

2024 Stormwater Pioneer:

Philadelphia Federal Credit Union (PFCU)



The newly expanded basin helps protect nearby waterways by managing more stormwater.

PFCU's headquarters in Northeast Philadelphia uses a surface detention basin to manage excess stormwater. Established in 1951, PFCU initially provided banking services for the city's municipal workforce. Today, PFCU includes 116,000 member-owners across the city.

About the project

The project was planned as an update to the stormwater management infrastructure at PFCU's headquarters at 12800 Townsend Road in Northeast Philadelphia.

Built in the mid-1990s, the original system no longer met PWD's regulations. PFCU's retrofit project

reconfigured the existing basin — expanding its original capacity. PFCU's project allows the basin to manage a greater volume of stormwater. This reduces runoff pollution to nearby Poquessing Creek and City sewers. Construction on the basin was completed in March 2023.

STORMWATER
PIONEERS
PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT

Stormwater Pioneers

The Stormwater Pioneers Award recognizes the best in stormwater management on private property. The selected projects demonstrate innovation, excellence, the ability to overcome technical challenges, and a true dedication by the property owners, developers, and designers to improving the environment and reducing stormwater runoff.

Continued ►

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Work on the basin's redesign and reconstruction began in 2021.

A thoughtful project approach

PFCU's recently completed stormwater management system now complies with the City's updated water quality regulations.

The project was pursued primarily with an eye to the organization's bottom line: lowering the facility's monthly stormwater charges.

Yet one of the most noteworthy features of its retrofit project was the designers' intent from the beginning to reuse as much of the original infrastructure components as possible. This decision kept project costs manageable and demonstrated a commitment to the "reuse-reduce-recycle" ethos.



Philadelphia Federal Credit Union

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Philadelphia, PA 19154

pfcu.com

(215) 934-3500

Project information

Watershed

Poquessing Creek

Project type

Stormwater Retrofit

GSI System

Bio-infiltration Basin

Gallons diverted*

178,118 per typical storm event

Project Consultant

KS Engineers, P.C.

Project Cost

Grant Amount Requested from PWD

\$167,500

Grant Amount Awarded from PWD

\$167,500

Total Project Costs

\$335,000

Other financing

\$167,500

Monthly Stormwater Bill

Before construction

\$2,397/month

After construction

\$604/month a—25% savings!

*What are "Gallons Diverted"?

GSI projects prevent significant volumes of stormwater from overwhelming sewer systems. Without this infrastructure, these overflows would pollute our local creeks and rivers. (For scale, one SEPTA bus could hold approximately 30,000 gallons of water!)