

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES INVENTORY
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PROJECT: Beach Road Park Rain Garden

CATEGORY:
Stormwater Management

PRACTICE:
Rain Gardens

CONTACT:
SOCWA Healthy Lawns and Gardens

3910 W Webster Road, Royal Oak, MI 48073

248-288-5150



Beach Road Park, Troy. Area prior to rain garden installation. Photo courtesy Lillian Dean, Coordination, SOCWA Healthy Lawns & Gardens

OWNER: City of Troy, Department of Parks and Recreation

PARTNERS:
Troy Department of Parks and Recreation, Troy Department of Public Works, Troy Department of Engineering, SOCWA Healthy Lawns and Gardens

DESIGN: Jennifer Lawson, 248-524-3381

CONSTRUCTION: SOCWA & community volunteers

MAINTENANCE: Maintenance (including watering, plant replacement, weeding, pruning) is the responsibility of the Troy Department of Parks and Recreation. Maintenance may also be done by neighbors on a volunteer basis.



Beach Road Park rain garden shortly after planting, May 2005. Photo courtesy Lillian Dean, Coorsinator, SOCWA HEalthy Lawns & Gardens

DATE INITIATED: May 2005

INITIAL COST: (not submitted)

MAINTENANCE COST: (not submitted)/year

PROJECT

Located on Beach Road, between Wattles Rd. and Long Lake Rd., west side. parking lot, plus grassed area. 70 feet long by 30 feet wide. Prior to intervention, The rain garden site was a grassed area that collected storm water. It was frequently muddy and unsightly, with poor grass growth. (Clay soil site). Excavation and removal of clay soil to a depth of about 3 feet was performed. The original clay soil was replaced with a mix of 2/3 yard waste compost and 1/3 sharp sand. Overflow is via surface flow to the roadway swale which connects to the Rouge River at the north end of the park. (No underdrain). Native shrubs and easy-care wildflowers (perennials), combined with a "dry stone" river bed. Steel edging used to separate "dry" river bed from flower and shrub beds. SOCWA volunteers assisted in the early design stages by provided sample layout plans and plant selections. Plants were purchased by the City of Troy and installed by community and SOCWA volunteers on May 20,

2005. Special features and benefits: The community, volunteer planting day involved 20 volunteers and Troy staff. Volunteers planted trees and shrubs and moved mulch, working in a team-like fashion to accomplish the work. Lunch was provided. The rain garden planting event led to photographs and news articles, as well as a special column in the Observer/Eccentric, written by a SOCWA volunteer. The attractive landscape design enhances the appearance of Beach Road Park. Signs will be used to inform residents that the site is a "Rain Garden for the Rouge River." In the future, a walking path connecting with subdivisions over 1/2 mile away is anticipated. The rain garden is the focal point for the pathway.