



Green Infrastructure in Rural Southern Minnesota

City of Owatonna Stormwater Management

Reduce Flooding

- Repeated flooding in low lying residential area of town in 2004 & 2007
- 2007 flooding caused 1.25 million in homeowner property damage
- Flooding caused by storm sewer system being overwhelmed



TMDL/Impaired Waters

- 2 waterways in City listed on State of MN impaired waters list (Turbidity & Fecal Coliform)
- State mandated waste load allocation reductions
- Reduce stormwater discharge through infiltration/filtration



Progressive

- Cost effective alternatives to reconstruction projects
- Outside the box thinking to traditional approaches
- Educating the public to new approaches



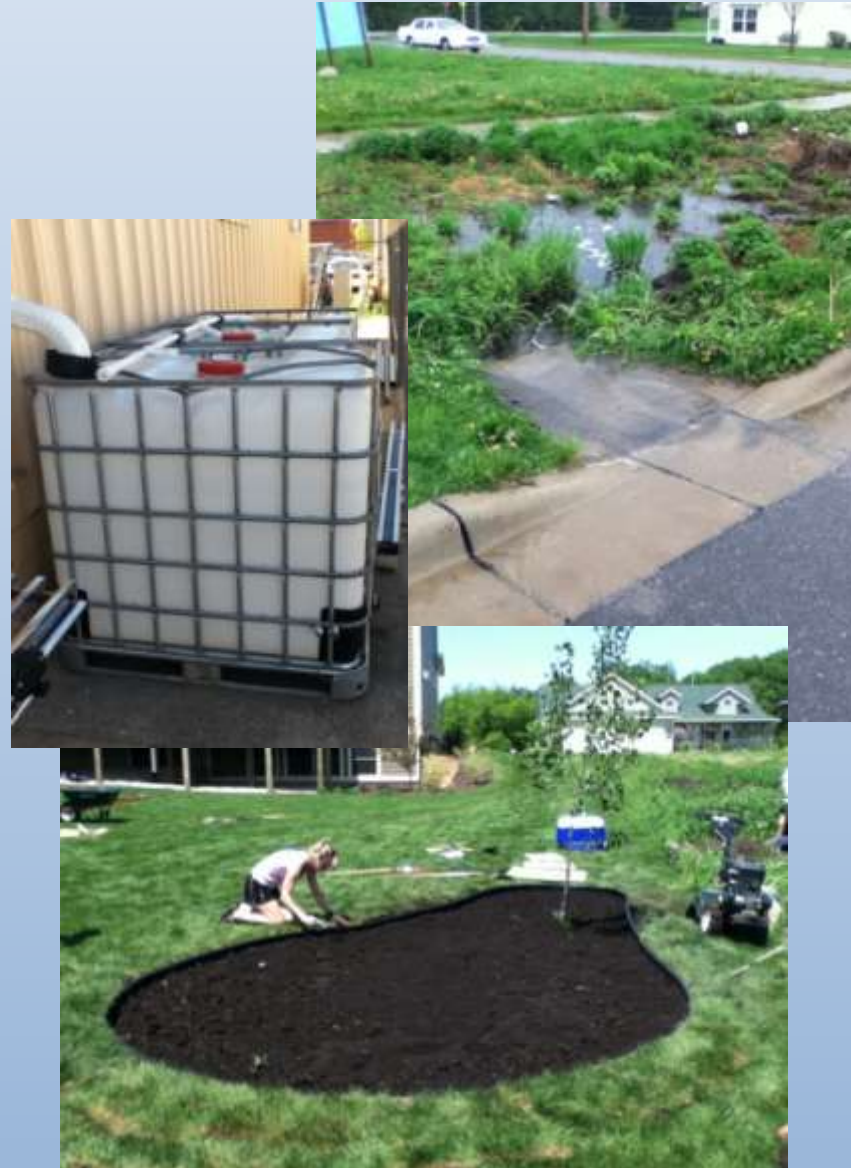
State Grant

- \$415,000 Low Impact Development Grant from MPCA
- Secured in response to 2007 Flooding event
- Funded:
 - 2 Porous Pavement Alleys
 - 2 Rain Gardens
 - Filtration Trenches



Storm Water Utility Fee

- Approx. \$300,000 annually from residential & commercial properties
- Created in 2000
- Funded:
 - Rain Garden Cost Share Program
 - 3 Rain Gardens on City Property
 - Infiltration Basins



- No Substantial cost savings
- Projects were reconstruction with existing traditional infrastructure.
- Reduction in localized flooding



- Current ordinances were reviewed through the MPCA funding
- Revising current ordinances to allow for:
 - Shared parking standards
 - Conservation Development Standards
 - Shoreland/Buffer ordinance
- Anticipate ordinance revisions by early 2012



- Have administration buy-in, not just approval
- Construction and Installation is very important
- Do your homework & ask a lot of questions
- Improve each time



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