



SEMU: Green Infrastructure Grant Program Informational Session

March 23, 2026

Welcome & Housekeeping

- Please make sure your microphones are set to mute
- Please put your name and organization in the chat
- Use the chat box to ask questions throughout the presentation. We will have a Q&A session at the end





Today's Agenda

- I. Connecting Southeast Michigan's Green Infrastructure Network**
 - *Katie Grantham, Planner, SEMCOG Environment & Infrastructure*
- II. SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Grant Program Overview**
 - *Bailee Pasienza, Planner, SEMCOG Environment & Infrastructure*
- III. Technical Assistance from Center for Watershed Protection**
 - *Greg Hoffman, PE, Director of Stormwater Services, Center for Watershed Protection*
 - *Kristen Bisom, Water Resources Professional, Center for Watershed Protection*

Connecting Southeast Michigan's Green Infrastructure Network

Katie Grantham
Planner, Environment &
Infrastructure



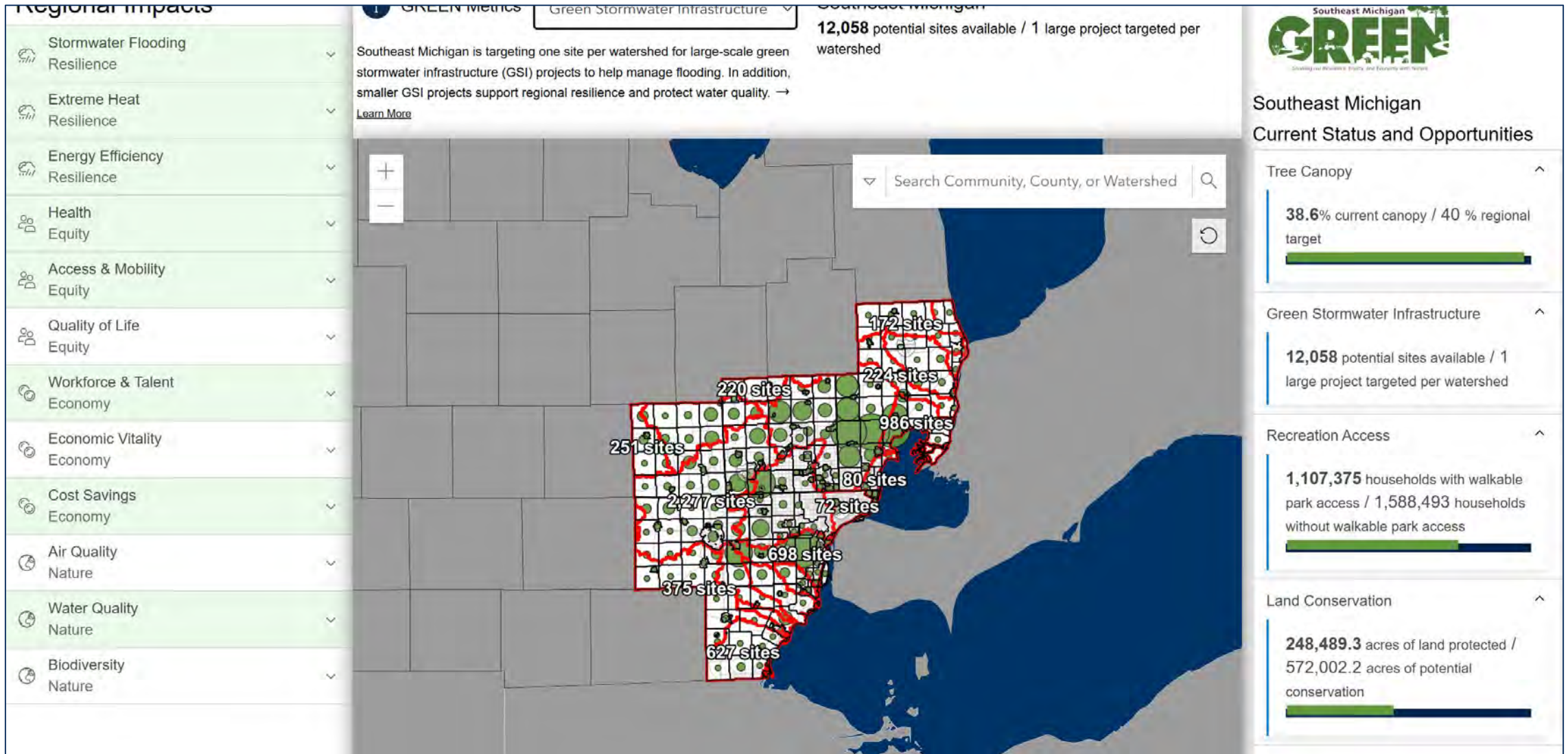
Southeast Michigan

GREEN

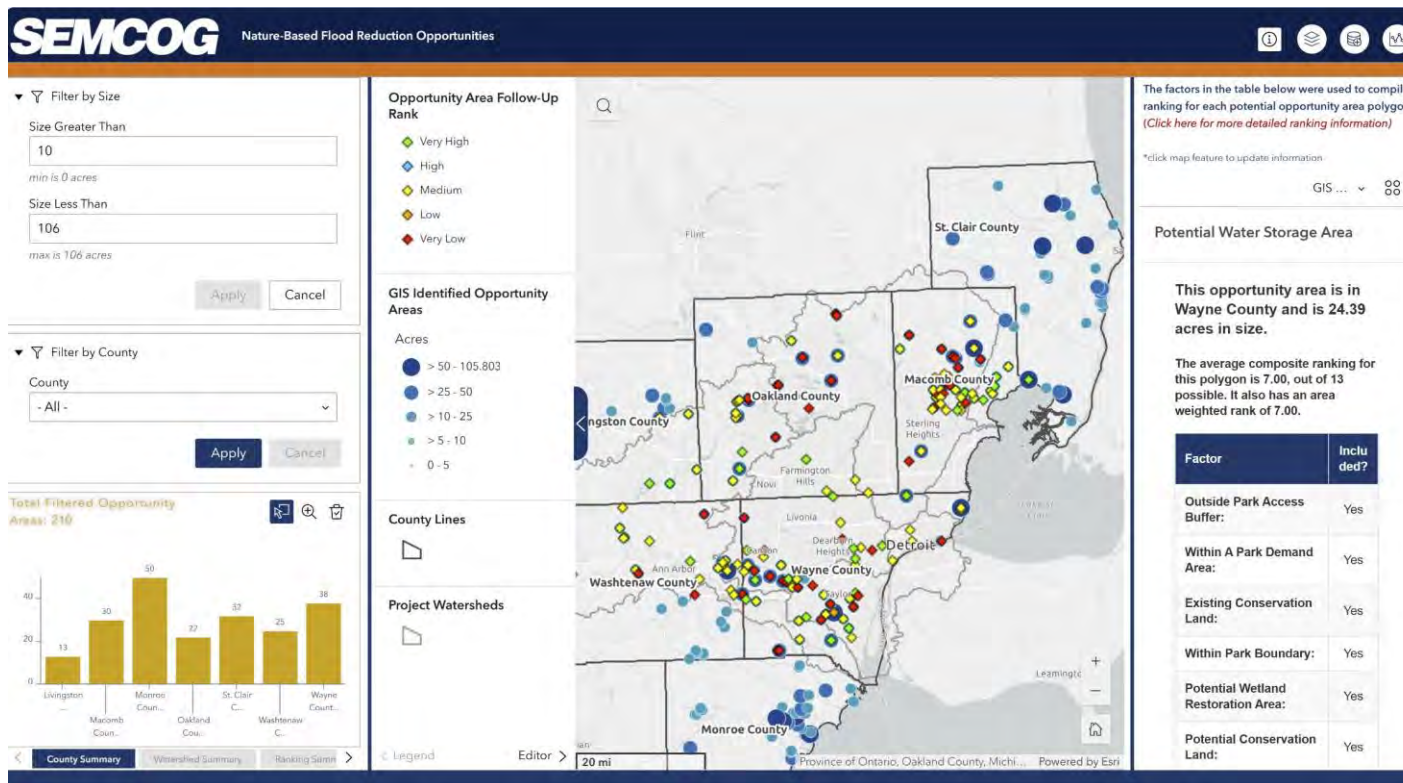
Growing our Resilience, Equity, and Economy with Nature



Expanding Green Infrastructure in Southeast Michigan



Identifying Large Scale Nature Based Solutions



- Component of SEMCOG's Flooding & Resilience Plan
- Desktop Planning Assessment & Project Identification
- Concept Plan Development

