

# GREATER GRACE WORLD OUTREACH

A congregation unites its community to improve stormwater runoff

# **PROJECT GOALS**

Reduce the negative environmental impacts of the church to its local waterway.

# **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

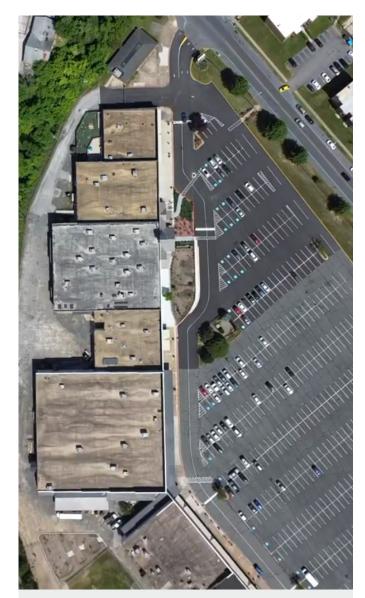
- Surrounding communities are given the opportunity to learn about the importance of green infrastructure and how it can positively impact their lives and city.
- Builds community cohesion.
- Less flooding reduces damage-related costs.
- Planting vegetation beautifies the area, increasing visitors and raising property values.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

- Reduced stormwater runoff led to improvements in water quality.
- Decrease in sediment pollution and nutrient contamination.
- Permeable surfaces absorb and filter stormwater, reducing flooding and contaminants entering local streams.
- Wildlife habitat created by adding new vegetation.

# **CONSERVATION PROJECTS INSTALLED**

- Bioretention areas.
- De-paving.



Bioretention areas, center, reduce the amount of impervious surface and help manage stormwater runoff. (Photo: Greater Grace World Outreach)

# PROJECT SUMMARY

Greater Grace World Outreach campus is a 13.6-acre property that dumps approximately 13 million gallons of stormwater runoff annually into Biddison Run, the stream directly behind their property (Biddison Run is a tributary of the Back River, which flows into the Chesapeake Bay). The project involved installing two bioretention areas along with a large pavement removal project. These improvements treated 1.66 acres of impervious surface and educated over 1,500 parishioners and students about the importance of restoring and protecting our waterways.

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Regular, open communication between partners is critical to ensuring everyone is held accountable.
- Make certain your team has a strong foundation of honesty and trust, which is crucial in helping to navigate any challenges that arise.
- Being respectful and flexible is necessary for any large-scale project.

## THE PARTNERS AND FUNDING SOURCES

- Greater Grace World Outreach
- CityScape Engineering

#### **CONTACTS**

- Emma Grace lyer Greater Grace World Outreach
- eiyer@ggwo.org

