Phase II Storm Water Program

Spring 2019

Green Infrastructure Part 1

Storm water runoff is a major contributor to the pollution of nearby water bodies in urban areas. Rainfall can cause storm water runoff when the pervious topsoil and ground cover are removed and water can not soak into the ground as it should. Because of urban development, the collection of rainfall by the use of green infrastructure is becoming increasingly common. Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils, and other elements to mimic the natural water cycle of an undeveloped area. The following list will discuss options for both large and small scale green infrastructure.

Rainwater Harvesting

A rainwater harvesting system collects rainwater at its point of impact. This water is then piped into a containment structure where it is stored for later use. Rain collection provides an additional water supply while reducing storm water runoff.

Rain Barrels

Permeable Pavement

Permeable Pavements

Permeable pavements can be made of pervious concrete, porous asphalt, or permeable interlocking pavers. These materials allows rain to permeate at the point of impact. This could be a solution for the flooding or icing of roads.

Bioswales

A bioswale is a vegetated channel that allows water to be treated and retained as storm water is moved through the channel. These vegetated swales are well suited for catching rainwater along roads and parking lots.

Bioswale

Visit www.epa.gov for more information.
Pictures are from www.nrdc.org & www.soils.org.