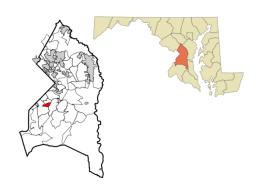


GREEN STREETS | GREEN JOBS | GREEN TOWNS INITIATIVE

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.





5550 sf of impervious pavement removed



20 urban gardens



400 native plants



13 trees



400 sf green roof



7 community workshops with 200 attendees









BRANCH AVENUE IN BLOOM, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

The Branch Avenue Urban Garden project offers a unique accomplishment of two goals: stormwater green infrastructure practices and production of fresh food.

The Branch Avenue in Bloom program was launched to transform the aesthetic of a neighborhood, provide education on low impact development, implement green infrastructure, and combat the food desert in Temple Hills at an abandoned street site that currently serves as a dumping ground.

This project illustrates the value of planning and a big picture vision: it is one community enhancement component of a market-driven revitalization strategy to transform the Naylor Road Metro Station Core area with mixed-use, transit-oriented development. The master planning process has led to a variety of ideas and components, this Branch Avenue in Bloom project one with a strong connection to community need: fresh food.

The Branch Avenue In Bloom (BAIB), has been working with community stakeholders to develop a project that combines treatment of stormwater from a currently impervious site and the interests in

the community for gardening as an activity and fresh food. As a result of the Urban Garden, families will have access to fresh, accessible and affordable produce through gardening and farming and be connected to a strong, thriving gardening network in the community.

BAIB will remove asphalt, construct 26 vegetable and flower beds, plant 13 trees, and install a green roof on a tool shed. The Urban Garden will also improve the aesthetics of the neighborhood, giving a sense of pride in their property and helping to improve the neighborhood landscape.



PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Impervious pavement removal— The existing abandoned roadway will be removed.
- **Urban agriculture** In place of impervious surface, agricultural beds will be placed, from which stormwater will be captured. 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** Native trees reduce urban heat island effect, reduce stormwater runoff, improve air quality, and increase property values
- **Green roof** Green roofs allow retention of rainwater on the roof, rather than allowing it to flow to the ground and into stormdrains. This green roof will treat a tool shed.
- Green Jobs and Engagement of local businesses Local management firms, construction firms, and suppliers have been and will be engaged in the project, supporting local jobs.
- **Educational signage** Signage will educate residents and visitors about the various stormwater practices and features in the neighborhood.





SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH: ADDITIONAL GREEN ACTIVITIES

The Branch Avenue in Bloom project is just one component of a much larger effort to revitalize and green a neighborhood., and illustrates how green activities implemented in concert together add up to have a significant impact. This project combines elements from two master planning processes, a watershed plan for Oxon Run and a transit-oriented plan for the region.

This project initially launched from the Branch Avenue Corridor Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment adopted by the Prince George's County Planning Board and approved by the District Council in 2008, which establishes a vision to transform the Naylor Road Metro Station Core Area with mixed-use, transit-oriented development. This work adds both stormwater and healthy local food components.

This project also illustrates the power of master watershed planning. The project is based on the District of Columbia's Watershed Implementation Plan for the Oxon Run, a watershed encompassing tributaries in both the District and Prince George's County. Approximately 33% of the Oxon Run watershed is impervious, stream bank erosion is a serious issue, and litter has been a problem. The District has begun an aggressive plan to install green roofs (making the City 2nd only to Chicago in the square footage of green roofing), and elements of that goal have been carried through here. In addition, both jurisdictions have goals to increase green space and tree canopy, and this project contributes to accomplishing those goals.

For additional information: visit www.epa.gov and www.cbtrust.org.

G3 Grant Awarded: \$45,154 Match Contribution: \$63,500

Status: in progress



initial conditions



interim conditions – post pavement removal





Branch Avenue in Bloom farmers' market

Project Partners: Maryland Small Business & Technology Development Center, University of Maryland College Park, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, The Neighborhood Design Center, Chesapeake Bay Trust, MD Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency