

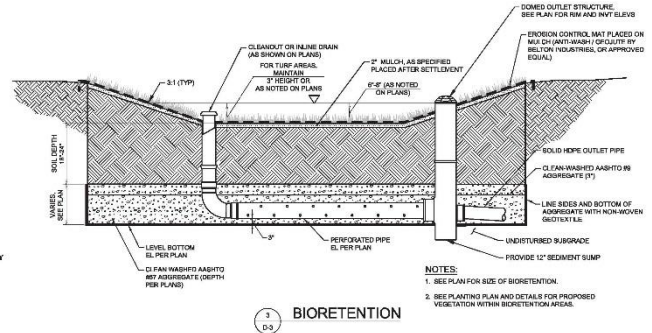


**Borough of West Chester
Public Works Department**
401 East Gay Street • West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380
610-696-5282

Everhart Street and Niels Street Rain Gardens/Bioretenion

Overview:

A rain garden/bioretenion area is a depressed area in the landscape that collects rain water from a roof, driveway or street and allows it to soak into the ground. Planted with grasses and flowering perennials, rain gardens can be a cost effective and beautiful way to reduce runoff from your property. Rain gardens can also help filter out pollutants in runoff and provide food and shelter for butterflies, song birds and other wildlife. Rain Gardens are designed to mitigate the “first flush” of a rain storm, which is considered the first 1” of rainfall. This is the runoff that contains the greatest amount of pollutants.



Design:

The rain gardens/bioretenion areas for this project were designed to capture and infiltrate the runoff from Everhart and Niels Street. These roads drain to Plum Run. This waterway receives tremendous amounts of runoff from the Borough and is currently eroding due to the flooding issues. While these rain gardens will not stop the flooding in this area, they will contribute to the water quality of this watershed. As part of our MS4 program and our TMDL plan, the Borough has committed to installing BMP's (Best Management Practices) in various locations throughout the borough to improve the runoff from our roadways. This portion of our overall Green Infrastructure Project incorporated six (6) rain gardens and an underground detention basin.



Cost:

This portion of the overall Green Infrastructure Project cost \$230,000. The overall cost of the Green Infrastructure Project cost approximately \$1,200,000.