

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Harrowgate Park

About *Green City, Clean Waters*

Green City, Clean Waters plan is the City of Philadelphia's 25-year initiative to improve the quality of our waterways by installing green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) in our neighborhoods, coupled with traditional infrastructure like collection, pumping, and wastewater treatment plant enhancements. This plan is regulated and a direct result of the goals set forth by the Clean Water Act. Since the start of GCCW, we have constructed thousands of GSI systems throughout the city. These GSI projects consist of public investments along streets and in parks, private property incentives, and development regulations, which showcase multiple successful pathways toward cleaner local waterways.

About Green Stormwater Infrastructure

GSI can combine vegetation (flowers, grasses & trees) in addition to engineered systems (inlets & piping) to capture and collect rainwater flowing from hard surfaces, such as streets and sidewalks. Vegetation and trees are planted on the top of a GSI system to soak up water while the stone bed underground is used to store as much stormwater runoff as possible. PWD maintains all functional aspects of all public GSI systems.



This rain garden manages stormwater runoff from the streets next to the park and is planted with Blue Flag Iris.

Project Information

Address

3455 Kensington Avenue

Neighborhood

Harrowgate/East Kensington

Date Completed

November 2016

Watershed

Delaware River

Council District

1

Gallons of Stormwater Diverted from Sewer System

97,750 gallons per storm event

Stormwater Management Practices

Rain Gardens

Rain Garden Plantings

- Blue Flag Iris
- Fountain Grass

Partners

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

Project Page

water.phila.gov/projects/p50059/

How the Project Came To Be & Continued Stewardship

PWD and Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (PPR) spearheaded site improvements to improve the park space and capture runoff that would otherwise pollute our local waterways. The community members joined the effort to share their larger goals for the park, and their input was incorporated by PWD & PPR into the final plans. PWD remains committed to maintaining GSI system functionality and is excited to continue working as a team with partners, stakeholders, and community members to uplift Harrowgate Park.



Park users can easily find out more information about the rain gardens by engaging with PWD-installed signage.



This image showcases how water enters into the rain gardens from the street (the blocks in the lower left), as well as how smaller rain gardens are connected to larger rain gardens via a pipe network (under the sidewalk).



The use of 'native plants' in these rain gardens, and all of our GSI systems, provide valuable food and habitat for our local pollinators, like this bee.



All public GSI systems, including these rain gardens, are maintained regularly for peak functionality and to ensure the health and safety of the site, care-givers, and park users.

PWD Process & Funding

PWD committed over \$1 million dollars (a combination of both design and construction costs) toward stormwater management and parkland beautification at Harrowgate Park. These rain gardens were constructed in the Fall of 2016. PPR reviewed design plans to ensure that the improvements aligned with planned park upgrades and community needs.