



BRIGHT SIDE OPPORTUNITIES CENTER

Lancaster City Retrofit and Rain Garden Implementation

PROJECT GOALS

Reduce the amount of stormwater entering Lancaster's combined sewer overflow system and retrofit an existing rain garden.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Surrounding communities are given the opportunity to learn about the importance of green infrastructure and how it can positively impact their lives and city.
- Builds community cohesion.
- Planting vegetation beautifies the area, attracting more visitors and patrons.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Permeable surfaces absorb and filter stormwater, reducing flooding and contaminants entering local waterways.
- Decrease in sediment pollution and nutrient contamination.
- Wildlife habitat created by adding new vegetation.
- Vegetation planted in the rain garden reduces stormwater runoff and improves water quality.
- Reduces erosion from collecting sediment.

CONSERVATION PROJECTS INSTALLED

- Rain garden.
- Conservation plantings.



The rain garden at Bright Side Opportunities Center with soak up stormwater runoff and eliminate impervious surface. (Photo: Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)



Plants go into the ground at Bright Side Opportunities Center. (Photo: Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)


PROJECT SUMMARY

The Bright Side Opportunities Center is an outgrowth of Bright Side Baptist Church in Lancaster, PA. The Center is an independent, nonprofit social service facility at the corner of Wabank Road and Hershey Avenue. Project partners installed a small rain garden and conservation plantings at Bright Side Baptist Church to capture stormwater, preventing it from entering the city's combined sewer overflow system while also reducing nutrient and sediment loads.

THE PARTNERS AND FUNDING SOURCES

- Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake
- LandStudies, Inc.
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- City of Lancaster
- Jacobs Engineering
- Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals
- Brightside Baptist Church's Team 24

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