

Chambers Park Stormwater Education Center

■ Problem:

Despite the threat that polluted runoff poses to human health and the environment, many individuals are unaware of the problem and the role they can play in addressing it. The City of Annapolis recognized a need for greater education to empower residents to be part of the stormwater solution.



■ Solution:

Chambers Park, located in Annapolis' urban Parole neighborhood, is now home to a model house that demonstrates several stormwater best management practices. The Stormwater Education Center – created through a broad collaboration of community partners – is designed to educate the public about what stormwater is and how it can be addressed. The model home showcases a gutter system leading to rain barrels, a rain garden, and permeable pavers. Educational signage suggests other stormwater actions that residents can take on their own properties. Annapolis Mayor Michael Pantelides dedicated the Center in May 2015, and the City hopes it will inspire Annapolis residents to manage their own stormwater.



Photo Credit: Spa Creek Conservancy

Key Project Facts

Project Location: Annapolis, MD

Funding Sources: BGE Green Grants and MD Department of Natural Resources, Ches-

Partners: Alderwoman Rhonda Pindell Charles, Lon Powell, Terence Wright, Stanford Womack, Midshipmen Action Group, Johnson Lumber, ALLIED, The Stone Store, K&B True Value, Belgard Hardcapes, Sherwin-Williams, and Papa John's

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What is Polluted Runoff?

The growth of our cities has resulted in too many paved surfaces, which prevent rain water from being absorbed by the ground. Instead, the water runs off streets and buildings, collecting trash and dangerous chemicals on its way. This contaminated water overflows into our streams and rivers, creating public health hazards and toxic waters.

Stormwater projects create safe paths for polluted runoff to be captured and filtered before it reaches our waterways. They keep communities healthy and the environment clean.

When communities and their local governments work together to solve big problems like stormwater runoff, that's a story worth telling!