



The Inside Edition

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Stormwater Best Management Practices Mini-grant Activities

Over the past year, three Conservation Districts have conducted grant projects that focus on Stormwater Best Management Practices relevant to community planning. Each project focused on affecting the planning and decision-making processes in which professionals and officials engage with the goal of increasing Stormwater Best Management Practices that effectively reduce non-point source pollution in local watersheds.

	Berks County	Montgomery County	Westmoreland County
Project Title	PA DEP Stormwater Manual BMP Workshop for Government Officials, PCSM Plan Designers and Engineers	“Seeing is Believing”: A Showcase of Stormwater Best Management Practices	Stormwater Best Management Practices and Low Impact Development Conservation Tour
Project Goal(s)	Encourage Stormwater Best Management Practices through nonpoint source pollution education and work to increase the inclusion of BMPs in land development projects in order to reduce non-point source pollution and improve water quality in the Little Swatara, Conestoga and Little Muddy watersheds.	Highlight some of the county’s best examples of stormwater control facilities, educate the local community on nonpoint source pollution, and promote technologies that reduce nonpoint source pollution and improve water quality in the Perkiomen, Wissahickon, Neshaminy, and Schuylkill watersheds.	Familiarize design professionals and municipal officials with new and innovative Stormwater Best Management Practices and Low Impact Development Practices; encourage participants to use these practices in their planning in order to reduce non-point source pollution and improve water quality in Sewickley Creek and Turtle Creek watersheds.
Project Method	NPS educational workshop on successes, failures and new research on Stormwater Best Management Practices, overview of PA DEP stormwater manual and technical assistance on installing BMPs.	NPS educational Field Tour, Virtual Online Tour and Self-Guided Booklet Tour of Stormwater Best Management Practices in Montgomery County.	NPS educational tour for design professionals and municipal officials to learn about current Best Management Practices that have been installed in Westmoreland County.
Means to Evaluate Success of Project	Workshop feedback on NPS knowledge; measure increase in number of BMPs included in post-construction stormwater management plans submitted to conservation district for review.	Survey of NPS knowledge in day of tour and six months later; measure number of web page hits on virtual tour; measure increase in number of BMPs that qualify to be included in the tour.	Written assessment of educational tour; measure increase in number of LID and SWM Best Management Practices incorporated into development site designs.
Project Outcomes	Seventy engineers, surveyors and municipal officials attended the workshop. 81% reported increased knowledge of relevant information as a result of their attendance and 97% of attendees designated an intention to incorporate a goal of increased stormwater infiltration in land development / PCSM plans. Follow-up will occur on incorporation of stormwater management concepts in plans.	Forty-six people, most of whom were municipal staff and engineers attended the field tour. 100% of attendees reported increased understanding of design strategies for improving stormwater management. Attendees reported intention to implement design techniques. Over 100 BMP booklets have been distributed. Over 600 hits have been counted on the web tour. Data will be collected regarding inclusion of BMPs in development plans.	Fifty-six people attended this event. Engineers, borough / township / state officials, developers, legislators, and media representatives visited five Stormwater BMP and Low Impact Development sites. A majority of attendees demonstrated a commitment to implement the strategies identified in the project in their planning and development activities. Implementation of strategies will be monitored over next year.
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