



#### Impervious Cover Assessment for North Brunswick Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Prepared for North Brunswick Township by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program

December 16, 2014

#### Introduction

Pervious and impervious are terms that are used to describe the ability or inability of water to flow through a surface. When rainfall hits a surface, it can soak into the surface or flow off the surface. Pervious surfaces are those which allow stormwater to readily soak into the soil and recharge groundwater. When rainfall drains from a surface, it is called "stormwater" runoff (Figure 1). An impervious surface can be any material that has been placed over soil that prevents water from soaking into the ground. Impervious surfaces include paved roadways, parking lots, sidewalks, and rooftops. As impervious areas increase, so does the volume of stormwater runoff.



Figure 1: Stormwater draining from a parking lot

New Jersey has many problems due to stormwater runoff, including:

- <u>Pollution</u>: According to the 2010 New Jersey Water Quality Assessment Report, 90% of the assessed waters in New Jersey are impaired, with urban-related stormwater runoff listed as the most probable source of impairment (USEPA, 2013). As stormwater flows over the ground, it picks up pollutants including animal waste, excess fertilizers, pesticides, and other toxic substances. These pollutants are then able to enter waterways.
- <u>Flooding</u>: Over the past decade, the state has seen an increase in flooding. Communities around the state have been affected by these floods. The amount of damage caused also has increased greatly with this trend, costing billions of dollars over this time span.

 <u>Erosion</u>: Increased stormwater runoff causes an increase in the velocity of flows in our waterways. The increased velocity after storm events erodes stream banks and shorelines, degrading water quality. This erosion can damage local roads and bridges and cause harm to wildlife.

The primary cause of the pollution, flooding, and erosion problems is the quantity of impervious surfaces draining directly to local waterways. New Jersey is one of the most developed states in the country. Currently, the state has the highest percent of impervious cover in the country at 12.1% of its total area (Nowak & Greenfield, 2012). Many of these impervious surfaces are directly connected to local waterways (i.e., every drop of rain that lands on these impervious surfaces ends up in a local river, lake, or bay without any chance of being treated or soaking into the ground). To repair our waterways, reduce flooding, and stop erosion, stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces has to be better managed. Surfaces need to be disconnected with green infrastructure to prevent stormwater runoff from flowing directly into New Jersey's waterways. Disconnection redirects runoff from paving and rooftops to pervious areas in the landscape.

Green infrastructure is an approach to stormwater management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly. Green infrastructure projects capture, filter, absorb, and reuse stormwater to maintain or mimic natural systems and to treat runoff as a resource. As a general principal, green infrastructure practices use soil and vegetation to recycle stormwater runoff through infiltration and evapotranspiration. When used as components of a stormwater management system, green infrastructure practices such as bioretention, green roofs, porous pavement, rain gardens, and vegetated swales can produce a variety of environmental benefits. In addition to effectively retaining and infiltrating rainfall, these technologies can simultaneously help filter air pollutants, reduce energy demands, mitigate urban heat islands, and sequester carbon while also providing communities with aesthetic and natural resource benefits (USEPA, 2013).

The first step to reducing the impacts from impervious surfaces is to conduct an impervious cover assessment. This assessment can be completed on different scales: individual lot, municipality, or watershed. Impervious surfaces need to be identified for stormwater management. Once impervious surfaces have been identified, there are three steps to better manage these surfaces.

- 1. *Eliminate surfaces that are not necessary.* For example, a paved courtyard at a public school could be converted to a grassed area.
- 2. Reduce or convert impervious surfaces. There may be surfaces that are required to be hardened, such as roadways or parking lots, but could be made smaller and still be functional. A parking lot that has two-way car ways could be converted to one-way car ways. There also are permeable paving materials such as porous asphalt, pervious concrete, or permeable paving stones that could be substituted for impermeable paving materials (Figure 2).
- 3. *Disconnect impervious surfaces from flowing directly to local waterways.* There are many ways to capture, treat, and infiltrate stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. Opportunities may exist to reuse this captured water.



Figure 2: Rapid infiltration of water through porous pavement is demonstrated at the USEPA Edison New Jersey test site

#### **North Brunswick Township Impervious Cover Analysis**

Located in Middlesex County in central New Jersey, North Brunswick Township covers approximately 12.3 square miles south of New Brunswick. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate that North Brunswick Township is dominated by urban land uses. A total of 69.4% of the municipality's land use is classified as urban. Of the urban land in North Brunswick Township, medium density residential is the dominant land use (Figure 5).

The literature suggests a link between impervious cover and stream ecosystem impairment starting at approximately 10% impervious surface cover (Schueler, 1994; Arnold and Gibbons, 1996; May et al., 1997). Impervious cover may be linked to the quality of lakes, reservoirs, estuaries, and aquifers (Caraco et al., 1998), and the amount of impervious cover in a watershed can be used to project the current and future quality of streams. Based on the scientific literature, Caraco et al. (1998) classified urbanizing streams into the following three categories: sensitive streams, impacted streams, and non-supporting streams. Sensitive steams typically have a watershed impervious surface cover from 0 - 10%. Impacted streams have a watershed impervious cover ranging from 11-25% and typically show clear signs of degradation from urbanization. Non-supporting streams have a watershed impervious cover of greater than 25%; at this high level of impervious cover, streams are simply conduits for stormwater flow and no longer support a diverse stream community.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJDEP) 2007 land use/land cover geographical information system (GIS) data layer categorizes North Brunswick Township into many unique land use areas, assigning a percent impervious cover for each delineated area. These impervious cover values were used to estimate the impervious coverage for North Brunswick Township. Based upon the 2007 NJDEP land use/land cover data, approximately 31.6% of North Brunswick Township has impervious cover. This level of impervious cover suggests that the streams in North Brunswick Township are likely non-supporting streams.

