



MOUNT OLIVET CEMETERY STORMWATER REDUCTION

Reducing impervious space decreases stormwater fees

PROJECT GOALS

Add more than \$1.5 million of green infrastructure to treat over 15 acres of land, with about 2 acres being impervious.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Helped decrease annual stormwater fees and created 400,000 sellable stormwater retention credits.
- Increased greenery provides reflective spaces for people visiting the cemetery.
- Created a space for community educational events.
- Proved that this type of environmental project can be beneficial for all partners involved and provided a replicable model for use by other organizations.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

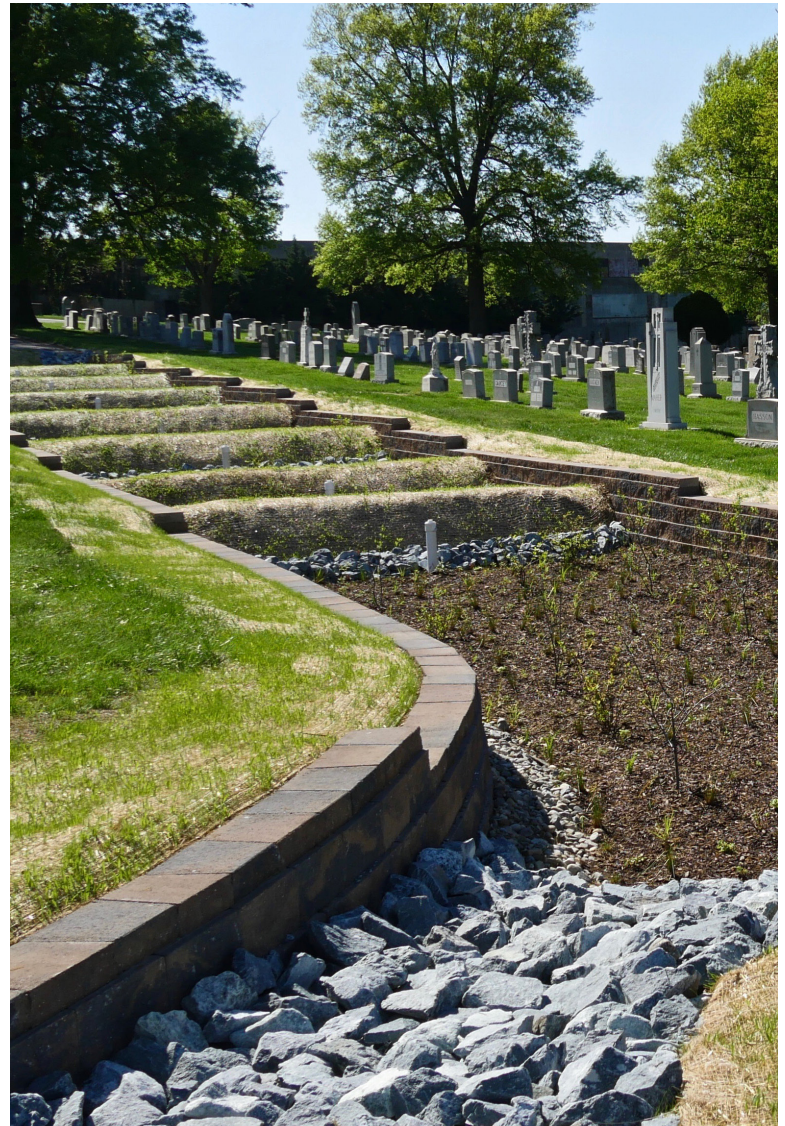
- Property can absorb up to 1.7 inches of rain in a 24-hour period which equals saving three to five million gallons of stormwater runoff each year.
- Additional trees planted help cool and clean the air.
- Native plants and trees serve additional functions by providing wildlife habitat and food sources.
- Reduced pollutants entering nearby Anacostia River through stormwater runoff.

CONSERVATION PROJECTS INSTALLED

- Bioretention cells installation.
- Native plants.
- Trees throughout the property.
- Pavement removal.

THE PARTNERS AND FUNDING SOURCES

- Mount Olivet Cemetery
- Catholic Archdiocese of Washington (D.C.)
- The Nature Conservancy
- District Stormwater LLC
- Encourage Capital
- Prudential Financial



In this area, pavement was replaced with bioretention cells to capture and treat stormwater runoff before it reaches the Anacostia River. *Photo courtesy of The Nature Conservancy*

