

Prince George's County

STORMWATER STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

APPLICANT

ECO City Farms

PROJECT

Uncaptured Stormwater is a Missed Opportunity: Water Stewardship for Urban Farming

GRANT AMOUNT

\$45,000

PROJECT SUMMARY

ECO City Farms was awarded in 2015 to support the construction of a stormwater management system on their Edmonston Farm.

Excess stormwater runoff was flooding the farm's growing areas, reducing crop production. To combat this, ECO City installed a series of hoop house gutters, catchment basins, and tile drains which direct stormwater to a series of tanks for storage and an overflow pond. The excess stormwater is transported by underground pipes into tile drains, which capture the stormwater and send it to the tanks. When the tanks reach maximum capacity at 500 gallons, the excess is moved by solar pump to a larger tank that holds up to 1,500 gallons. Excess water from both tanks

overflow and will move to the adjacent pond, which acts as a reservoir. A flexible hose lines the base of the second tank so farmers can have easy access to irrigate agriculture. In this way, the stormwater is not only captured to prevent flooding but also reused for the watering of crops.

Nestled within a community, Edmonston Farm is a treasured community resource. To educate community member and visitors, educational signs and printed materials were produced in English and Spanish to explain the stormwater system. Located adjacent to the Anacostia River, this system greatly reduces the flow of stormwater runoff from the farm into the river.

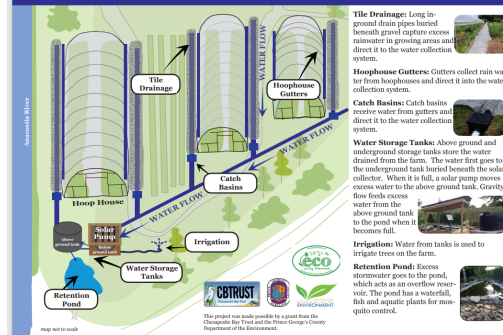
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ECO City Farms needed to control the excess rainwater accumulating on the farm during storms which was overwatering growing areas. In partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust, ECO designed and built a stormwater management system that captures rainwater to use later for irrigation.



Stormwater System at ECO City Farms

