SEMCOG University: Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program Support

May 19, 2026

SEMCOG
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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. **SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Grant Program Overview**
   - *Bailee Pasienza, Planner, SEMCOG Environment & Infrastructure*

II. **Grant Application Materials**
   - *Don Carpenter, PhD, PE, LEED AP, Drummond Carpenter*

III. **CWP Grant Application Assistance**
   - *Kristen Bisom, Water Resources Professional, CWP*
   - *Greg Hoffman, Director of Stormwater Services, CWP*

IV. **Q&A**

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
- **$3.2 million** is available for subawards

SEMCOG Community 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
  - No match required!
- Implementation from **Spring 2027** – **June 2030**
- Expected to fund **12-15 projects**, resulting in **5-11 million gallons** of annual stormwater runoff reduction

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

What Makes a Competitive Project?

- Projects that deliver significant, measurable improvements in:
  - Water quality
  - Flood mitigation
  - Shoreline or habitat restoration
  - Regional or watershed-scale solutions with broad, lasting benefits

Ranking will be based on:

- Environmental benefit
- Partnerships, stakeholder engagement
- Meeting needs of the community

Program Support

Application

- Identifying projects and sites assessments (field work)
- Assist with drafting applications, cost estimates, and materials
- Guidance on federal requirements (SAM registration, eligibility, compliance)

Project Administration

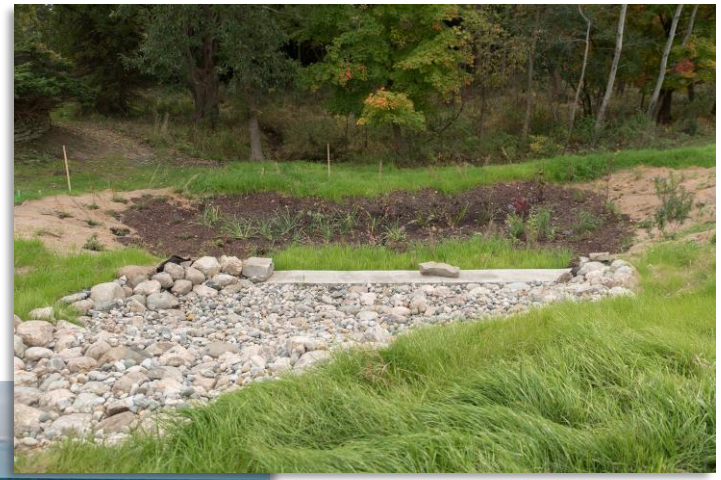
- Subaward setup and federal compliance guidance
- Reporting templates, check-ins, and grant management support
- Guidance on federal reporting, accounting, and compliance requirements

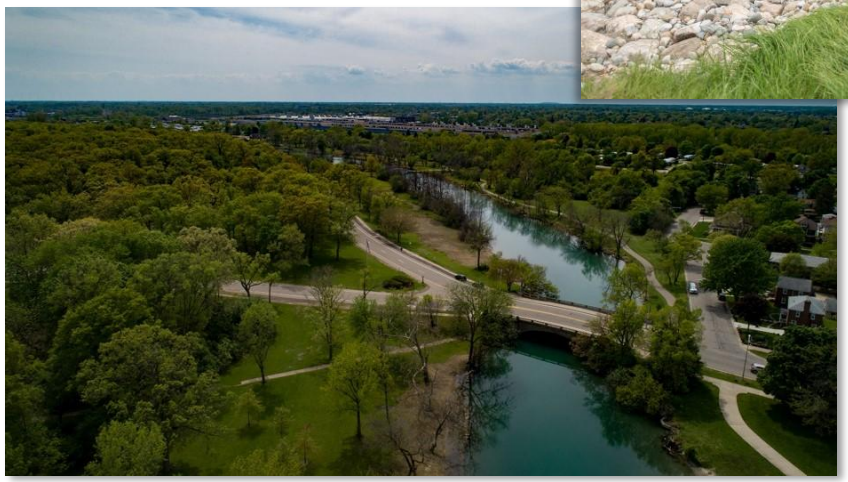
Engineering & Design

- Feasibility assessments and concept designs
- Engineering design and bid document support (as needed)
- Construction oversight, metrics, and maintenance training

Application & Project Management Program Administration

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





Engineering & Design

- Engineering Consultants to develop designs / bid documents for communities who do not have a municipal engineering consultant or lack staff capacity.
- Drummond Carpenter
  - CEC, ECT, GZA

DRUMMOND CARPENTER engineering + research

CEC

ECT

GZA

Grant Application Website & Materials

SEMCOG's Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Overview

SEMCOG received a **$4.2 million** grant from the EPA's Great Lakes Community Project Grant Program (GLCPG) to help reduce flooding, improve water quality, and strengthen Southeast Michigan's green infrastructure (GI) network.

