Stream Smart in the Sandy Run Growing Greener Project #C990000718 Grantee: Wissahickon Trails

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Sandy Run is an impaired waterway and is heavily impacted by stormwater runoff from an extensively developed suburban area at its headwaters. Wissahickon Trails launched a Stream Smart House Calls program to offer outreach and learning opportunities about stormwater to the community around the headwaters and provide resources for the installation of stormwater best management practices at residential properties.

PROJECT GOALS: Implement water quality improvement via improved stormwater management and public outreach, education, and engagement.

PROJECT RESULTS: 15 rain gardens and bioswales, 14 flow-through planters, and 14 rain barrels were installed in the headwaters of the Sandy Run to improve stormwater management, resulting in significant pollutant reduction to the Sandy Run. Additionally, the grant partially funded the installation of a large rain garden at a public school in the Sandy Run headwaters as well. Throughout the program, information about stormwater was presented through flyer distribution, workshops, and tabling, and relationships were built with people in the community.

Modeled Approximate Cumulative Impact of Stormwater Best Management Practices Installed

Volume Stormwater	Phosphorous Reduction	Sediment Reduction	Drainage Area Managed
Managed (gallons/year)	(pounds / year)	(pounds / year)	(square feet)
819,600	1.34	1,268	78,255



Residential property before installation of a rain garden



Rain garden recently installed on a residential property in the Sandy Run headwaters

PROJECT COSTS: \$100,000 Growing Greener grant.

LESSONS LEARNED: Building trust slowly and consistently within the community is essential, and collaboration with the people and community groups already working on the ground is invaluable

PARTNERS: Homeowners, Community Volunteers, Temple University, Overlook Elementary School, Abington Township Environmental Advisory Council. Contractors included: DiPietro Landscaping LLC, Duranti's Landscaping, Inc., E.G. Rall Jr. Landscape Design, NativeScapes, LLC.

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