

Bridgeview Greenlawn Community Enhancement

■ Problem:

The Bridgeview/Greenlawn community on Riggs Avenue in Baltimore had a high percentage of impervious cover, which prevented rain water infiltration, created flooding issues in the neighborhood, and contributed polluted runoff to nearby streams and the Chesapeake Bay.

■ Solution:

To address both issues as once, the community worked with partners to plan a green space which incorporated several raingardens with trees and native plants, and raised planters which controlled storm water and doubled as seating.

Local companies were used to install the landscaping elements, and the trees were donated by Baltimore Tree. The space now serves as an urban gathering place, a community garden, and an educational space for schoolchildren. Flooding is no longer an issue.



The Community Enhancement Project Plan

Photo Credits: Chesapeake Bay Foundation



The announcement of the Project with the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Key Project Facts

Cost: \$76,000

Scale: 242,000 gallons of water per year

Funding Sources: Baltimore City Stormwater Fees, Maryland Department of Natural Resources Chesapeake & Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund through the Parks & People Foundation.

Partners: 1st Impressions; Biohabitats Inc; Bridgeview/Greenlawn Community Association; Civic Works; Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation; Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Episcopal Dioceses of Maryland; Holy Trinity Church; James Mosher Associates; Mosher Elementary School; Washington Gas Energy Services

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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.

Storm water 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!