



Cobbs Creek Reaches



This GSI bumpout helps to capture stormwater while improving traffic safety.

A Project to Protect Cobbs Creek

Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) partnered with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) to install over 17 green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) systems in Cobbs Creek Park, stretching from Market Street down to Baltimore Avenue. These green tools, ranging from rain gardens to stormwater tree trenches, are helping to improve the water quality in Cobbs Creek, are providing neighborhood cooling and traffic calming benefits, and have upgraded local sidewalks, ADA ramps, and gateways to the park. All of these GSI systems, both in the public right-of-way (streets & sidewalks) and within parklands, receive regular maintenance from PWD. This maintenance, along with regular coordination with PPR, helps keep our GSI looking great while managing as much stormwater as possible.

Project Information

Address

Cobbs Creek Pkwy, from
Market St to Baltimore Ave

Project Number

40795

Neighborhood

Cobbs Creek

Date Completed

Summer, 2020

Watershed

Cobbs Creek

Council District

District 3, Jamie Gauthier

Volume of Stormwater

Diverted from Sewer System

373,000 gallons

Green Stormwater

Infrastructure System Type

Tree Trench, Bumpout, Rain
Garden, Basin, Infiltration
Storage Trench

Partners

Philadelphia Parks &
Recreation

Project Page

water.phila.gov/projects/p40795



This rain garden is a pollinator-friendly habitat planted with native species such as *Panicum virgatum* (switchgrass) and *Echinacea purpurea* (purple conflower).

How This Project Came to Be

This project was planned, designed, and constructed to protect, beautify, and green Cobbs Creek. PWD partnered with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) on this project with the goals of enhancing park infrastructure, helping implement PPR's trail connection and gateway plan, and managing neighborhood stormwater runoff with GSI at trail gateways and on public right of ways.

Process & Funding

PWD dedicated approximately \$4 million towards the Cobbs Creek Reaches GSI systems. PWD designed and constructed the green stormwater infrastructure,

working closely with PPR throughout the design, construction, and post-construction process.

Unique Features

A network of 17 GSI systems stretching over a mile of the Cobbs Creek Pkwy manage over 373,000 gallons per storm event, helping to reduce the number of combined sewer overflows (CSO) into Cobbs Creek. The successful installation of these GSI systems has resulted in long-term, wide-ranging ecological benefits in and around Cobbs Creek Park.

A Green City, Clean Waters Project

To meet state and federal regulations, The City of Philadelphia & PWD created *Green City, Clean Waters*: a 25-year plan to reduce the volume of stormwater entering combined sewers using green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) and to expand stormwater treatment capacity with traditional infrastructure improvements.

The plan was formally adopted in 2011 and Philadelphia is scheduled to meet pollution reduction goals by 2036, in accordance with our Long Term Control Plan.