This funding will support GI projects that manage stormwater, enhance water quality, and connect the region's green infrastructure network. Eligible projects include bioswales, rain gardens, tree plantings, wetland and habitat restoration, shoreline softening, and other nature-based solutions. The program is expected to fund **12–15** projects, with awards ranging from **$50,000 to $300,000**, leading to an estimated annual reduction of **5-11 million** gallons of stormwater runoff.

We highly encourage you to submit an Interest Form if you or your community is interested in this grant. Submitting an Interest Form helps us to identify priority sites and project ideas and ***conduct site assessments in the week of June 29 – July 3.***

Applications for project funding are now open and will be accepted through August 21, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Please submit all applications via email to infocenter@semcog.org.

SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Call for Projects

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is pleased to announce available funding through the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program, which provides funding to implement green infrastructure projects that specifically reduce stormwater runoff volume, improve stormwater quality, and help build and connect Southeast Michigan's green infrastructure network.

The SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program has $3.24M ($3,24,000) available through the EPA's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) for competitive subawards that will range from $50,000 to $300,000 per project to implement green infrastructure projects in Southeast Michigan. The goal of the program is to provide funding to construct green infrastructure techniques for environmental benefits, primarily reducing stormwater runoff volume with a target of 5 to 11-million-gallon annual reduction in stormwater runoff. Those interested in submitting an application are encouraged to review the SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

Applications for are being accepted now through **August 21st, 2026, at 5 p.m**.

To be eligible for this funding opportunity, projects must:

- Be consistent with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan IV;
- Reduce untreated stormwater runoff through the implementation of green infrastructure practices;
- Be implemented on public property;
- Demonstrate they are meeting community need(s); and
- Be complete and report results by June 30, 2030.

Projects may also result in:

- Great Lakes shoreline and riparian corridors restored or protected; or
- Coastal wetland, nearshore, and other habitats restored, protected, or enhanced.

Additional factors contributing to an application's likelihood of being selected for funding include:

- Projects that address Lakewide Area Management Plans and Regional Plans;
- Projects that demonstrate feasibility of timely implementation (evaluation of level of design, permits required, timing for completion within the budget requested);
- Applications that include a detailed schedule including milestones and deliverables;
- Projects that include partners/stakeholders and meaningful community engagement in the design and implementation of the project;
- Cost-effective projects that will deliver large annual reductions in stormwater relative to the funding amount.

Email completed applications, with *SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program* in the subject line, to infocenter@semcog.org.

Additional details about applying for SEMCOG's Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program:

- No supplemental funding is required; however, leveraging other funding sources is welcome.
- Specific details for this funding program, including project criteria, eligibility, evaluation process, and maximum grant requests are provided in the FAQ;
- SEMCOG has engineering consultants on contract with this grant program for those applicants that demonstrate limited staff capacity or funding to support engineering design. Application instructions include information on how to indicate interest in this option.
- Project schedules should start in January 2027 following approval of grant subaward agreements. Projects must be completed by June 30th, 2030.
- Projects must adhere to all requirements for subaward recipients outlined in the grant agreement between SEMCOG and EPA. Please be sure to review this agreement in its entirety.
- Applicants are required to estimate pollutant load and annual runoff reduction using established calculators such as EPA's Pollution Load Estimation Tool (PLET), formerly STEPL, SEMCOGs Eco Planning Tool, that emulates PLET with a runoff reduction component or other generally recognized runoff reduction estimate methodologies.

SEMCOG Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Application – Due August 21st, 2026

Applicant Information

Agency Name:
_____

Agency Type: _____

Contact Person:
Name
_____
Phone
_____
Email
_____

Chief Elected Official:
Name
_____
Phone
_____
Email
_____

Project Information

Project Name:
_____

Project Type: ◯ Green Stormwater Infrastructure
◯ Coastal Wetlands
◯ Riparian Habitat

In a brief narrative, describe the proposed project, environmental benefits, including stormwater runoff reduction estimates and other relevant metrics (Complete the template Work Plan and submit as an attachment. Attach other additional sheets describing project, if desired):

SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Frequency Asked Questions (FAQ)

Overview

What is the SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program?

The SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program is a competitive grant program, offered by SEMCOG through the EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). It funds the implementation of green infrastructure projects that specifically reduce stormwater runoff volume, improve stormwater quality, and help build and connect Southeast Michigan's green infrastructure network.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants include counties, cities, villages, townships, intermediate school districts, and community colleges in Southeast Michigan. All applications must include the signature of the Chief Elected Official from the community seeking funding.

Are nonprofits eligible to apply?

Non-profit organizations are not eligible to serve as direct applicants; however, they may participate in the grant process by acting as fiduciary agents on behalf of eligible entities. In this role, a non-profit may receive and manage grant funds, ensure compliance with financial and reporting requirements, and support administrative oversight, while the primary applicant remains the qualifying organization responsible for program implementation and accountability.

What projects are eligible?

The primary goal of the program is to reduce stormwater runoff through the implementation of green infrastructure best management practices.

To be eligible for this funding opportunity, projects must:

- Be consistent with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Action Plan IV;
- Reduce untreated stormwater runoff through the implementation of green infrastructure practices;

Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Pre-Award Subrecipient Risk Assessment Evaluation

SEMCOG Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program

Yes*	No*	N/A*	*DENOTE ANSWER WITH AN "X"
			Does the subrecipient have prior experience with the same or similar subawards?
			If the subrecipient does not have prior experience with the same or similar subawards, are there any reasons to conclude that they could not effectively comply with the requirements of this subaward?
			If the subrecipient has had prior experience with the same or similar subawards, has the subrecipient received a Single Audit (if they meet the threshold)?
			If the subrecipient received a Single audit was it done as a major program?
			If the subrecipient has received federal funds in the past have they been timely in the submission of applications, amendments, fiscal reporting, drawdowns, closeout and budgets/revisions?
			Does the subrecipient have new personnel or new/substantially changed systems that could affect their compliance with the subaward requirements?
			Have any other entities (program offices, auditors, staff employed/previously employed by the entity, etc.) alerted us of potential risks/violations?
			If the subrecipient has received funds directly from a Federal awarding agency, do the results of any Federal monitoring indicate potential risks/violations?
			Does the entity appear to have effective operating procedures and internal controls?