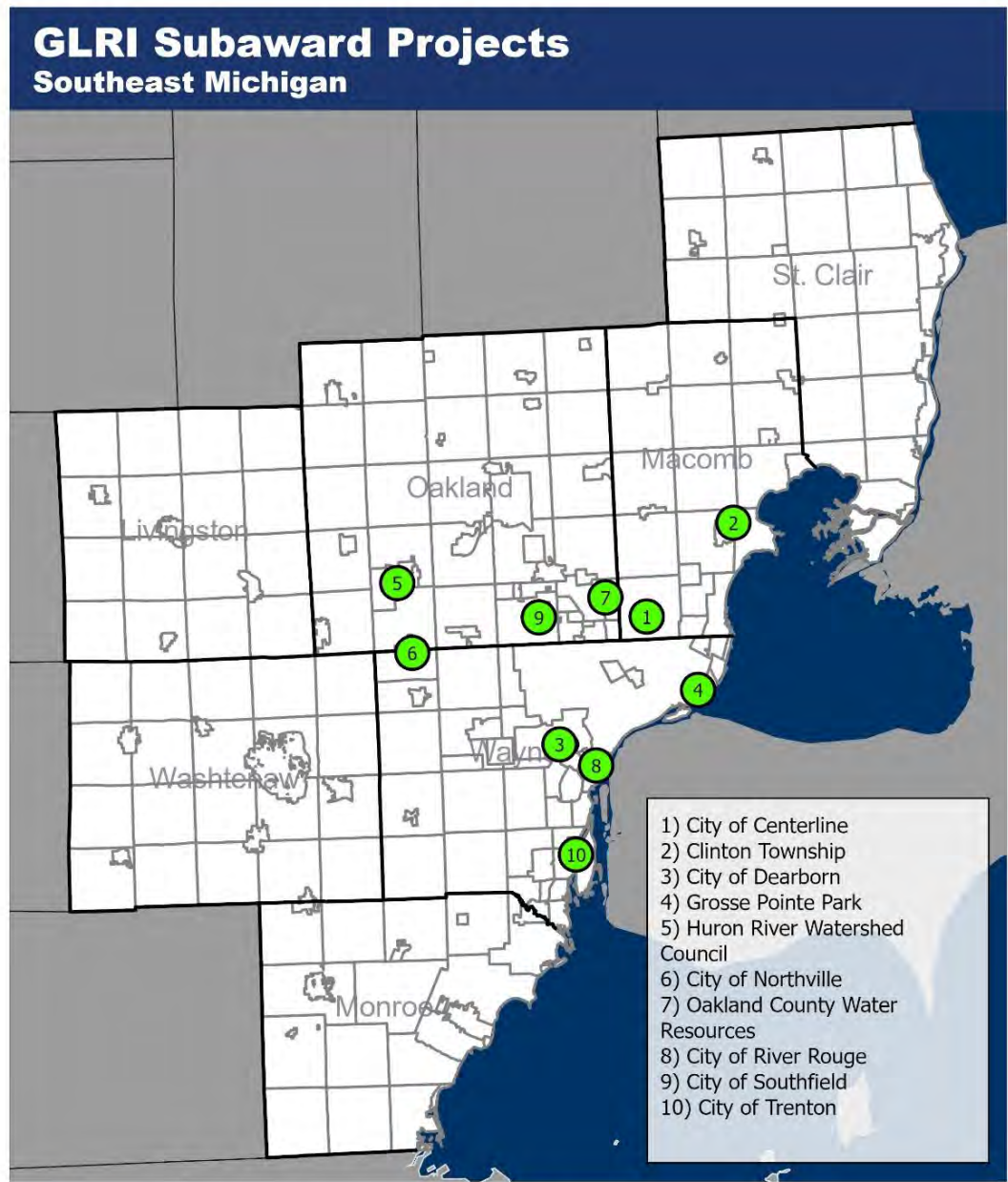
2020 SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Subgrants

- SEMCOG received \$300,000 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funding
- 6 projects funded
 - City of Madison Heights
 - Independence Township
 - Clinton Township
 - Pittsfield Township
 - City of Rochester Hills



2023 SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Subgrants

- SEMCOG received \$1 million Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funding
- 9 projects currently funded
 - City of Centerline
 - Clinton Township
 - City of Dearborn
 - Grosse Pointe Park
 - Huron River Watershed Council
 - City of Northville
 - Oakland County WRC
 - City of River Rouge
 - City of Southfield



Mill Race Village in the City of Northville



Before & After at Gunnar Mettala Park in City of Wixom



Great Lakes Community Projects Grant Program Overview

Bailee Pasienza
Planner, Environment &
Infrastructure

Great Lakes Community Projects Grant Program



- \$35 million for projects that advance green infrastructure development in communities across the Great Lakes
- Grantees will develop their own subgrant competition that will fund environmental protection and restoration projects
- SEMCOG Received **\$4.2 million** from the EPA

Southeast Michigan Green Infrastructure Grant Program

- Implement green infrastructure projects that provide direct environmental and public health benefits
- SEMCOG will increase support to communities to address stormwater related challenges
- Subawardee amount: \$50,000–300,000
- Implementation from **Spring 2027 – June 2030**
- Expected to fund **12–15 projects**, resulting in **5–11 million gallons** of annual stormwater runoff reduction



Program Support

- Center for Watershed Protection will provide technical assistance for project development & application writing
- Quarterly meetings with subawardees on project status.
- Biannual cohort meetings with subawardees.
- Two workshops for subawardees communities on green infrastructure maintenance.
- Performance measurement and evaluation plan for subawardees.



Engineering & Design Support

- Optional Assistance:
 - Engineering Consultants to develop designs / bid documents for communities who do not have a municipal engineering consultant or lack staff capacity.



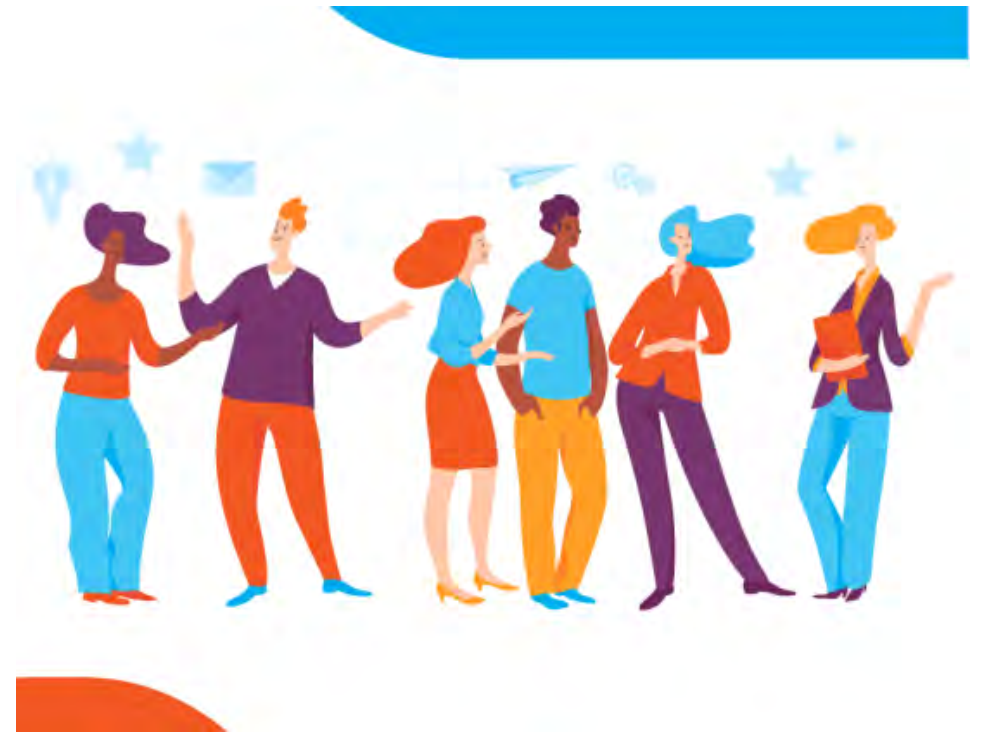


Project Selection Criteria:

- ✓ Consistent with actions identified in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan IV;
- ✓ Addresses Lakewide Area Management Plans and Regional Plans
- ✓ Implements green stormwater infrastructure best management practices on public property.
- ✓ Located on publicly-owned property;
- ✓ Results in measurable environmental benefits including stormwater runoff reductions (technical merit);
- ✓ Demonstrates feasibility of implementation (evaluation of level of design, permits required, timing for completion within the budget requested);
- ✓ Includes additional partners or stakeholders and meaningful community engagement; and
- ✓ Represents the needs of the target community(ies).

Program Steering Committee

- Recommending Committee to SEMCOG's Regional Review Committee
 - Project Criteria
 - Project selection
- A potential resource for subawardees as projects move forward



Project Selection Criteria:

- ✓ Consistent with actions identified in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan IV;
- ✓ Addresses Lakewide Area Management Plans and Regional Plans
- ✓ Implements green stormwater infrastructure best management practices on public property.
- ✓ Located on publicly-owned property;
- ✓ Results in measurable environmental benefits including stormwater runoff reductions (technical merit);
- ✓ Demonstrates feasibility of implementation (evaluation of level of design, permits required, timing for completion within the budget requested);
- ✓ Includes additional partners or stakeholders and meaningful community engagement; and
- ✓ Represents the needs of the target community(ies).

Project Selection Process

- Geographic distribution across Southeast Michigan will be a consideration in project selection.
- Projects that meet the basic criteria will be initially categorized into **High, Medium, and Low priority** based on:
 - Environmental benefit;
 - Partnerships & stakeholders;
 - Meaningful engagement;
 - And meeting needs of the community.
- Recommendations will be made to SEMCOG's Regional Review Committee, who will approve the final selection of projects.



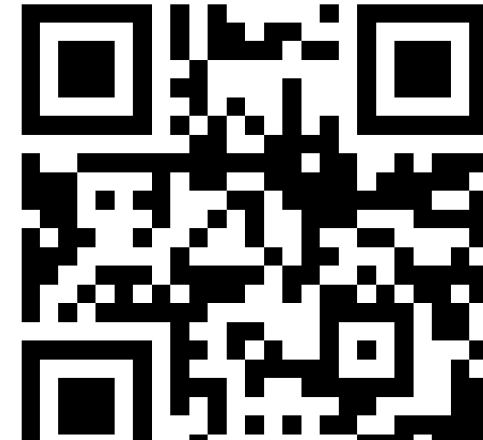
Program Goals & Outcomes:

- Reduce stormwater runoff;
- Increase the amount and access to green infrastructure in the region;
- Increase in the connectivity of the green infrastructure network;
- Support local agencies to address stormwater management and awareness;
- Enhance community engagement



Interested in Technical Assistance?

- Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) will be available for field visits!
 - May 4th – May 8th
- If your community is interested in applying for this opportunity or in receiving technical assistance, fill out this survey!



