSWALES

Bioswales are vegetated, mulched, or xeriscaped channels that provide treatment and retention as they move stormwater from one place to another. Vegetated swales slow, infiltrate, and filter stormwater runoff. As linear channels, they are particularly well suited to being placed along streets and parking lots.

