WHAT IS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE?

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI) practices manage stormwater by taking advantage of the earth’s natural processes. These include allowing water to infiltrate into the soil, evaporate into the air, or for plants to use the water and expire it as vapor. These practices can slow down, clean, and, in some cases, reduce stormwater runoff prior to it entering the combined sewer system.

ROCK CREEK PROJECT A

Rock Creek Project A is the first Green Infrastructure (GI) project constructed by the DC Clean Rivers Project to significantly reduce the level of pollution to Rock Creek produced by the discharge of stormwater runoff and sanitary sewer flows, known as combined sewer overflows (CSOs) from the combined sewer system during heavy rain and snow events. Rock Creek Project A involves the construction of innovative GI technologies that include bioretention (rain gardens) in planter strips and curb extensions, permeable pavement on streets and alleys, and downspout disconnection (including rain barrels). These practices will manage stormwater by taking advantage of the earth’s natural processes, such as allowing the water to infiltrate into the soil, evaporate into the air, or for plants to use the water and expire it as vapor. In addition to managing stormwater, GI will contribute to beautifying the streetscape and making it safer and more welcoming for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers.

GROCK CREEK Project A area extends from Oglethorpe Street NW to Gallatin Street NW and 3rd Place NW to First Street NE.

Construction activities for Rock Creek Project A began in summer 2017 and will be completed in 2019. Construction work will be phased throughout the project area to minimize traffic and other construction impacts to the community.

From 2019 to 2020, the GI practices will be monitored and assessed to evaluate performance.

THE DC CLEAN RIVERS PROJECT is DC Water’s massive infrastructure program to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) into the District’s waterways—the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and Rock Creek. It includes green infrastructure and more than 18 miles of tunnels that are larger than the Metro tunnels and are constructed more than 100 feet below the ground. The tunnels are designed to capture CSOs during heavy rain events and transport the flows to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment.

With the DC Clean Rivers Project, DC Water will improve our waterways by reducing CSO volume system-wide by 96% in the average year and by 98% to the Anacostia River alone. DC Clean Rivers Project will also provide flood relief to neighborhoods in the Northeast Boundary section of the District, such as Bloomingdale, LeDroit Park, Trinidad and Ivy City.

96% Reduction of system-wide CSO volume
98% Reduction of CSO volume to the Anacostia
18 Linear miles of tunnels, over 100 ft below the ground
498 Total acres of impervious land managed by GI

General Contact Info:
Amanda Zander, GI Public Outreach Coordinator
Amanda.Zander@dcwater.com  202-787-4142

DC Water Office of External Affairs
202-787-2200
dcwater.com/green

PROJECT AT GLANCE

PROJECT AREA
Oglethorpe Street NW to Gallatin Street NW and 3rd Place NW to First Street NE.

GREEN TECHNOLOGIES
• Permeable parking lanes
• Permeable alleys
• Bioretention curb extension (rain gardens)
• Bioretention planter strips (rain gardens)
• Targeted sewer separation

COMMUNITY BENEFITS
• Local green jobs
• Create more green space
• Beautiful neighborhoods
• Improve pedestrian safety
• Provide educational opportunities
• Reduce localized drainage issues on streets and alleys

GET INVOLVED
You can help DRAIN the Rain! The DC Clean Rivers Project is providing free downspout disconnections with a free rain barrel in your area. Find out if you are eligible to participate! Visit dcwater.com/draintherain

PROJECT PROGRESS
To identify GI practices near you, visit the Project’s website: dcwater.com/rockcreekgreen
Rock Creek Project A will be built in three phases to optimize the construction process and minimize impacts to the community. DC Water’s Contractor will implement phased construction for each block/street that includes GI practices with limited construction activities for each block/street; no block/street will be under construction during the entire duration of each implementation phase. The first construction phase began in summer 2017 and all construction will be completed by early 2019. The locations to receive GI are shown in the map below and include permeable pavement facilities in alleys, bioretention planters (rain gardens), bioretention curb extensions (rain gardens), and permeable pavement facilities in parking lanes. The description of each practice and maps displaying all phases are also found below.

- **Curb Extension Bioretention**
  Extension of the curb with a bioretention or rain garden that collects stormwater runoff allowing it to infiltrate into the ground and slows down the excess stormwater before entering the combined sewer system.

- **Alley Permeable Pavement**
  Also known as a green alley, permeable pavement (concrete, pavers or asphalt) allows stormwater runoff to infiltrate through the pavement and into the ground and slows down the excess stormwater before entering the combined sewer system.

- **Parking Lane Permeable Pavement**
  Parking lane permeable pavement (concrete, pavers or asphalt) allows stormwater runoff to infiltrate through the pavement and slows down the excess stormwater before entering the combined sewer system.

- **Planter Bioretention**
  Also known as a rain garden, planter bioretention captures and cleans stormwater runoff allowing it to infiltrate into the ground and slows down the excess stormwater before entering the combined sewer system.

Downspouts can be disconnected from the sewer system and redirected to a lawn or permeable surface away from the property. The water collected can be used to water your lawn, plants and wash your car saving money on your water bill!

**HOW CAN YOU HELP CLEAN OUR RIVERS?**

You can help reduce CSOs and help clean the District’s rivers by disconnecting your downspout! Join us and DRAIN the RAIN! The DC Clean Rivers Project has launched a voluntary program for FREE downspout disconnections with FREE rain barrels in select areas. To find out if your property is eligible for this program, please visit: dcwater.com/draintherain
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ROCK CREEK PROJECT A

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The Rock Creek Project A area extends from Oglethorpe Street NW to Gallatin Street NW and 3rd Place NW to First Street NE.

Construction activities for Rock Creek Project A began in summer 2017 and will be completed in 2019. Construction work will be phased throughout the project area to minimize traffic and other construction impacts to the community.

From 2019 to 2020, the GI practices will be monitored and assessed to evaluate performance.

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