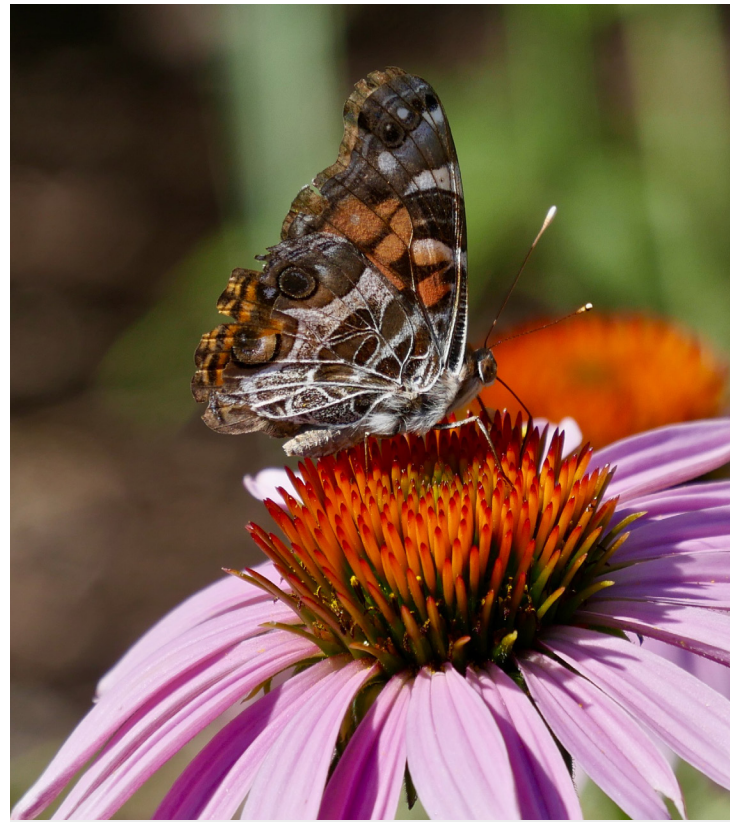
“ This project at Mt. Olivet Cemetery truly shows the importance of multi-faceted collaboration when tackling stormwater challenges, and how redesigning nature back into our cities is a solution that benefits our ecosystem and quality of life.

- Kahlil Kettering

Director, Bexos Earth Fund Project, The Nature Conservancy

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Mount Olivet Cemetery, located in Washington, D.C., is a historic site that is over 160 years old. In 2018, the District of Columbia started charging \$25.18 for every 1000 square feet of impervious cover on the properties of businesses and large multi-family homes. With over 10 acres of roads in the cemetery, Mount Olivet, the new fee created an annual bill of \$140,000. District Stormwater helped Mount Olivet decrease their impervious surface fee, while increasing greenery on the property by bringing together investors, contractors and government officials. This partnership led Mount Olivet to transform the property by removing some of the pavement, planting trees, adding bioretention cells and additional water-retaining features. The changes significantly decreased Mount Olivet's annual stormwater bill. The new features have the added benefit of creating a green space for educational events focused on stormwater and the history of the neighborhood. The project serves as a "proof of concept" for this type of partnership and infrastructure.



Plants in bioretention cells provide habitat for wildlife. *Photo courtesy of The Nature Conservancy*


THINGS TO CONSIDER

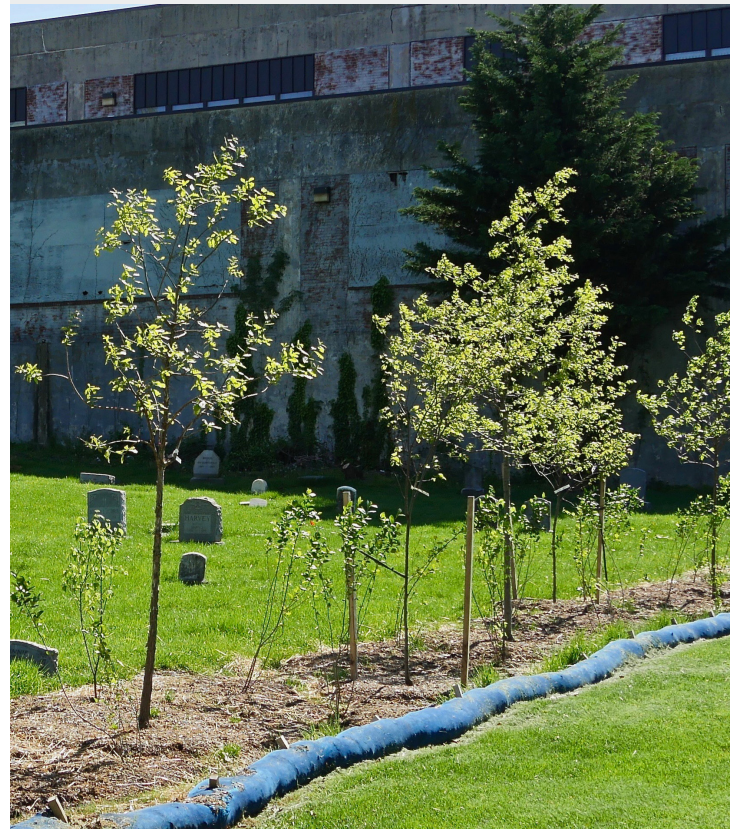
- When working with investors, the financial benefits might not be received until the investment payback period is completed.
- Permitting regulations might not exist when working in spaces that do not qualify as commercial or residential.
- Special considerations must be made when working in a historic space
- Every stormwater project will need some type of maintenance, even if a property has an on-site team, extra costs may be incurred.

CONTACT

 Aileen Craig – Stormwater Retention Project Manager, The Nature Conservancy MMDDC Chapter/District Stormwater

 aileen.craig@districtstormwater.com

 585.489.7556



Over 200 trees were planted on the property, many replaced previously paved sidewalks. *Photo courtesy of The Nature Conservancy*



Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.