Green Infrastructure Opportunity Identification and Interest Form

SEMCOG received a \$4.2 million grant from the EPA's Great Lakes Community Grant Program to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and strengthen Southeast Michigan's green infrastructure (GI) network. In partnership with the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP), SEMCOG is working to identify new opportunities to expand and connect green infrastructure throughout the region.

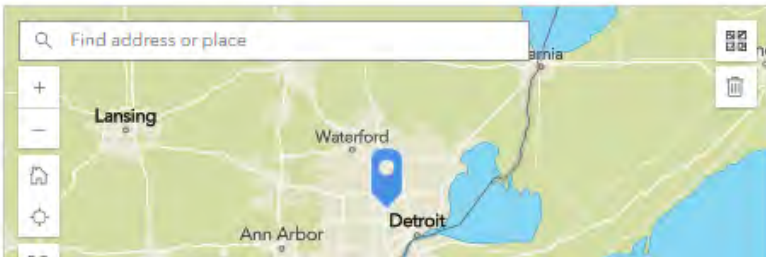
This survey gathers information from communities, organizations, and other stakeholders interested in implementing GI projects. Your responses will help SEMCOG and CWP identify priority sites, offer technical support, and connect potential projects with funding opportunities.

Name of Organization/Municipality*

Primary Contact Name*

Primary Contact Email Address*

Project Site Address*



What level of planning or design work has already been done for this site?*

Idea only (no planning or design)

Preliminary concept identified

Site assessment completed

Concept plan developed

Engineering/design underway

Project completed

Is the site publicly or privately owned?*

Public

Private

Unsure

What type(s) of green infrastructure are included in your project or are you most interested in implementing?*

Bioretention / Rain Gardens

What type(s) of green infrastructure are included in your project or are you most interested in implementing?*

Bioretention / Rain Gardens

Tree Plantings

Permeable Pavement

Wetlands

Floodplain Restoration

Other

Would you like to be contacted by SEMCOG and Center for Watershed Protection for field site visits and/or technical support?*

Yes

No

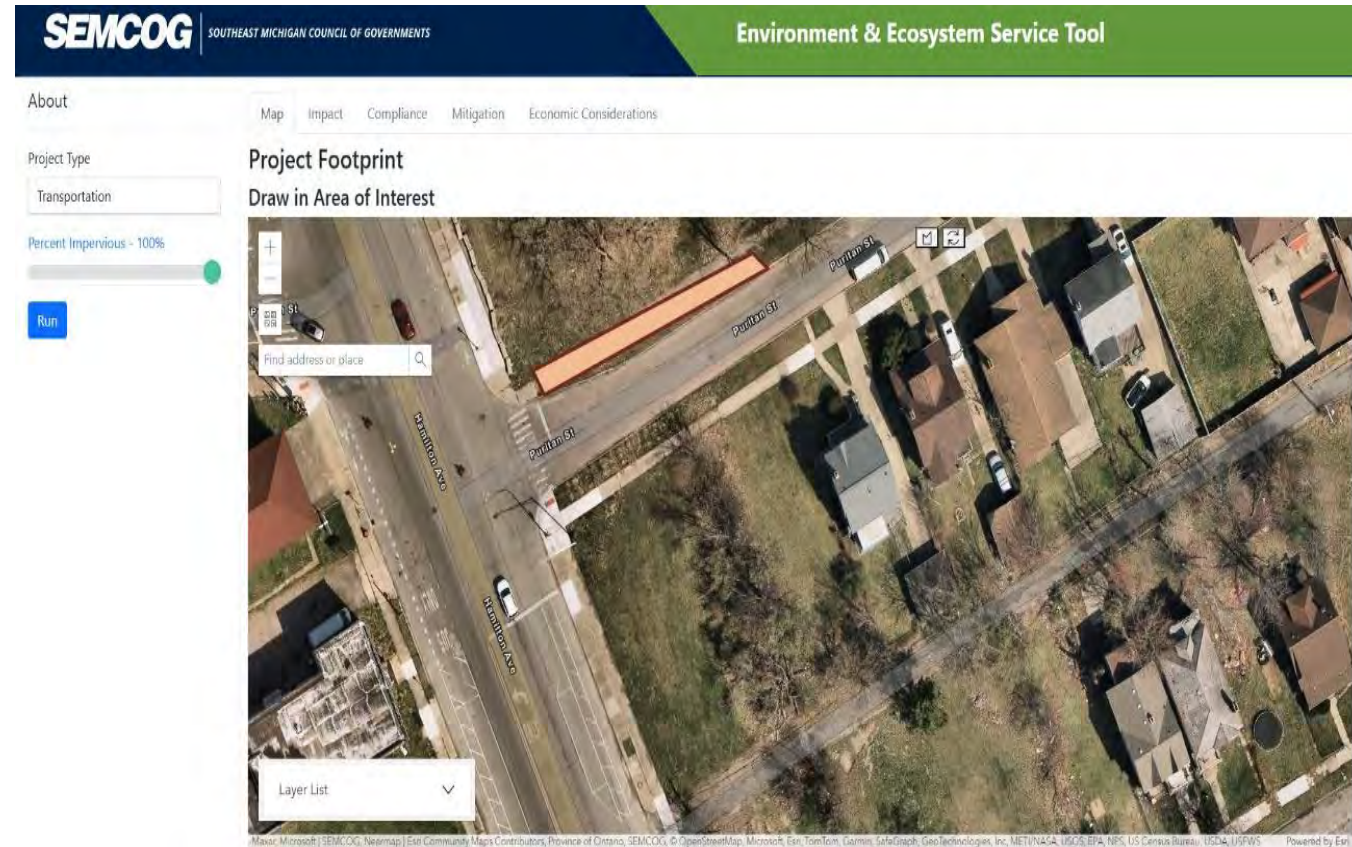
Upload any supporting documents for finished or proposed project:

(Examples include concept plans, stormwater reports, grant applications, etc.)

Drop file here or select file (pdf, doc, docx, xls,xlsx, pptx, ppt, txt)

Calculating Stormwater Runoff

- SEMCOG's Eco Planning Tool can support applicants in calculating stormwater runoff reductions
- **Required Information:**
 - Project location
 - Size of project
 - Type of Project (wetland, reforestation, GI)



About the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP)



- National non-profit founded in 1992
- Mission to advance clean water resources and healthy ecosystems through responsible land and water management
- Programs include research, training, membership, and watershed and stormwater services
- 22 staff, headquartered in MD with offices in VA, PA, NJ, DE, NY, SC, FL, MI, and WV
- www.cwp.org



GLCGP Funding Priorities

“...implement green infrastructure projects that specifically reduce stormwater runoff volume, reduce untreated stormwater runoff, and help build and connect Southeast Michigan’s green infrastructure network.”

What is Green Infrastructure?

- Shoreline Softening
- Bioretention and Rain Gardens
- Permeable Pavement
- Wetland Restoration
- Riparian Restoration

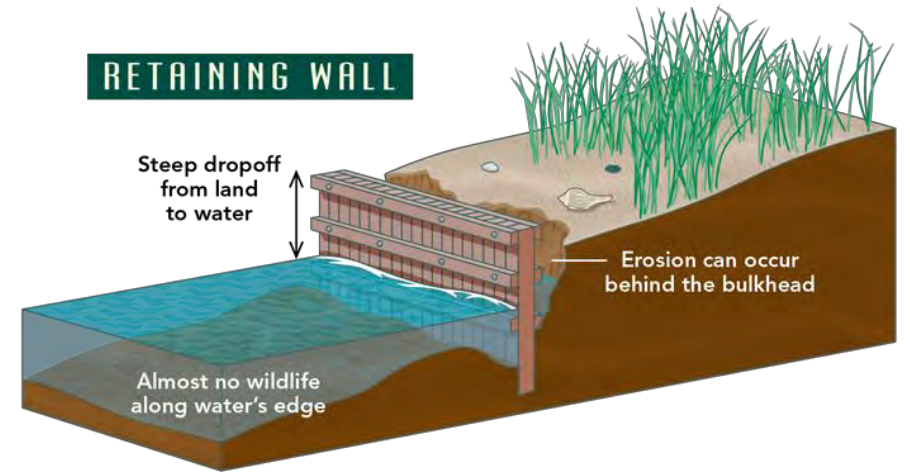


Shoreline Softening

AKA "Living Shorelines"



Healing Our Waters—Great Lakes Coalition



'Hard' infrastructure like retaining walls abruptly severs the ecological connection between the coast and water.



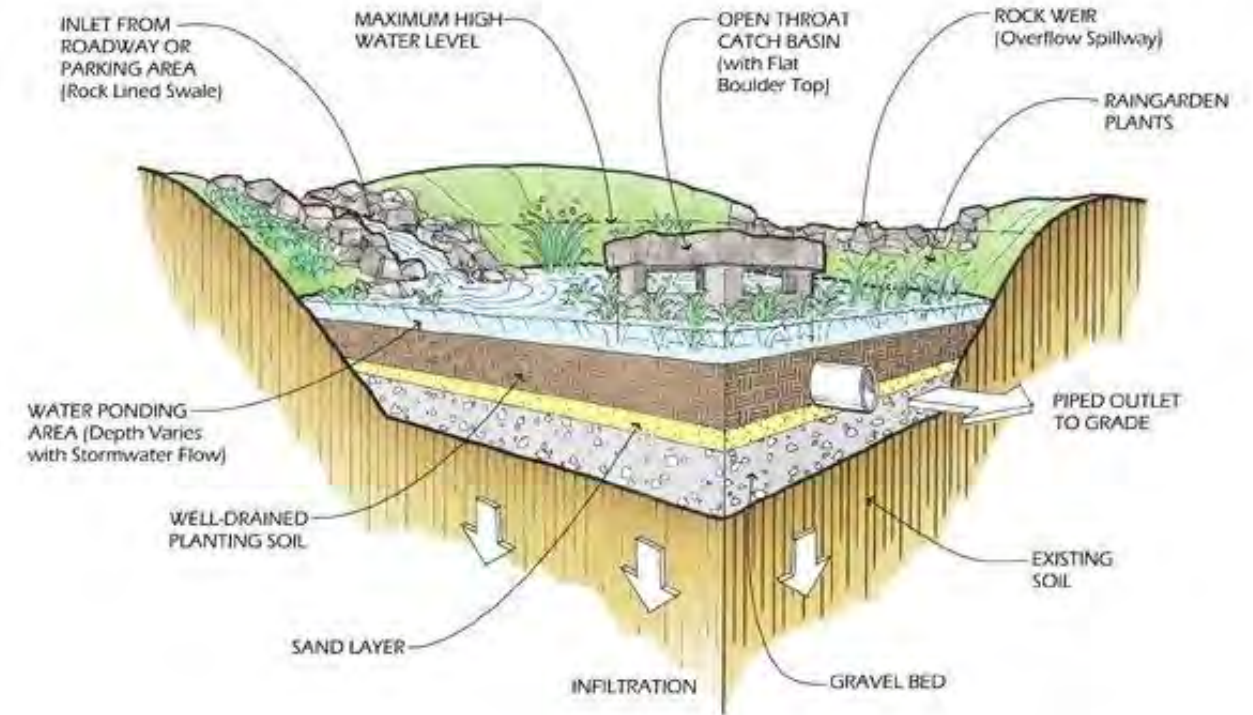
Not only do Living Shorelines defend land against destructive waves, but they also provide crucial habitat for fish and wildlife.

©2012 Artwork by Frank McShane

Bioretention and Rain Gardens



Sustainable Technologies



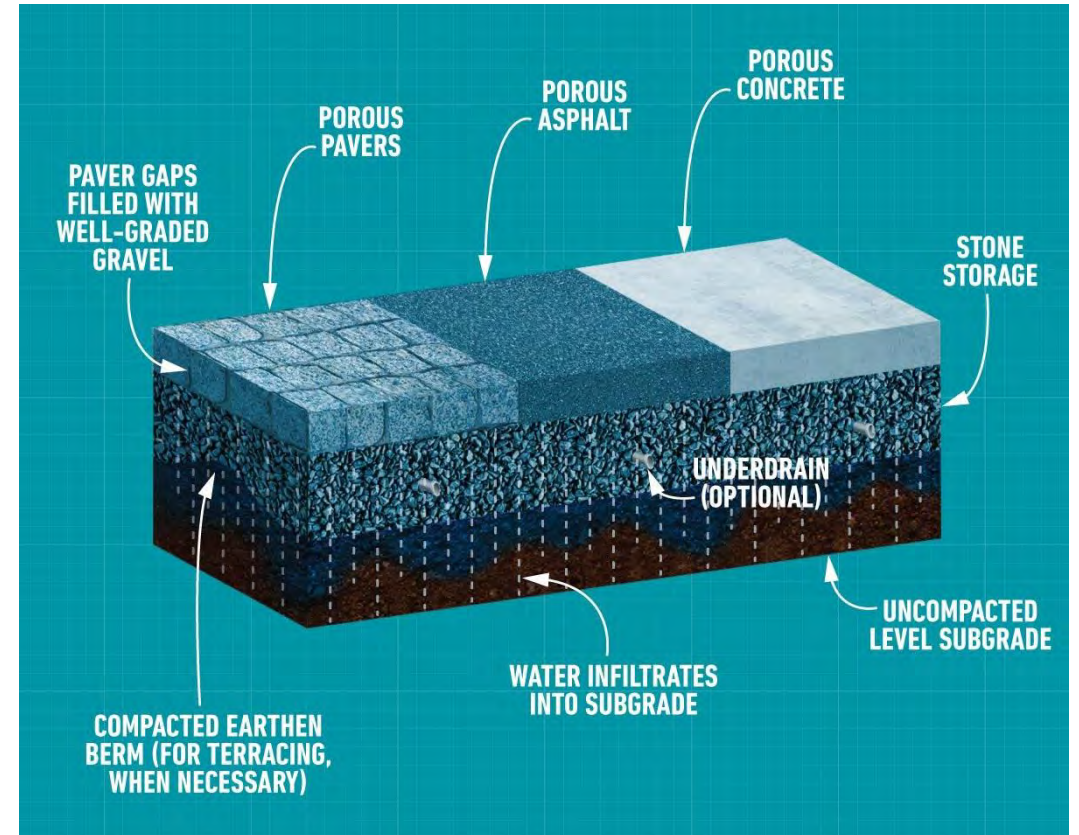
Permeable Pavement



Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District



The Drainage Designers



Chris Deziel

Wetland Restoration



Fairfax County Park Authority



Vectormine

Riparian Restoration



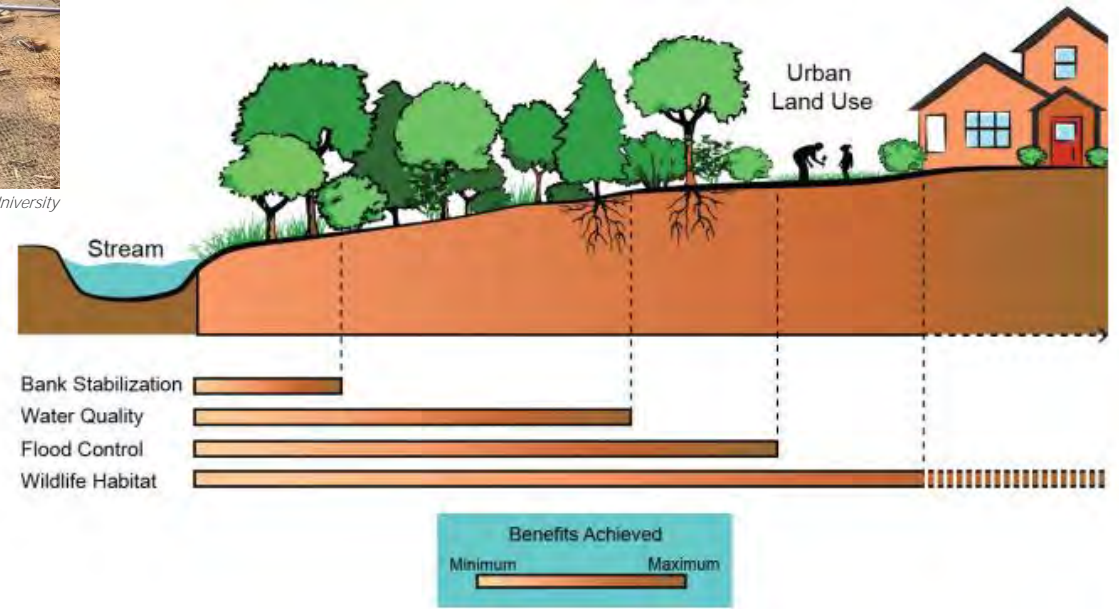
Federal Highway Administration



The Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment & Sustainability at Duke University



Lake County Stormwater Management Commission





What makes a good green infrastructure location?

1. Lots of impervious cover; or habitat in need of restoration.
2. Space available to capture runoff/restore habitat, ideally publicly-owned.
3. A person or organization willing to make it happen.
4. An understanding of maintenance needs and the capacity to maintain the practice.

How can CWP help?

- Concept Review
- Plan Review
- Site Visit
- Application Assistance
- Federal Funding Guidance
- Project Technical Assistance
- Grant Management Assistance



Federal Grant Administration

- Administrative, accounting, and regulatory compliance requirements
 - System for Award Management
 - Indirect Cost Rates
 - Audit Requirements



2026 Project Schedule

Jan 2026

Project Kickoff

Feb 2026

Application Development
Finalize Engineering Contracts

Mar 2026

Webinar #1
Steering Committee
Solicit Community Interest & Needs

Apr 2026

Regional Review Committee
Criteria Approval
April 2

May - Aug 2026

**Call for Projects:
May 4 – Aug 21**

Field work
May 4 – 8
Webinar #2

Sep 2026

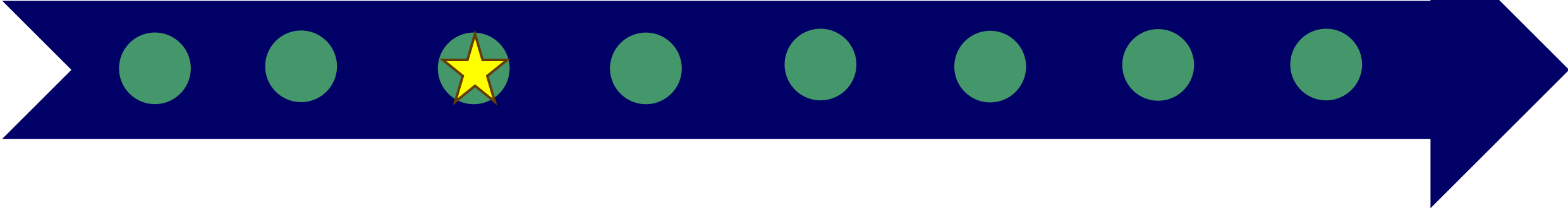
Review Projects
Steering Committee & EPA
Project Recs

Oct 2026

Regional Review
Project Selection
Award Announcement

Oct 2026

Grant Contracts Signed
Get to work!!



| Questions?

- Bailee Pasienza, Planner, Environment & Infrastructure, SEMCOG
pasienza@semcog.org
- Katie Grantham, Planner, Environment & Infrastructure, SEMCOG
grantham@semcog.org
- Kristen Bisom, Water Resources Professional, CWP
kdb@cwp.org
- Greg Hoffmann, Director of Stormwater Services, CWP
gph@cwp.org