Green Infrastructure & Stormwater Management
CASE STUDY

Beargrass Creek Watershed Master Plan

Location: Louisville, KY
Client: Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District
Design Firm(s): Greenways Incorporated
Landscape architect/Project contact: Charles A. Flink, FASLA
Email: chuck.flink@greenways.com
ASLA Chapter: North Carolina

Project Specifications
Project Description: The Beargrass Creek Watershed Master Plan resulted in the creation of a community wide rain garden and rain barrel installation program, sponsored by the Metropolitan Sewer District. As this is the most urbanized watershed in Louisville, the opportunity for mitigating the impacts of stormwater with green infrastructure was limited. Therefore, the plan involved crafting a Watershed Report Card and encouraging homeowners and businesses to install rain barrels and rain gardens on a site by site, lot by lot basis to achieve results.

Project Type:
Watershed master plan
A retrofit of an existing property

Design features: Rain garden and rain barrels.

This project was designed to meet the following specific requirements or mandates:
Local ordinance

Impervious area managed: greater than 5 acres

Amount of existing green space/open space conserved or preserved for managing stormwater on site: Not sure how much greenspace has been created as a result of the rain garden program.

The regulatory environment and regulator was supportive of the project.
Did the client request that other factors be considered, such as energy savings, usable green space, or property value enhancements? Yes, use of existing green space, in the form of parks and floodplain areas was considered.

Cost & Jobs Analysis
Estimated Cost of Stormwater Project: $100,000-$500,000 (Public funding: Local)

Was a green vs. grey cost analysis performed? No

Number of jobs created: Not available

Job hours devoted to project:
  Planning and Design: 500
  Construction: Not available
  Annual Maintenance: Not available

Performance Measures
Community & economic benefits that have resulted from the project: Community is mixed economically.

Additional Information
Links to images: http://www.msdloouky.org/aboutmsd/rainbarrels.htm