Detroit Green Stormwater Infrastructure Virtual Tour

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Our Watershed
Watersheds in Southeast Michigan
Impervious Surfaces can lead to Challenges
Pervious vs. Impervious Surfaces
Detroit’s Combined Sewage Overflow System
Why do we care?
What is Green Stormwater Infrastructure?
Examples of GSI

Rain Garden

Downspout Disconnection

Bioretention in Parking Lots
Engaging Detroiters in GSI: Rain Gardens to the Rescue
Highlights from the 2022 Rain Gardens to the Rescue Program
2022 Rain Gardens to the Rescue Fact Sheet

- 9 total gardens installed
- Converted 1,300 sq. ft. of lawn to native rain gardens
- Capturing water from 3,250 sq. ft. of impervious surfaces
- Collectively, gardens will hold 5,700 gallons of water each time it rains!
- Over 100 community members engaged and educated about rain gardens
Before
After
“I have wanted a rain garden for 10 years and in June of this year, I was finally able to join Rain Gardens to the Rescue for a free 5-week class series in SW Detroit to learn more about rain gardens...I am grateful that I was able to receive assistance in installing my rain garden at home. I am excited to see my rain garden blooming for years to come.”

- Angela Lugo-Thomas

2022 RGttR Participant & 14-year member of KGD’s Garden Resource Program
Opportunities to Get Involved
Houses of Worship
Gesu Catholic Church and School

East Garden

West Garden
Gesu Catholic Church and School
For more information on Sacred Grounds:

National Wildlife Foundation’s Sacred Grounds program is accepting applications for Detroit houses of worship interested in rain gardens.

Contact: Tiffany Jones - JonesT@nwf.org
Website: www.nwf.org/sacredgrounds
An In-Depth Look at GSI
Addressing Neighborhood Challenges
John's Garden (2021)

(2021) Look at all the water on the road!
Dead plant stalks are great for overwintering insects!
Stormwater is not just your problem, it could also be your neighbor’s!
BIG or small, Rain Gardens for ALL!
Community-Led GSI: LaNita’s Memorial Park
LaNita’s Memorial Park

Flooding on Hartford St
Danny's Garden

- Installed in 2019
Loretta’s Butterfly Garden

- Installed in 2019
Other GSI Projects in Detroit
Example: Green Roof

Project Details:
https://detroitstormwater.org/projects/drainage-credit-project-75
Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History

Image: https://detroitstormwater.org/projects/chw-sankofa-porous-pavers-project
Learn More about GSI Project in Detroit on the Detroit Stormwater Hub! 
detroitstormwater.org

Video Link: https://vimeo.com/146943135

Evergreen Rd Project
2023 Programming

Rain Gardens to the Rescue- therouge.org/rain-gardens-to-the-rescue

Garden Application available in March ‘23 - FREE, public learning course

Master Rain Gardener- therouge.org/master-rain-gardener

Registration open NOW - class starting in February ‘23
Questions?