Additional Comments

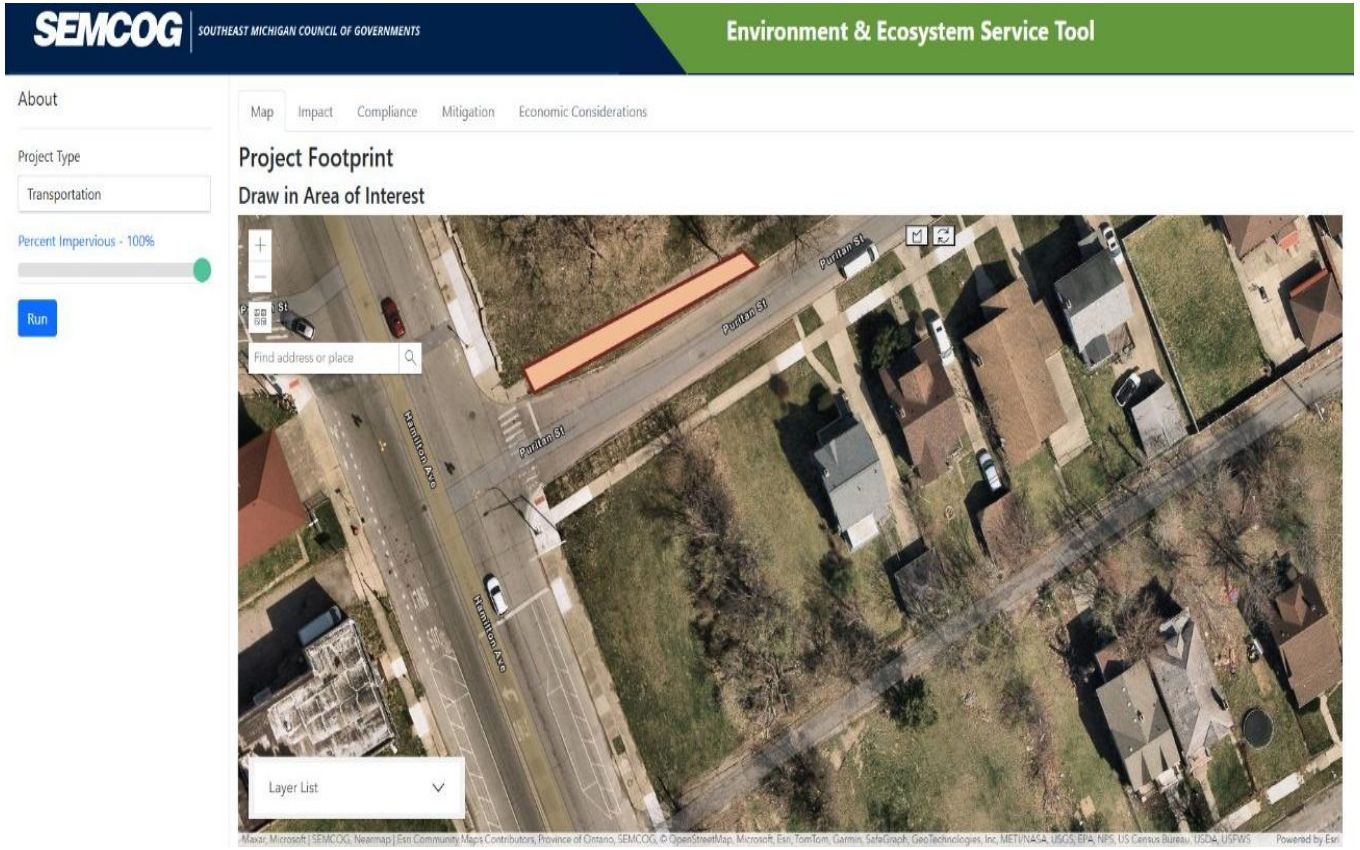
Grantee Representative/DATE: _____

SEMCOG Program Manager/DATE: _____

Calculating Stormwater Runoff

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

Project Type

New Developm

Percent Imperviou

Run

Southeast Michigan Eco Planning Tool

Close X

Welcome to SEMCOG's Eco Planning Tool. This tool is designed to provide early environmental planning indicators for potential development, transportation, and green infrastructure implementation projects. Its design is based on land use and land cover changes and is compared to online databases for environmental features. These features include:

- Water resources, such as streams and rivers
- Wetlands and other conservation areas
- Threatened and endangered species
- Air quality effects

The tool will calculate environmental impacts, flag potential environmental compliance priorities, and estimate economic valuation . For road and development projects, the tool provides alternative best management practices, with cost benefits, to offset environmental impacts.

How to use:

1. To draw your project area, click the draw polygon button, circled in red below. When your polygon is complete, double click to stop drawing.

You can adjust the estimated percent impervious change, using the sliding scale bar.

2. Use the dropdown menu to confirm your Project Type. See below for more information on each type.

3. Once your polygon has been drawn and your percent impervious cover and project type is chosen, click Run in the top left hand corner of the tool.

