

Forestville New Redeemer Church

mostcenter.org/casestories

Problem:

The New Redeemer Church in Forestville was prone to flooding and erosion due to poorly managed stormwater.

Solution:

New Redeemer Church was selected to be a model demonstration site as part of the Prince George's County Clean Water Partnership, an ambitious public-private partnership that will invest \$100 million over 10 years to retrofit more than 2,000 acres of impervious surfaces with green infrastructure throughout the county. Water control features installed include pervious parking pavers, cisterns to hold rainwater and release it slowly over time, and infiltration trenches and rain gardens to slow and filter polluted runoff.

This project was the first of more than 100 projects planned at churches within the county, representing cooperation between government, faith organizations, and the private sector to meet clean water standards, solve stormwater problems and stimulate economic growth.

Job Creation: Minority businesses in the local area install and maintain bioretention features, creating ongoing jobs and stability for local communities.



A ribbon cutting at the completion ceremony



Native plant rain garden that captures and cleans thousands of gallons of polluted runoff from the parking lot

Photo credit: Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake

Key Project Facts

Type of Project: Bioretention

Scale: 2.35 acres, filters over 60,000 gallons per inch of rain

Partners: Corvias Solutions, Inc., Forestville New Redeemer Baptist Church, Interfaith Partners For the Chesapeake

Cost: \$240,000 (higher than typical for demonstration purposes, typically such projects will range from \$40,000-\$150,000)

Funding Sources: Prince George's County Clean Water Act fee

Contact: Joseph P. Gill, Director of the Prince George's County Department of the Environment Ph: 301-883-5810 Email: JPGill@co.pg.md.us

Jodi Rose, Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, Email: jodi@interfaithchesapeake.org

Rev. Nathaniel B. Thomas, Pastor, 301-736-4488 for tours.

What is Polluted Runoff?

The growth of our cities has resulted in too many paved surfaces, which prevent rain water from being absorbed by the ground. Instead, the water runs off streets and buildings, collecting trash and dangerous chemicals on its way. This contaminated water overflows into our streams and rivers, creating public health hazards and toxic waters.

Stormwater projects create safe paths for polluted runoff to be captured and filtered before it reaches our waterways. They keep communities healthy and the environment clean.

When communities and their local governments work together to solve big problems like stormwater runoff, that's a story worth telling!

For more pollution solutions:
mostcenter.org/casestories