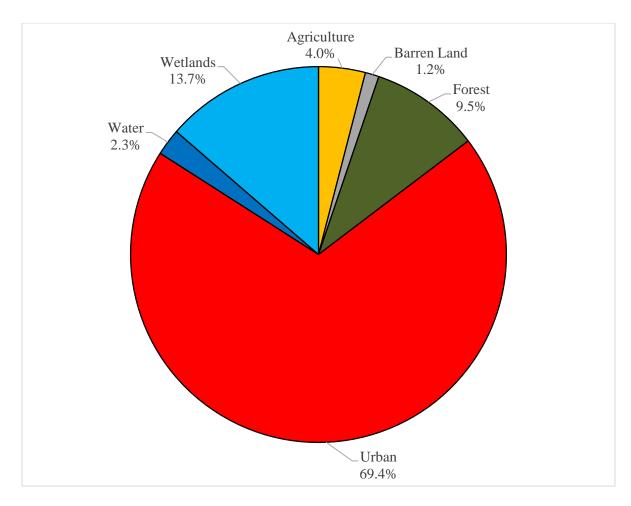


Figure 3: Pie chart illustrating the land use in North Brunswick Township

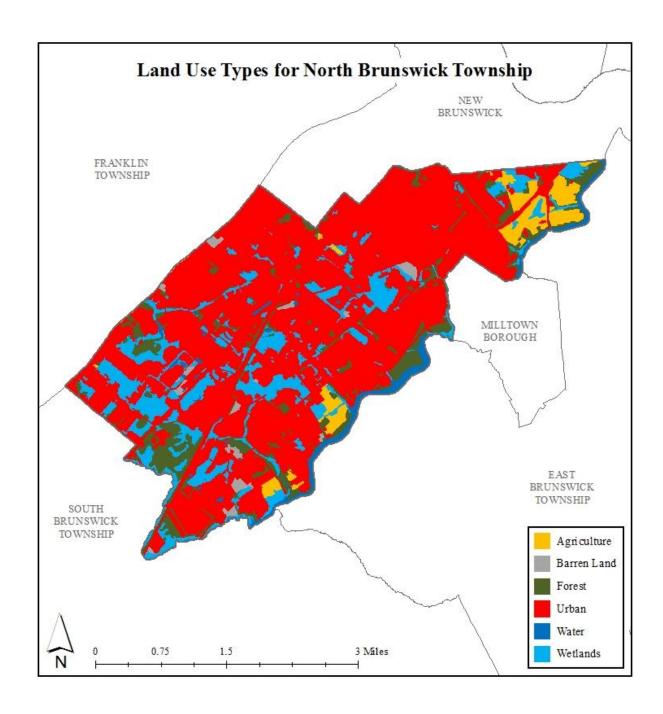


Figure 4: Map illustrating the land use in North Brunswick Township

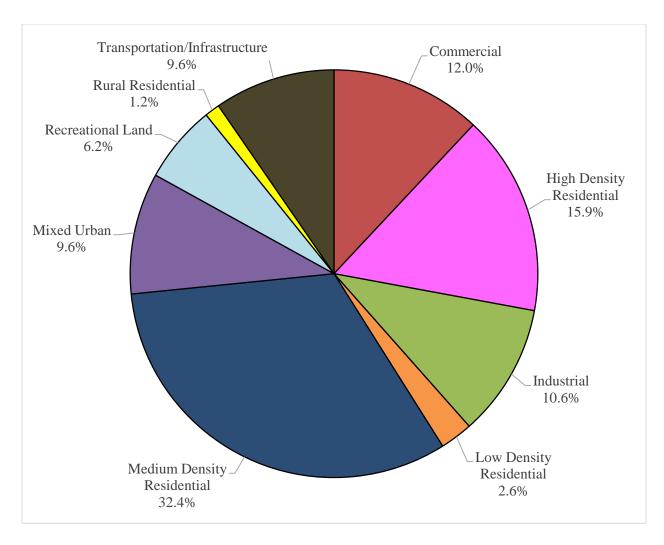


Figure 5: Pie chart illustrating the various types of urban land use in North Brunswick Township

Water resources are typically managed on a watershed/subwatershed basis; therefore an impervious cover analysis was performed for each Raritan River subwatershed within North Brunswick Township (Table 1 and Figure 6). On a subwatershed basis, impervious cover ranges from 24.9% in the Oakeys Brook subwatershed to 39.5% in the Mile Run subwatershed. Evaluating impervious cover on a subwatershed basis allows the municipality to focus impervious cover reduction or disconnection efforts in the subwatersheds where frequent flooding occurs.

In developed landscapes, stormwater runoff from parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, and rooftops flows to drainage pipes that feed the sewer system. The cumulative effect of these impervious surfaces and thousands of connected downspouts reduces the amount of water that can infiltrate into soils and greatly increases the volume and rate of runoff that flows to waterways. Stormwater runoff volumes (specific to North Brunswick Township, Middlesex County) associated with impervious surfaces were calculated for the following storms: the New Jersey water quality design storm of 1.25 inches of rain, an annual rainfall of 44 inches, the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain), the 10-year design storm (5.1 inches of rain), and the 100-year design storm (8.6 inches of rain). These runoff volumes are summarized in Table 2. A substantial amount of rainwater drains from impervious surfaces in North Brunswick Township. For example, if the stormwater runoff from one water quality storm (1.25 inches of rain) in the Lawrence Brook Watershed was harvested and purified, it could supply water to 364 homes for one year<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Assuming 300 gallons per day per home

Table 1: Impervious cover analysis by subwatershed for North Brunswick Township

Subvectorehod	Total Area		Land Use Area		Water Area		Impervious Cover		
Subwatershed	(ac)	( <b>mi</b> <sup>2</sup> )	(ac)	( <b>mi</b> <sup>2</sup> )	(ac)	(mi <sup>2</sup> )	(ac)	( <b>mi</b> <sup>2</sup> )	(%)
Lawrence Brook	4,088.9	6.39	3,936.7	6.15	152.2	0.24	1,175.3	1.84	29.9%
Mile Run	807.4	1.26	807.4	1.26	0	0	319.3	0.5	39.5%
Oakeys Brook	927.5	1.45	921.9	1.44	5.5	0.01	229.7	0.36	24.9%
Six Mile Run	2,036.2	3.18	2,013.6	3.15	22.6	0.04	758.3	1.18	37.7%
Total	7,860.0	12.28	7,679.6	12	180.4	0.28	2,482.6	3.88	32.3%