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Eco Planning Tool

About

Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

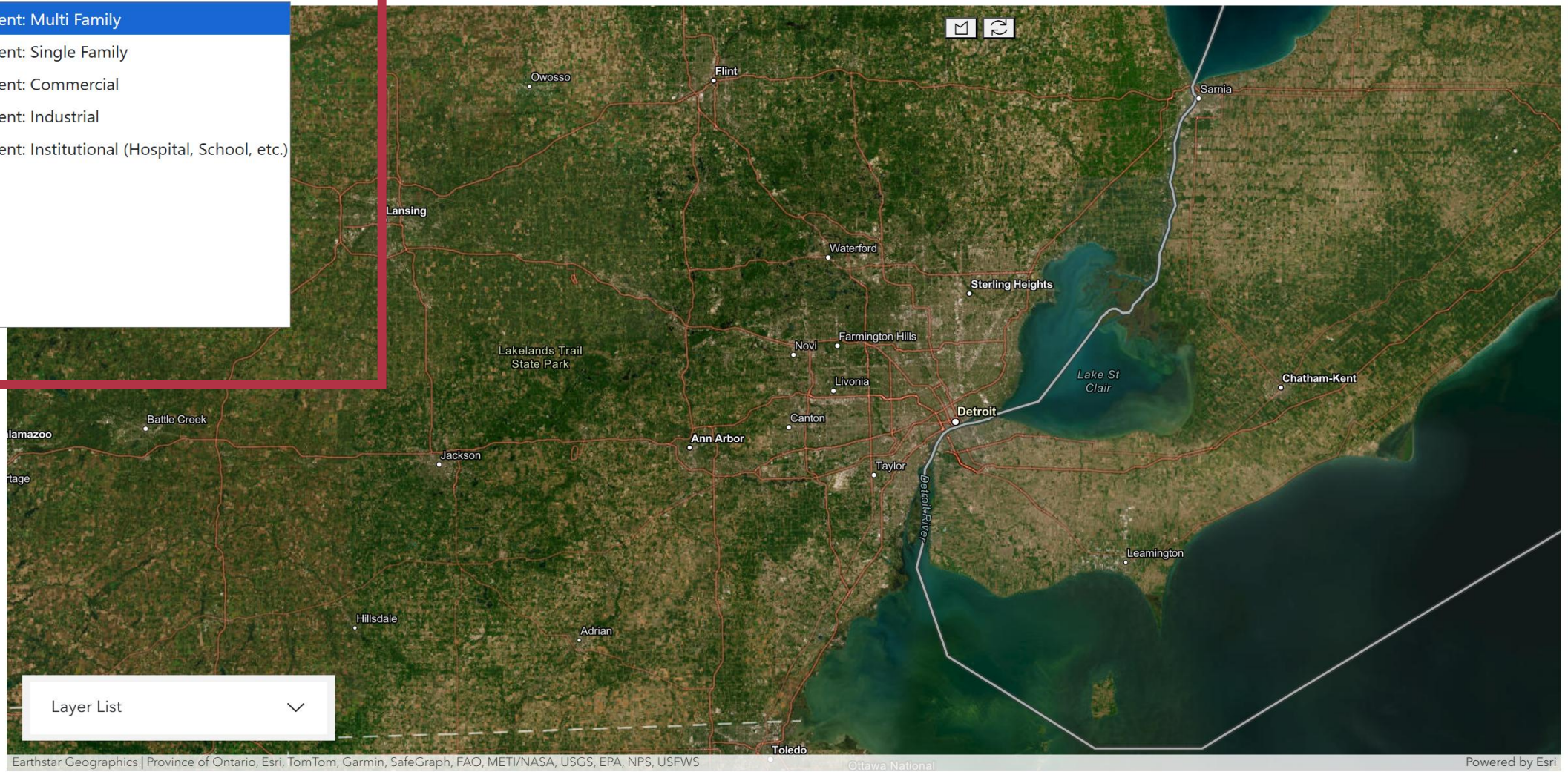
Project Type

New Development/Avoided Deve

- New Development/Avoided Development: Multi Family
- New Development/Avoided Development: Single Family
- New Development/Avoided Development: Commercial
- New Development/Avoided Development: Industrial
- New Development/Avoided Development: Institutional (Hospital, School, etc.)
- Restoration - Forest
- Restoration - Wetland
- Transportation
- BMP Installation
- Trails

Project Footprint

Draw in Area of Interest



About

Project Type

BMP Installation

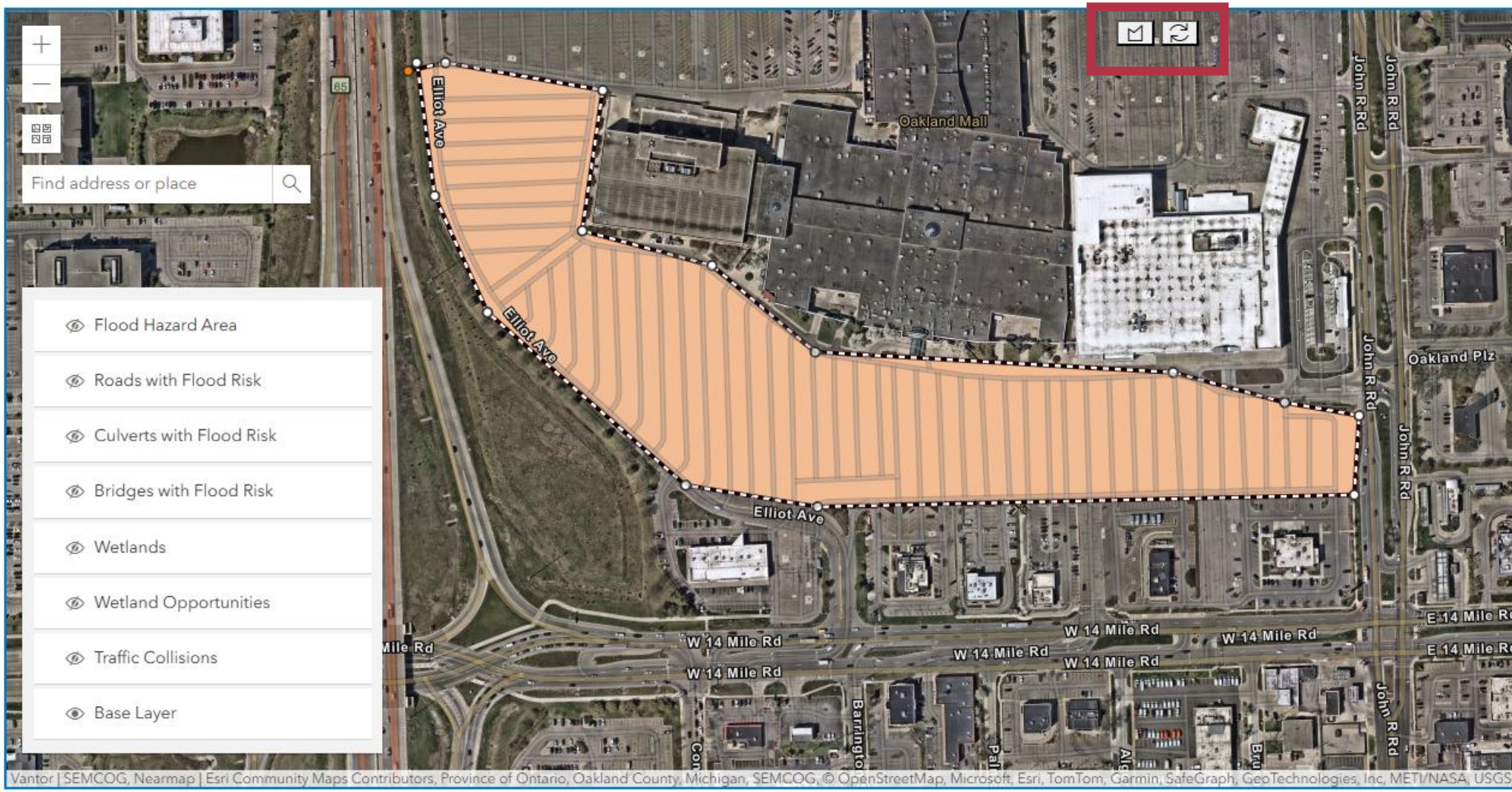
Percent Impervious - 100%

Run

Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

Project Footprint

Draw in Area of Interest



About

Project Type

BMP Installation

Percent Impervious - 100%

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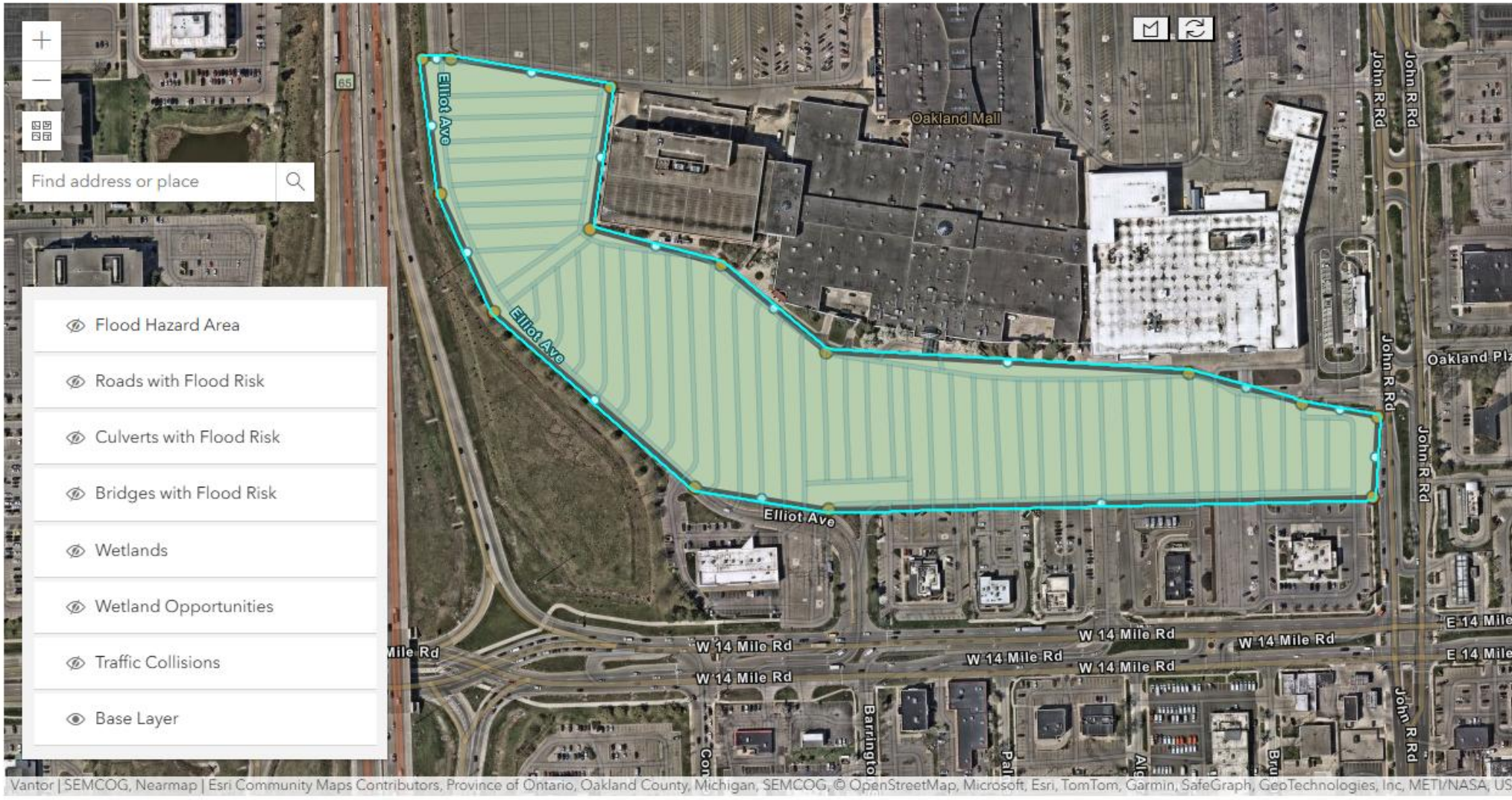
Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

Project Footprint

Draw in Area of Interest



About

Project Type

BMP Installation

Percent Impervious - 100%

Run

Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

Potential Regulatory Compliance Considerations

Wetland Restoration Opportunity

The proposed project has a high potential for wetland restoration. There may be wetland restoration opportunities to help mitigate localized flooding and support resiliency initiatives. Please consider communicating with SEMCOG if interested in exploring these opportunities.

MS4 Permit

If the proposed project is 1-acre or greater in size, then county or local post-construction stormwater standards may apply. This is part of the local or county Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. This includes implementing Best Management Practices that control runoff volume to the Maximum Extent Practicable. Utilizing this tool, you can determine what best management practice may be beneficial to include as part of your project, to protect water quality.

Impaired Watershed

The proposed project is located near an impaired water body, meaning water quality is compromised. Visit the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's website to learn more about how your project can protect water quality.

Flood Exposure

The proposed project is located in an area where transportation assets are at high risk of flooding. Transportation project sponsors are regularly recommended to consider addressing assets at high risk for flooding and to include appropriate stormwater best management practices.

Community Outreach

Conducting engagement and outreach with local community members helps project planners better understand community priorities and ensures that the project meets the needs of diverse community stakeholders. This project may impact surrounding community members. The project sponsor should consider communication and outreach to local community members and stakeholders as part of the project.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The proposed project is located within an area that has a high bio-rarity score, indicating a high likelihood of having one or more threatened and endangered species within this area. In accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, there may be additiona requirements to evaluate the impact it will have on that species or ecosystem, and you may need to work through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to formally determine the environmental impacts. Learn more about NEPA and what may be required through the Michigan Department of Transportation.

About

Project Type

BMP Installation

Percent Impervious - 100%

Run

Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

Annual Best Management Practice (BMP) Benefits

per Installed BMP Capacity

Estimated environmental benefit of each key type of BMP (offsetting/reducing the environmental impact presented in the 'impact' tab). Negative values indicate reduced pollution.

Benefit per Year	Tree	Bioretention (Small green infrastructure)	Porous Pavement	Extended Detention
Air (lbs./year)				
NO2	198.84	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
SO2	162.32	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
O3	562.03	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
CO	36.52	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
PM10	614.79	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
CO2	146025.34	Not Quantified	Not Quantified	Not Quantified
Water (lbs./year loading into nearby waterbodies)				
Nitrogen	91	1616	3194	579
Phosphorus	15	337	270	79
Sediment	0	0	133608	35596
Annual Stormwater Runoff Impacts (gallons/year)				
Runoff	7434639	204715815	204715815	57619168

About

Project Type

BMP Installation

Percent Impervious - 100%

Run

Map | Impact | Compliance | Mitigation | Economic Considerations

This tab provides information on the economic costs and the value of environmental benefits (as quantified in the mitigation tab) of installing green stormwater infrastructure.

Costs per Installed BMP Capacity (20.35 acres)

Installation and operations, maintenance, and repair (OMR) costs for stormwater management best management practices (BMPs).

BMP	Capital Cost ($/acre)	Annual OMR Cost ($/acre)	Expected Life	Annualized Cost ($/acre)
Bioretention	$11,381,888.54 - $35,374,541.20	$1,064,125.70 - $5,305,827.17	20 years	$1,977,844.89 - $8,144,371.87
Porous Pavement	$3,915,982.59 - $60,040,686.34	$16,375,344.76 - $16,375,344.76	20 years	$16,689,573.33 - $21,193,164.77
Extended Detention	$638,475.42 - $46,289,468.16	$22,346.64 - $571,241.77	20 years	$54,927.80 - $2,933,375.90
Tree (per tree)	$33,108.91 - $2,480,269.77	$23,838.42 - $109,249.87	80 years	$25,527.95

Economic Value of Benefits per Installed BMP Capacity

Economic value of the improvements in air and water quality provided by BMPs (as quantified in the mitigation tab).

Benefit per Year	Tree	Bioretention	Porous Pavement	Extended Detention
Air				
NO2	$31.34	0	0	0
SO2	$6.11	0	0	0
O3	$496.34	0	0	0
CO	$548.23	0	0	0
PM10	$2,724.46	0	0	0
CO2	$16,142.23	0	0	0
Water				
Nitrogen	$588.21	$10421.28	$20600.2	$3731.99
Phosphorus	$83.62	$1832.48	$1470.51	$430.38
Sediment	$0	$0	$64399	$17157.29

Other Benefits

	Per Tree
Aesthetic Benefit	$400
Energy Savings	$22
Pavement Maintenance	$4-$19

PDF Export

Previous Next

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— SITE LOCATION —

EXISTING LAND COVER

Site Area: 1.6	**Impervious Surface:** 1.57
Open Space: 0.03	**Trees:** 0 | Water: 0
Change in Impervious Surface: -0.77	**Change in Tree Cover:** 0

AIR

NO2: 0	**CO:** 0
SO2: 0	**CO:** 0
O3: 0	**CO:** 0

WATER

N: 10,502.3821	**Sediment:** 524.3574
P: 1,750.2634	**Runoff:** 403,382.085
BOD: 32,558.2663	

CWP Grant Application Assistance

How can CWP help?

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

Interested in a site visit or office hours?

- Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) will be available for field visits!
  - June 29th – July 3rd
- If your community is interested in applying for this opportunity or in receiving technical assistance, fill out this survey!
- **Virtual Community Meetings**: Early to Mid-June

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.

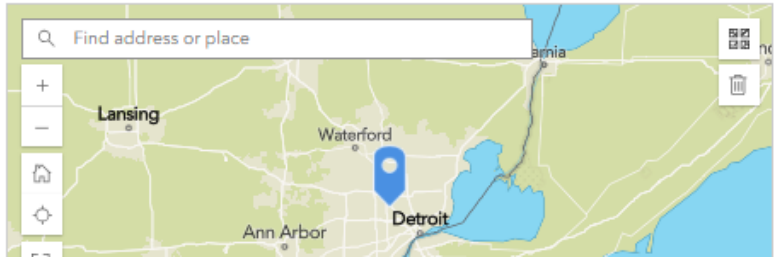
This survey gathers information from communities, organizations, and other stakeholders interested in implementing GI projects. Your responses will help SEMCOG and CWP identify priority sites, offer technical support, and connect potential projects with funding opportunities.

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.)

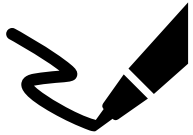
Drop file here or select file (pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, pptx, ppt, txt)

Federal Grant Administration

- Subawardees must comply with the OMB Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Part 200)
- CWP can help communities understand administrative, accounting, and regulatory compliance requirements, including:

- Developing Budgets
  - Federal budget categories and rules
  - Direct vs indirect expenses
  - Determining indirect cost rates
  - Calculating and documenting matching contributions (if desired)

- Procurement Process
  - Procurement options using Federal funds
  - Hiring contractors



- Subaward Management & Compliance
  - Using System for Award Management (SAM)
  - Progress & financial reports
  - Audit requirements

2026 Project Schedule

May 4, 2026
- Call for Projects Open

Late May/Early June
- Community Meetings – SEMCOG & CWP

June 29 – July 3, 2026
- Field site visits – SEMCOG & CWP

August 21, 2026
- Call for Projects Ends

October 2026
- Award Announce-ments

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.

Questions?

- Bailee Pasienza, Planner, Environment & Infrastructure, SEMCOG
  pasienza@semcog.org
- Katie Grantham, Planner, Environment & Infrastructure, SEMCOG
  grantham@semcog.org
- Don Carpenter, PhD, PE, LEED AP, Drummond Carpenter
  dcarpenter@drummondcarpenter.com
- Kristen Bisom, Water Resources Professional, CWP
  kdb@cwp.org
- Greg Hoffman, Director of Stormwater Services, CWP
  gph@cwp.org