



Great Lakes Green Infrastructure Champions Program

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER WORKSHOP – CALEDON, ON
JUNE 25, 2019



Fred A. and Barbara M.
Erb Family Foundation

Peer-to-peer mentoring network



City of Dearborn, MI

- Connects experienced green infrastructure practitioners with individuals that would like to bring green infrastructure to their communities
- Fosters the transfer of knowledge from experienced green infrastructure practitioners (***Pioneer Champions***) to a broader network of ***Emerging Champions*** who are eager to remove barriers and build capacity for GI but lack resources or experience

“The importance of a successful green infrastructure project to the goal of advancing green infrastructure in your community cannot be overstated. A failed project can have a crippling effect on subsequent green infrastructure initiatives”



Mentoring network - process

- Needs form for Emerging Champion
 - Skills form for Pioneer Champions
 - Additional mentor recruitment through Advisory Team
 - Mentoring agreement signed by both parties
- Used to match mentors with mentees, based on skills and expertise

Skills and Needs forms available here today and at glc.org/work/champions

Quarterly webinars – engaging the network

- Brings broader network together to connect Emerging and Pioneer Champions across the basin
- “Rose and Thorn” to identify status of Champions, seek input/resources from other network members



Dequindre Cut, Detroit, MI

Awarded Mini-Grants - \$60,000 USD

- **City of Dearborn** Sustainable Lawns 50/50 Cost-share Program
- Improving Green Infrastructure Policy & Planning in Ohio's Central Lake Erie Basin (**Chagrin River Watershed Partners**)
- Rainwater Rewards for **Michigan City, Indiana**
- LID School Installations and Stream of Dreams Project (**Upper Thames River Conservation Authority**)
- Prairie Treatment System Installation (**Oshkosh, WI**)



Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

City of Dearborn, MI

- 14 rain gardens through [50-50 cost sharing program](#)
- Public outreach and education

“this project has sparked new life within our Rain and Native Plant Garden, our classrooms and the community”

– Henry Ford College, cost share participant

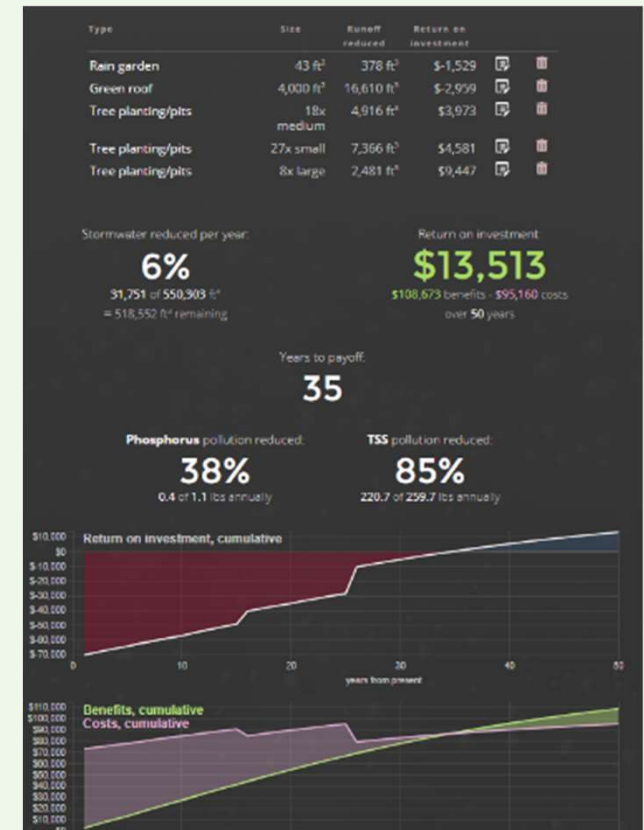


Chagrin River Watershed Partners (Ohio)

- Mayfield Village:
 - Identify and address barriers in ordinances, plans, and policies
 - Encourage businesses to implement GI and use stormwater credit program
 - Assess feasibility of using cost-share funds to subsidize GI for homeowners
- City of Oberlin:
 - Identify and address barriers in ordinances, plans, and policies
 - Update comprehensive stormwater management regulations; adopt stormwater management ordinance
 - Develop incentive programs by establishing stormwater utility

Michigan City Sanitary District, IN

- Rainwater Rewards calculator
 - GIS data updated and incorporated into calculator
 - Training on using calculator as decision-making support tool
 - Will help simplify process for future communities using Rainwater Rewards calculator



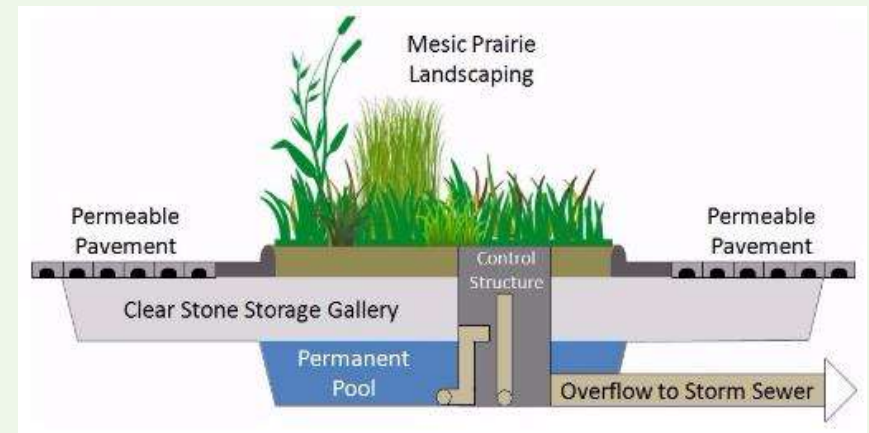
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (Ontario)

- Installations in schools-
 - Swale at Northbrae & Louise Arbor French Immersion Public Schools
 - Rain garden at Jeanne Sauve French Immersion Public School
- Stream of Dreams
- [Promotional video](#)



City of Oshkosh, Wisconsin

- Prairie Treatment System installation
- Design guidance documents developed



Phase 2 RFP: Addressing Champions feedback

Specifically funds community projects that focus on developing strategies to overcome key institutional barriers to implementing GI:

1. Local code/ordinance review and revision
e.g., audit to identify and revise codes to foster GI implementation
2. GI operations and maintenance training, procedures, and workforce development
e.g., O&M toolkit for GI with municipal training
3. Establishing sustainable funding streams
e.g., feasibility study for establishing stormwater utility
4. Other projects that address barriers to GI implementation

Creativity is encouraged!



Green Infrastructure Champions

www.glc.org/work/champions

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