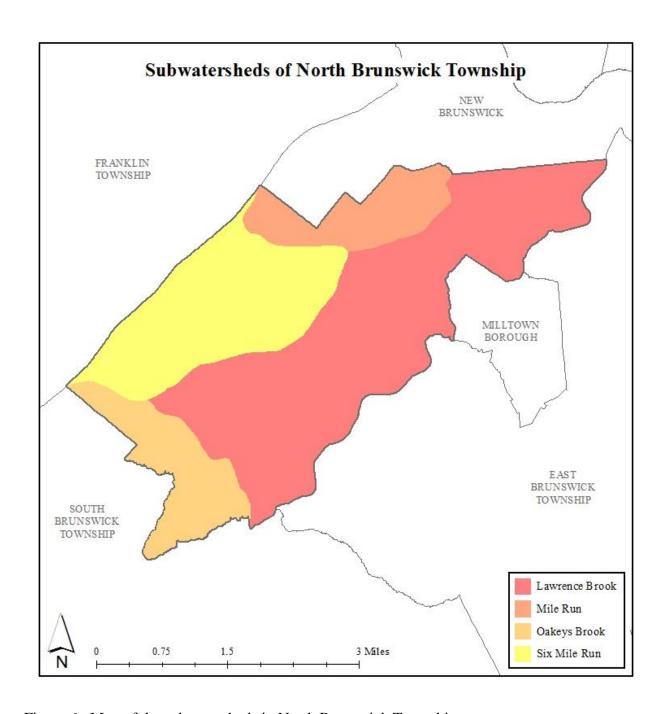


Figure 6: Map of the subwatersheds in North Brunswick Township

Table 2: Stormwater runoff volumes from impervious surfaces by subwatershed in North Brunswick Township

Subwatershed	Total Runoff Volume for the 1.25" NJ Water Quality Storm (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the NJ Annual Rainfall of 44'' (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 2-Year Design Storm (3.3") (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 10-Year Design Storm (5.1") (MGal)	Total Runoff Volume for the 100-Year Design Storm (8.6") (MGal)
Lawrence Brook	39.9	1,404.1	105.3	162.8	274.4
Mile Run	10.8	381.5	28.6	44.2	74.6
Oakeys Brook	7.8	274.4	20.6	31.8	53.6
Six Mile Run	25.7	905.9	67.9	105.0	177.1
Total	84.3	2,966.0	222.4	343.8	579.7

The next step is to set a reduction goal for impervious area in each subwatershed. Based upon the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program's experience, a 10% reduction would be a reasonably achievable reduction for these subwatersheds in North Brunswick Township. While it may be difficult to eliminate paved areas or replace paved areas with permeable pavement, it is relatively easy to identify impervious surfaces that can be disconnected using green infrastructure practices. For all practical purposes, disconnecting an impervious surface from a storm sewer system or a water body is an "impervious area reduction." The RCE Water Resources Program recommends that all green infrastructure practices that are installed to disconnect impervious surfaces should be designed for the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24-hours). Although this results in management practices that are slightly over-designed by NJDEP standards, which require systems to be designed for the New Jersey water quality storm (1.25 inches of rain over 2-hours), these systems will be able to handle the increase in storm intensities that are expected to occur due to climate change. By designing these management practices for the 2-year design storm, these practices will be able to manage 95% of the annual rainfall volume. The recommended annual reductions in runoff volumes are shown in Table 3.

As previously mentioned, once impervious surfaces have been identified, the next steps for managing impervious surfaces are to 1) eliminate surfaces that are not necessary, 2) reduce or convert impervious surfaces to pervious surfaces, and 3) disconnect impervious surfaces from flowing directly to local waterways.

#### **Elimination of Impervious Surfaces**

One method to reduce impervious cover is to "depave." Depaving is the act of removing paved impervious surfaces and replacing them with pervious soil and vegetation that will allow for the infiltration of rainwater. Depaving leads to the re-creation of natural space that will help reduce flooding, increase wildlife habitat, and positively enhance water quality as well as beautify neighborhoods. Depaving also can bring communities together around a shared vision to work together to reconnect their neighborhood to the natural environment.

Table 3: Impervious cover reductions by subwatershed in North Brunswick Township

Subwatershed	Recommended Impervious Area Reduction (10%) (ac)	Annual Runoff Volume Reduction <sup>2</sup> (MGal)	
Lawrence Brook	117.5	133.4	
Mile Run	31.9	36.2	
Oakeys Brook	23.0	26.1	
Six Mile Run	75.8	86.1	
Total	248.3	281.8	

Annual Runoff Volume Reduction =

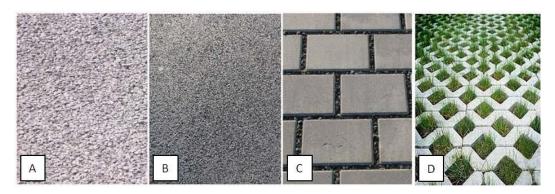
Acres of impervious cover x 43,560 ft²/ac x 44 in x (1 ft/12 in) x 0.95 x (7.48 gal/ft³) x (1 MGal/1,000,000 gal)

All green infrastructure should be designed to capture the first 3.3 inches of rain from each storm. This would allow the green infrastructure to capture 95% of the annual rainfall of 44 inches.

#### **Pervious Pavement**

There are four different types of permeable pavement systems that are commonly being used throughout the country to reduce the environmental impacts from impervious surfaces. These surfaces include pervious concrete, porous asphalt, interlocking concrete pavers, and grid pavers.

"Permeable pavement is a stormwater drainage system that allows rainwater and runoff to move through the pavement's surface to a storage layer below, with the water eventually seeping into the underlying soil. Permeable pavement is beneficial to the environment because it can reduce stormwater volume, treat stormwater water quality, replenish the groundwater supply, and lower air temperatures on hot days (Rowe, 2012)."



Permeable surfaces: (A) pervious concrete, (B) porous asphalt, (C) interlocking concrete pavers, (D) grid pavers (Rowe, 2012)

Pervious concrete and porous asphalt are the most common of the permeable surfaces. They are similar to regular concrete and asphalt but without the fine materials. This allows water to quickly pass through the material into an underlying layered system of stone that holds the water allowing it to infiltrate into the underlying uncompacted soil.

#### **Impervious Cover Disconnection Practices**

By redirecting runoff from paving and rooftops to pervious areas in the landscape, the amount of directly connected impervious area in a drainage area can be greatly reduced. There are many cost-effective ways to disconnect impervious surfaces from local waterways.

• <u>Simple Disconnection</u>: This is the easiest and least costly method to reduce stormwater runoff for smaller storm events. Instead of piping rooftop runoff to the street where it enters the catch basin and is piped to the river, the rooftop runoff is released onto a grassed

area to allow the water to be filtered by the grass and soak into the ground. A healthy lawn typically can absorb the first one to two inches of stormwater runoff from a rooftop. Simple disconnection also can be used to manage stormwater runoff from paved areas. Designing a parking lot or driveway to drain onto a grassed area, instead of the street, can dramatically reduce pollution and runoff volumes.

