



GREEN STREETS | GREEN JOBS | GREEN TOWNS INITIATIVE

The Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Partnership (G3) aims to stimulate the green jobs market and enable families to work where they live and play. Small to mid-sized communities can boost their local economies and protect water resources through the use of watershed planning, design and construction of stormwater best management practices.

BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG—GREEN RETROFIT OF RACE HORSE ALLEY

A dedicated borough plans a comprehensive greening plan for a local street.

The Borough of Gettysburg will work with Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian, Inc. and C.S. Davidson, Inc. to create bid ready engineering/design documents pertaining to water runoff on Race Horse Alley. The alley is located in the Borough and part of a larger bicycle trail project - The Gettysburg Inner Loop. The contractor will design a permeable surface system (replacing impermeable asphalt) for the cart way, as well as rain gardens and foliage buffers to collect and cleanse runoff before it reaches the adjacent Stevens Run. Additional trees and shrubs will be specified, transforming the drab alley into a hybrid environmental bicycle/pedestrian greenway.

The “greenway” area, approximately 3.5 blocks long, is located within Gettysburg’s historic downtown area. The alley is owned and maintained by the Borough. Race Horse Alley has poor stormwater drainage and offers little in landscaping. The proposal is to take the existing alley, Race Horse Alley, and transform it into an attractive “greenway” corridor which will provide a safe pathway for use by bicycles and pedestrians. When completed, the width of the alley will be reduced, the macadam pavement will be replaced with a permeable

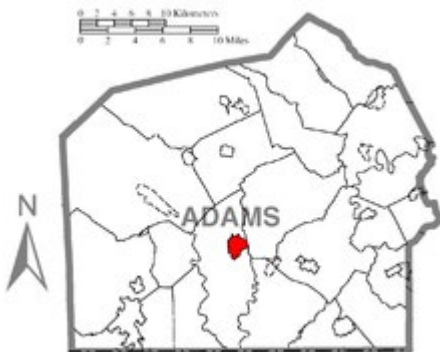
surface, rain gardens will be installed and vegetative buffers with native tree and plant species will be planted. The project seeks to progress the project from visionary stages to sketch plan stage, provide a list of typical construction materials and appurtenance for consistency with Borough amenities, and to inform and gain concurrence from property owners and stake holders such as businesses and the Gettysburg College on design concepts.



Existing conditions



Proposed conditions



3.5 blocks of green street

1,227 ft² of rain gardens

30 native plants

20 trees

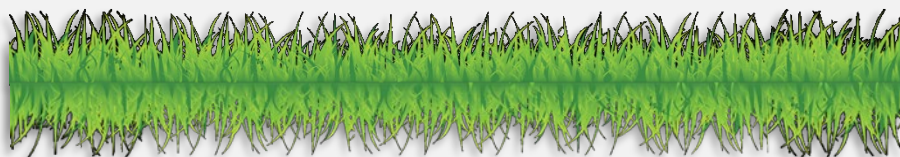
8,725 ft² of porous pavement

8,725 ft² of impervious pavement removed



PROJECT ELEMENTS

- **Impervious pavement removal**— Removal of pavement allows installation of other practices that treat stormwater.
- **Porous surface**— Porous pavement allows rain water to infiltrate and soak into the ground where it lands, rather than flowing off into the nearest storm drain.
- **Bioretention and rain gardens**— These features filter and reduce stormwater runoff, allowing it to infiltrate into the ground before it enters into the storm drain system.
- **Street trees and increased urban tree canopy**— In urban areas a single tree can intercept from 500 to 4,000 gallons per year. Even young, small trees help, capturing 50 gallons per year. Trees not only treat stormwater, they provide a host of other benefits, including energy cost reduction in both summer (shade) and winter (proper placement can result in the reduction of energy use by 20-50%), aesthetics, property value enhancement, business traffic enhancement, and health benefits.

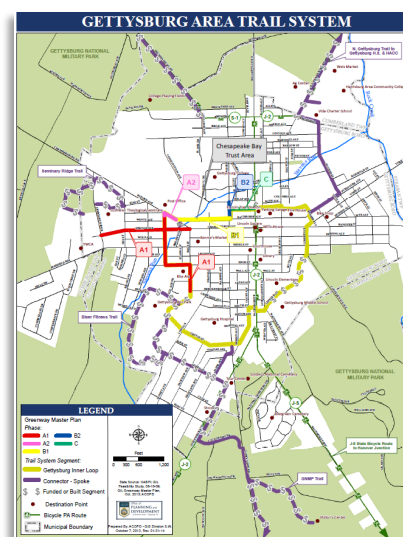


SO WHAT?

For a project of such magnitude, it is important to make clear the benefits of its implementation that stretch beyond the positive environmental impact. Let's take a look:

- The total Borough population is 7,620. Many families live in the Borough's downtown area and work in the tourism industry. A number of these families do not own vehicles and find the Borough convenient for walking to work, school, shops and services. Having a clean and aesthetically pleasing trip around this area has the potential to keep residents in happy and productive mindsets.
- Gettysburg is a major tourist destination with approximately 1.5 to 2 million visitors annually. This project will increase the pleasantness for those staying in the area, which can in turn increase tourist return rates.
- Bicycling is a popular activity in the area, and having nicely paved paths will make this a more enjoyable experience while also helping the local bicycle businesses.
- This project is projected to require the labor of at least 8 people for the design process and 10-12 for the construction process. Job creation is a huge part of the Green Streets program.

G3 Grant Awarded \$47,262
Matching resources: \$933
Status: In Progress



The Gettysburg Area Trail System



Another before/after visualization



Race Horse Alley

Project Partners: Borough of Gettysburg;
Healthy Adams Bicycle Pedestrian, Inc.;
Watershed Alliance of Adams County;
Adams County Conservation District;
Chesapeake Bay Trust, U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency.