

ABOUT THE TOOLKIT



The Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit was developed in collaboration with an advisory committee of municipal leaders and experts who gave generously of their knowledge, insight and time. This toolkit is a product of New Jersey Future’s Mainstreaming Green Infrastructure program, which aims to move green stormwater infrastructure practices into the mainstream. To accelerate and facilitate the mainstreaming process, New Jersey Future works with municipalities, developers, state agencies and nonprofit partners to provide education, training, and direct technical assistance.

To learn more, visit NJFuture.org/MainstreamingGI

ABOUT NEW JERSEY FUTURE



Founded in 1987, New Jersey Future is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that promotes sensible growth, redevelopment and infrastructure investments to foster vibrant cities and towns, protect natural lands and waterways, enhance transportation choices, provide access to safe, affordable and aging-friendly neighborhoods and fuel a strong economy. The organization does this through original research, innovative policy development, coalition-building, advocacy, and hands-on strategic assistance.

Visit New Jersey Future at: NJFuture.org

GIToolkit.NJFuture.org
LEARN MORE. STAY INFORMED. GET STARTED.

SHARE THE TOOLKIT WITH:

-  Your Mayor and Council
-  Municipal staff
-  Planning Board
-  Green Team
-  Environmental Commission
-  Local homeowner associations

Many thanks to the professional team that assembled and designed the Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit:



New Jersey Future gratefully acknowledges the William Penn Foundation for its generous financial support, which made this project possible.



NEW JERSEY
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
MUNICIPAL TOOLKIT



TO STAY CONNECTED, EMAIL US:
NJFuture@NJFuture.org

INTRODUCING YOUR ONLINE, ONE-STOP
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE RESOURCE
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WHAT IS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE?

Green infrastructure (GI) is stormwater management strategies that enable stormwater and melting snow to soak into soils near where they fall, or capture them for a beneficial re-use such as irrigation or flushing toilets. GI Delivers:



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Prevents water pollution
- Cools and cleans the air
- Reduces flooding
- Replenishes groundwater and aquifers with clean water
- Creates habitat for birds and pollinators

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Increases property values
- Can cost less to install and maintain than gray infrastructure
- Eases pressure on traditional gray infrastructure
- Reduces costs associated with localized flooding
- Increases foot traffic in commercial areas

SOCIETAL BENEFITS

- Improves mental and physical health
- Beautifies neighborhoods
- Reduces summer “heat island” health hazards
- Aids in traffic calming to increase pedestrian safety
- Contributes to climate change resiliency

AS A MUNICIPAL LEADER,

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE YOUR COMMUNITY’S WATER.

NEARLY 90% OF NEW JERSEY’S RIVERS, STREAMS AND LAKES ARE POLLUTED.

The biggest cause of this pollution, as well as localized flooding, is stormwater running off roads, sidewalks, rooftops, parking lots and lawns.

BUT THERE IS A SOLUTION! Green stormwater infrastructure can capture the rainfall from 90% of the rain events in New Jersey **BEFORE** it runs off.



NEW JERSEY GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE MUNICIPAL TOOLKIT

THREE KEYS TO SUCCESS: PLAN. IMPLEMENT. SUSTAIN.

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- **PLAN what’s right for your town**
 - Assess and evaluate your town to identify opportunities for improvement
 - Update plans, ordinances and policies to provide a solid foundation for maximizing green infrastructure
 - Improve processes to attract high-quality development plans
 - Look for opportunities in public projects, including streets
- **IMPLEMENT your plans**
 - Understand site-specific assessment: What works where
 - See and learn from GI installations in New Jersey
 - Find funding sources to plan, implement, and sustain your GI
 - Access design resources for engineers and landscape architects
- **SUSTAIN the good work with training and maintenance**
 - Discover maintenance and monitoring plans, procedures and protocols
 - Find training and educational resources for municipal officials, staff and volunteers
 - Engage in community programs and strategies

EARN SUSTAINABLE JERSEY POINTS WITH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE!



The toolkit contains direct links to Sustainable Jersey actions related to GI planning and implementation worth up to 20 points each, as well as to other actions that support green infrastructure in your community.