• Rain Gardens: Stormwater can be diverted into shallow landscaped depressed areas (i.e., rain gardens) where the vegetation filters the water, and it is allowed to soak into the ground. Rain gardens, also known as bioretention systems, come in all shapes and sizes and can be designed to disconnect a variety of impervious surfaces (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Rain garden outside the RCE of Gloucester County office which was designed to disconnect rooftop runoff from the local storm sewer system

• Rainwater Harvesting: Rainwater harvesting includes the use of rain barrels and cisterns (Figures 8a and 8b). These can be placed below downspouts to collect rooftop runoff. The collected water has a variety of uses including watering plants and washing cars. This practice also helps cut down on the use of potable water for nondrinking purposes. It is important to divert the overflow from the rainwater harvesting system to a pervious area.



Figure 8a: Rain barrel used to disconnect a downspout with the overflow going to a flower bed



Figure 8b: A 5,000 gallon cistern used to disconnect the rooftop of the Department of Public Works in Clark Township to harvest rainwater for nonprofit car wash events

#### **Examples of Opportunities in North Brunswick Township**

To address the impact of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, the next step is to identify opportunities in the municipality for eliminating, reducing, or disconnecting directly connected impervious surfaces. To accomplish this task, an impervious cover reduction action plan should be prepared. Aerial photographs are used to identify sites with impervious surfaces in the municipality that may be suitable for inclusion in the action plan. After sites are identified, site visits are conducted to photo-document all opportunities and evaluate the feasibility of eliminating, reducing or disconnecting directly connected impervious surfaces. A brief description of each site discussing the existing conditions and recommendations for treatment of the impervious surfaces is developed. After a number of sites have been selected for inclusion in the action plan, concept plans and detailed green infrastructure information sheets are prepared for a selection of representative sites.

For North Brunswick Township, three sites have been included in this assessment. Examples of concept plans and detailed green infrastructure information sheets are provided in Appendix A. The detailed green infrastructure information sheets describe existing conditions and issues, proposed solutions, anticipated benefits, possible funding sources, potential partners and stakeholders, and estimated costs. Additionally, each project has been classified as a mitigation opportunity for recharge potential, total suspended solids removal, and stormwater peak reduction. Finally, these detailed green infrastructure information sheets provide an estimate of gallons of stormwater captured and treated per year by each proposed green infrastructure practice. The concept plans provide an aerial photograph of the site and details of the proposed green infrastructure practices.

#### **Conclusions**

North Brunswick Township can reduce flooding and improve its waterways by better managing stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. This impervious cover assessment is the first step toward better managing stormwater runoff. The next step is to develop an action plan to eliminate, reduce, or disconnect impervious surfaces where possible and practical. Many of the highly effective disconnection practices are inexpensive. The entire community can be engaged in implementing these disconnection practices.

#### **References**

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United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), 2013. Watershed Assessment, Tracking, and Environmental Results, New Jersey Water Quality Assessment Report. <a href="http://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains\_state.control?p\_state=NJ">http://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains\_state.control?p\_state=NJ</a>

#### Appendix A

**Examples of Impervious Cover Reduction Action Plan Projects Concept Plans and Detailed Green Infrastructure Information Sheets** 

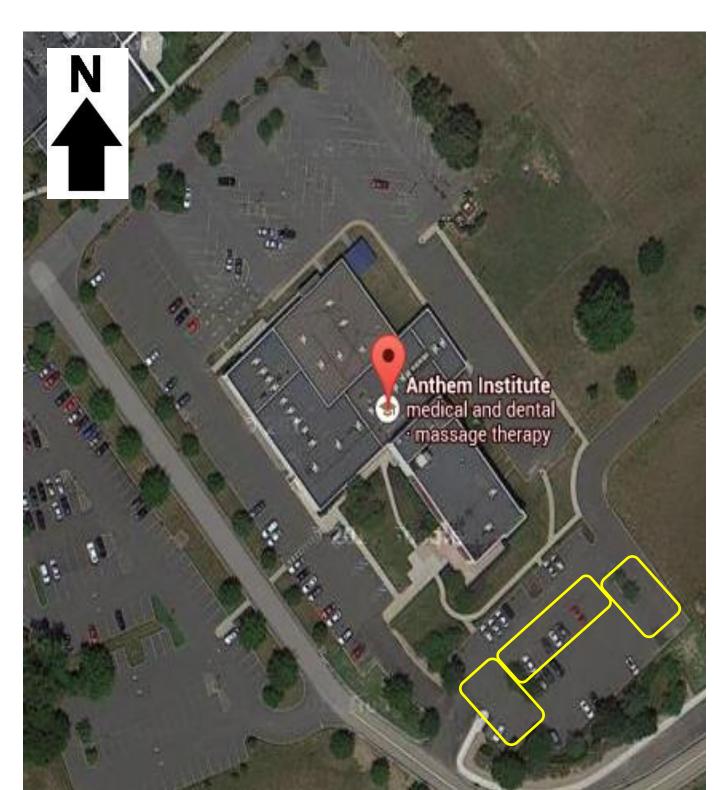
# North Brunswick Township Impervious Cover Assessment

Anthem Institute, 651 US Route 1 South

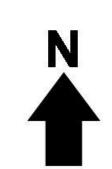
# Experiment Station

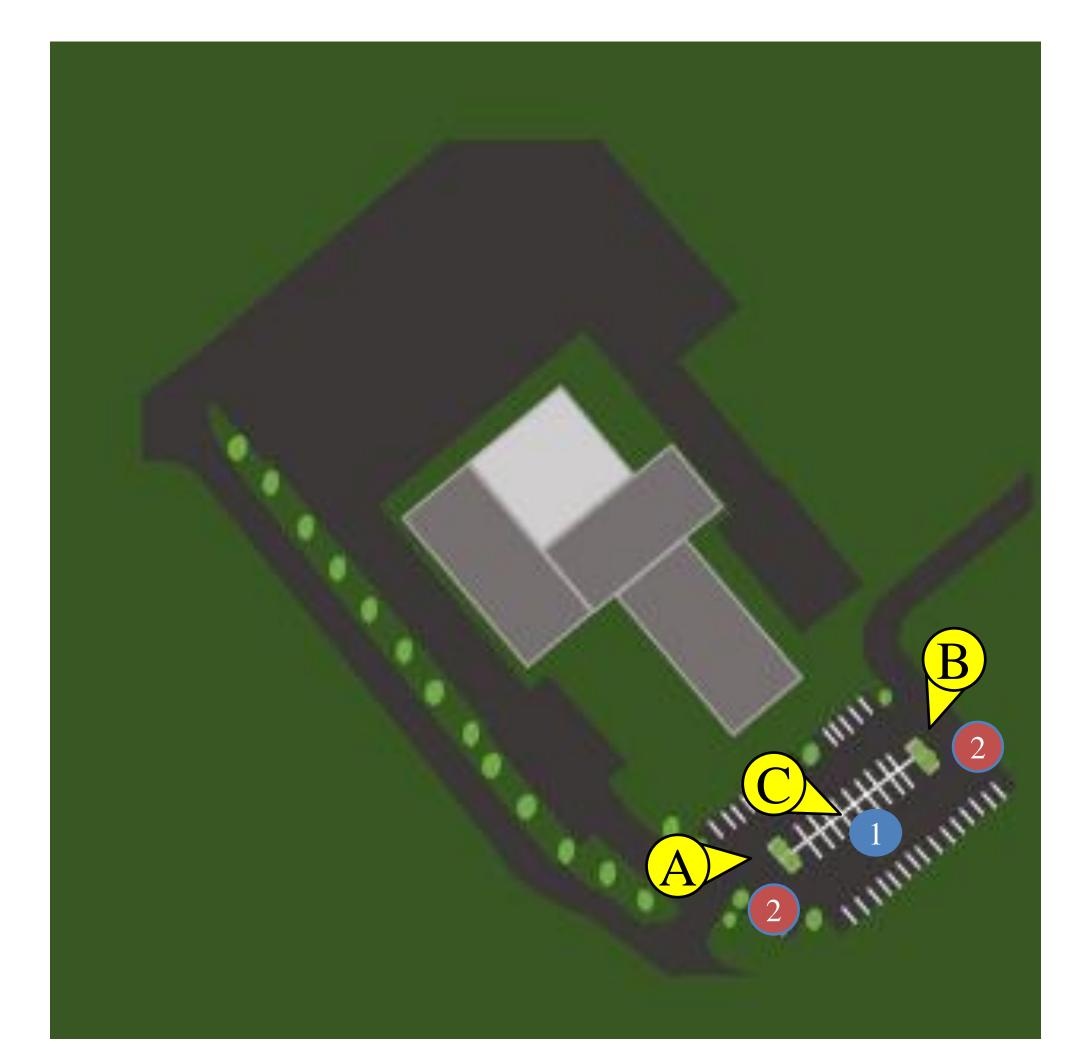
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### PROJECT LOCATION:











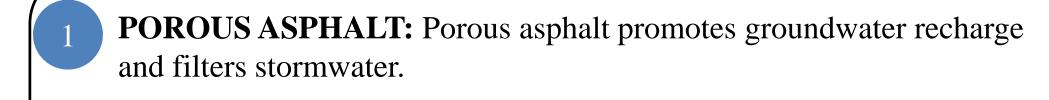


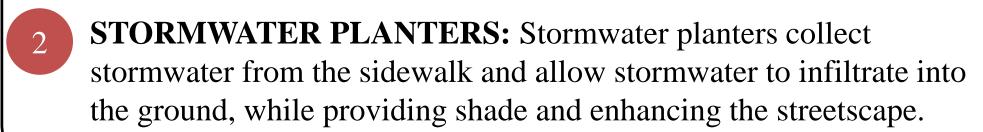




















### Anthem Institute Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Location:	Municipality: North Brunswick Township
651 US Route 1 South North Brunswick, NJ 08902	Subwatershed: Lawrence Brook
Green Infrastructure Description: stormwater island planters with curb cuts porous pavement	Targeted Pollutants: total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), total Suspended Solids (TSS) in surface runoff
Mitigation Opportunities:	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per
recharge potential: yes	Year:
stormwater peak reduction potential: yes TSS removal potential: yes	stormwater planter east: 72,434 gal. stormwater planter west: 60,032 gal.
133 Temovai potentiai. yes	porous pavement: 649,117 gal.

#### **Existing Conditions and Issues:**

This site focuses on the parking lot to the southeast of the building. There are two islands in the parking lot, and the older portion of the parking lot is not in great condition.

#### **Proposed Solution(s):**

The islands could be converted with stormwater planters and curb cuts to absorb runoff from the parking lot. Additionally, the parking lot could either be redone with porous asphalt or strips of porous asphalt used to allow more water to infiltrate.

#### **Anticipated Benefits:**

A stormwater planter is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). If the downspout planter box is designed to capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff from the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), these systems will prevent approximately 95% of the TN, TP and TSS from flowing directly into the local waterway. A porous asphalt parking lot is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual).

#### **Possible Funding Sources:**

mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs

#### Partners/Stakeholders:

North Brunswick Township Anthem Institute Rutgers Cooperative Extension

#### **Estimated Cost:**

The porous asphalt would cover 5,038 square feet and have a 1.8 foot stone reservoir under the surface. At \$30 per square foot, the cost of the porous asphalt system would be \$151,140. Stormwater planter east would need to be approximately 688 square feet. At \$30 per square foot, the estimated cost of the stormwater planter is \$20,640. Stormwater planter west would need to be approximately 570 square feet. At \$30 per square foot, the estimated cost of the stormwater planter is \$17,100. The total cost for this project would be approximately \$188,880.

# North Brunswick Township

Impervious Cover Assessment

Community Church: Fixer of Hearts, 1210 Cozzens Lane



Rutgers

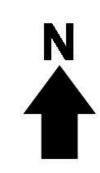
### PROJECT LOCATION:

