

Polluted Runoff: Solutions



Deering Woods Condominium Association

Problem:

Twenty five townhomes in the Deering Woods Condominium Association of Howard County, Maryland, lacked a stormwater treatment plan. Rain events led to flooding and erosion problems.

Solution:

A 200 foot x 15 foot linear rain garden was installed throughout the community to alleviate drainage problems. The bioretention capability of the rain garden now absorbs 100% of the rain water runoff.

The READY program offers an ongoing maintenance program which visits the site 4-6 times per year to ensure the success of the storm water features installed.



The READY Program hard at work



The completed rain garden. Photo Credit: The READY program of Howard County

mostcenter.org/casestories

Key Project Facts

Project Location: Type of Project: Bioretention Cost: \$9,700 Funding Sources: Howard County Stormwater Fees

Partners: Maryland DNR, People Acting Together in Howard County (PATH), READY Program, Deering Woods Condominium Association

Community Involvement: The READY program provides underprivileged youth with opportunities for employment and training within their communities.

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cleanwaterhoward.com

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.

Storm water 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!