The WATER Center

Project Description: The WATER Center is dedicated to improving groundwater quality and educating the public about clean water. To demonstrate it is a good steward of water, it has implemented two permeable pavements, a sidewalk and a parking lot, and two rain gardens of differing sizes due to runoff issues and to treat storm water while educating the public on green infrastructure. The larger rain garden is several hundred square feet in size and works together with the permeable parking lot to catch, clean and store runoff from the parking lot. The smaller rain garden is representative of a residential type that could be seen in a backyard.

Project Location: 101 E. Pawnee Street, Herman Park, Wichita, KS 67211

Project Funding: Federal grant awarded to city storm water section and Eagle Scout fundraising efforts

Project Partners: The city storm water section partnered with the WATER Center for a several-hundred-square-foot rain garden and permeable parking lot projects. An Eagle Scout troop built the smaller rain garden, which was replanted a few years later by a different troop. LaFarge, a local concrete company, donated the permeable sidewalk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construction Completed:</th>
<th>Rain garden and permeable parking lot 2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smaller rain garden 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Permeable sidewalk 2012</td>
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</tbody>
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Key Green Infrastructure Components:

- Rain garden (2)
- Permeable pavement (2)

Environmental Benefits:

- Filters runoff from parking lot
- Native plants provide pollinator habitat and less maintenance
- Absorbs storm water to reduce runoff and polluted rainwater from entering ecosystems and groundwater
- Project signage promotes awareness and education