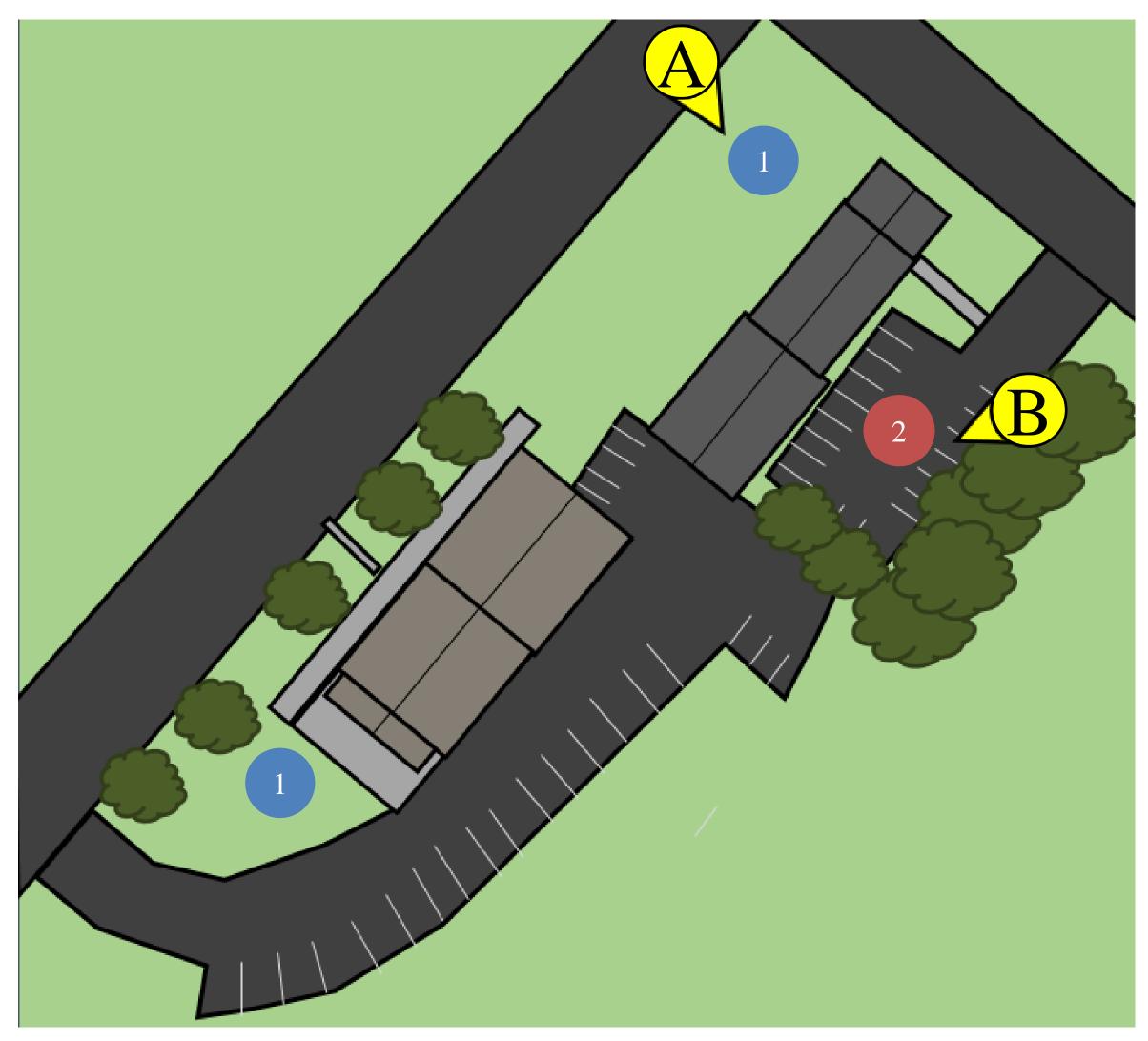




- BIORETENTION SYSTEMS: A bioretention system will reduce runoff and allow stormwater infiltration, decreasing the amount of water and contaminants transported in the storm sewer to local waterways.
- POROUS ASPHALT: Porous asphalt promotes groundwater recharge and filters stormwater.

### SITE PLAN:





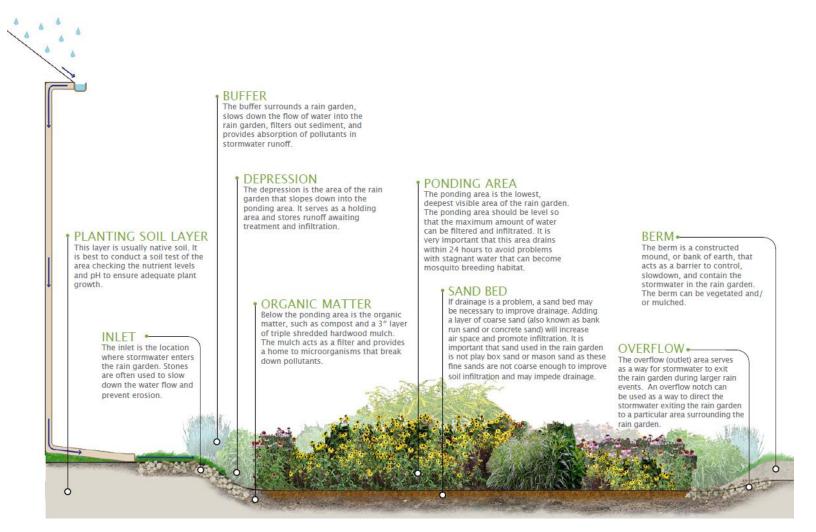




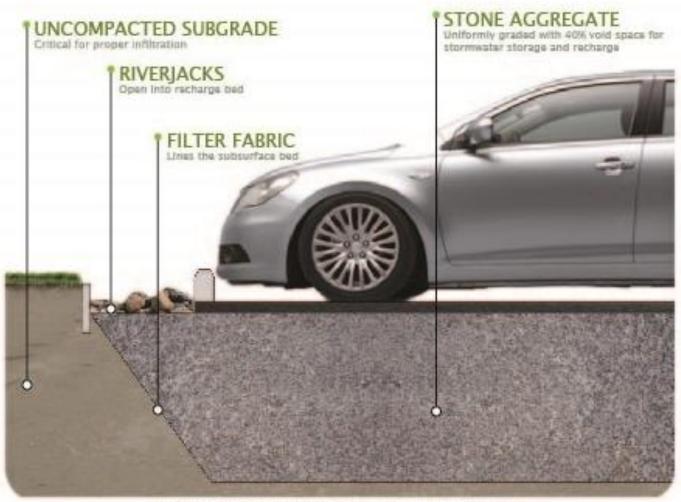












PERMEABLE PAVEMENT DIAGRAM

#### Community Church: Fixer of Hearts Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Location: 1210 Cozzens Lane North Brunswick, NJ 08902	Municipality: North Brunswick Township		
	Subwatershed: Six Mile Run		
Green Infrastructure Description: bioretention systems porous asphalt disconnecting/rerouting downspouts	Targeted Pollutants: total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorous (TP), total suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff		
Mitigation Opportunities: recharge potential: yes stormwater peak reduction potential: yes total suspended solids removal potential: yes	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per Year: bioretention system north: 19,542 gal. bioretention system south: 27,150 gal. porous asphalt: 97,298 gal.		

#### **Existing Conditions and Issues:**

This site is located at the corner of Cozzens Lane and Hartland Commons and contains two buildings and associated parking lots. At the northwest corner there is a large grassy area with an inlet, and there are several connected downspouts along the church's west face. Along the associated building's west face, there are two disconnected downspouts and four connected downspouts at the southwest corner. The parking lot near the actual church is cracking, and there is some pooling.

#### **Proposed Solution(s):**

At the northwest corner, a bioretention system could be constructed, and the downspouts could be disconnected to flow into it. The existing inlet can be used as an overflow. At the associated building's southwest corner, a bioretention system could be installed in the nearby grassy area, and the connected downspouts could be disconnected to flow into the bioretention system to absorb stormwater runoff from the roof. The parking lot near the church could be redone with porous asphalt to mitigate the pooling problem and allow infiltration of stormwater runoff.

#### **Anticipated Benefits:**

A bioretention system is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). TSS loadings may be reduced by up to 80%. If these bioretention systems are designed to capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff from the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), these systems will prevent approximately 95% of the TN, TP and TSS from flowing directly into local waterways. A bioretention system would also provide ancillary benefits, such as enhanced wildlife and aesthetic appeal to the local residents and members of the congregation of Community Church: Fixer of Hearts. A porous asphalt parking lot is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). Porous asphalt allows stormwater to penetrate through to soil layers which will promote groundwater recharge as well as intercept and filter stormwater runoff.

#### Community Church: Fixer of Hearts Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

#### **Possible Funding Sources:**

mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs

#### Partners/Stakeholders:

North Brunswick Township

Community Church: Fixer of Hearts Rutgers Cooperative Extension

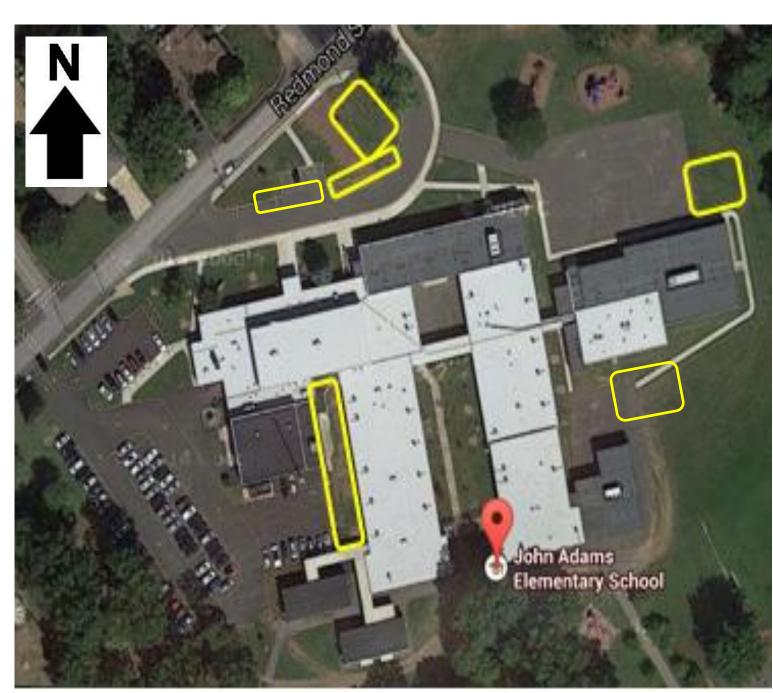
#### **Estimated Cost:**

Rain garden north would need to be approximately 188 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$940. Rain garden south would need to be approximately 261 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$1,305. The porous asphalt would cover 1,800 square feet and have a three foot stone reservoir under the surface. At \$30 per square foot, the cost of the porous asphalt system would be \$54,000. The total cost of the project would be approximately \$56,245.

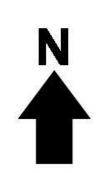
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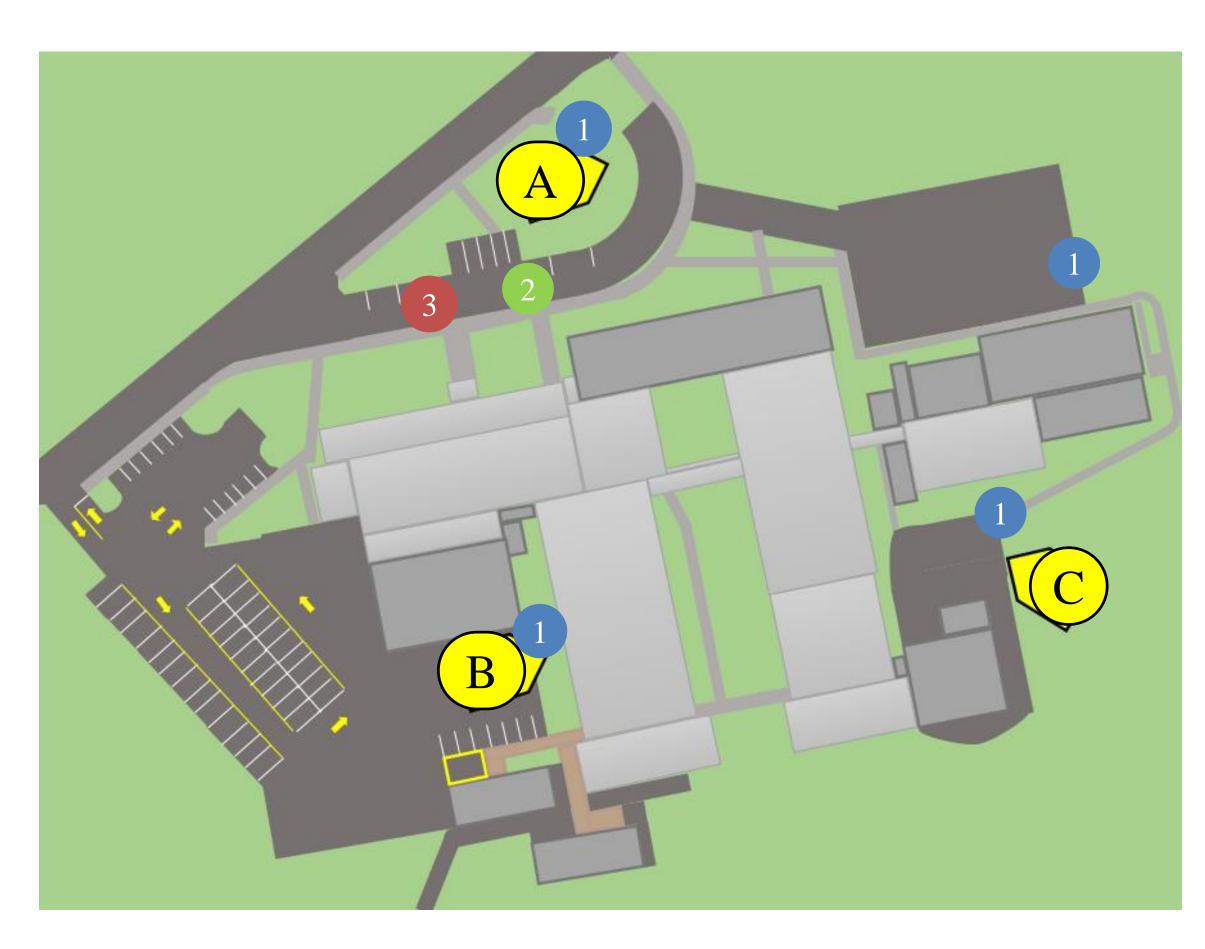
John Adams Elementary School, 1450 Redmond Street

### **PROJECT LOCATION:**













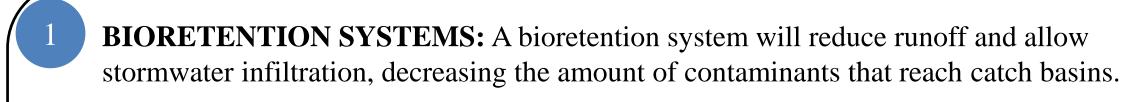
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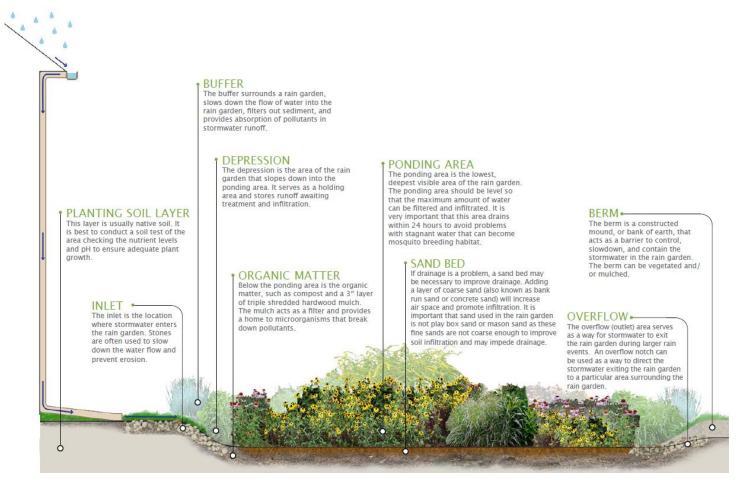




2 **CURB CUTS:** Curb cuts should be installed to allow the flow of runoff into the bioretention systems.

POROUS ASPHALT: Porous asphalt promotes groundwater recharge and filters stormwater.

# BIORETENTION SYSTEM





## **CURB CUTS**



# 3 POROUS ASPHALT



PERMEABLE PAVEMENT DIAGRAM

#### John Adams Elementary School Green Infrastructure Information Sheet

Location: 1450 Redmond Street	Municipality: North Brunswick Township
North Brunswick, NJ 08902	Subwatershed: Six Mile Run
Green Infrastructure Description: bioretention system curb cuts porous pavement	Targeted Pollutants: total nitrogen (TN) total phosphorous (TP) total suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff
Mitigation Opportunities: recharge potential: yes stormwater peak reduction potential: yes total suspended solids removal potential: yes	Stormwater Captured and Treated Per Year: bioretention system northwest: 221,679 gal. bioretention system southwest: 293,149 gal. bioretention system southeast: 141,871 gal. bioretention system northeast: 159,876 gal. porous pavement: 104,899 gal.

#### **Existing Conditions and Issues:**

This site is located off of Redmond Street with the main entrance on the building's north face, facing the street. Near the entrance, there is a grassy area with some erosion. Also near the entrance, there is an area of sediment buildup and pooling. At the northeast corner there is an inlet with a surrounding grassy area. At the southeast corner area west of the pavement, there is an inlet with surrounding grassy area. At the building's west face indentation, there are several connected downspouts.

#### **Proposed Solution(s):**

Near the entrance, the area with erosion could have a bioretention system installed with curb cuts to allow stormwater from the driveway to flow into it. The area with pooling could have porous pavement to reduce pooling and sedimentation. At the northeast corner, a bioretention system could be made to absorb stormwater runoff from nearby pavement, and the inlet could be used as an overflow. At the southeast corner area, another bioretention system could be created to absorb runoff from the pavement, and the inlet could be used as an overflow. At the west face indentation, the downspouts could be disconnected and directed into a bioretention system.

#### **Anticipated Benefits:**

A bioretention system is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). TSS loadings may be reduced by up to 80%. If these bioretention systems are designed to capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff from the 2-year design storm (3.3 inches of rain over 24 hours), these systems will prevent approximately 95% of the TN, TP and TSS from flowing directly into local waterways. A bioretention system would also provide ancillary benefits such as enhanced wildlife and aesthetic appeal to the local residents, employees, and students of John Adams Elementary School. Rutgers Cooperative Extension could additionally present the *Stormwater Management in Your Schoolyard* program to students and include them in bioretention system planting efforts to enhance the program. This may also be used as a demonstration project for North Brunswick's Department of Public Works staff to launch educational programming. The disconnected downspouts will allow stormwater to penetrate into the ground naturally, promoting groundwater recharge, rather than being sent straight into the

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stormwater management system. Curb cuts allow stormwater runoff to flow into the vegetated areas and bioretention systems rather than flow into catch basins. A porous pavement parking lot is estimated to achieve a 30% removal rate for TN and a 60% removal rate for TP (NJDEP BMP Manual). Porous pavement allows stormwater to penetrate through to soil layers which will promote groundwater recharge as well as intercept and filter stormwater runoff.

#### **Possible Funding Sources:**

mitigation funds from local developers NJDEP grant programs

#### Partners/Stakeholders:

North Brunswick Township John Adams Elementary School Rutgers Cooperative Extension

#### **Estimated Cost:**

Rain garden #1 would need to be approximately 2,127 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$10,635. Rain garden #2 would need to be approximately 2,813 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$14,065. Rain garden #3 would need to be approximately 1,361 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$6,805. Rain garden #4 would need to be approximately 1,534 square feet. At \$5 per square foot, the estimated cost of the rain garden is \$7,670. The porous pavement would cover 948 square feet and have a 1.5 foot stone reservoir under the surface. At \$30 per square foot, the cost of the porous pavement system would be \$28,440. The total cost of the project would be approximately \$67,615.