

#### 15th Annual Clean Rivers, Clean Lake Conference



Known for excellence. Built on trust.

## Going Green...Saves Green

Reducing Operating Costs and Increasing Profits With Sustainable Designs

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Alverno College 4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

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#### Presentation Outline

Think About the Client

Expand Your Toolbox

Prairie Treatment Systems – A Valuable Tool

What is the Potential Return on Investment

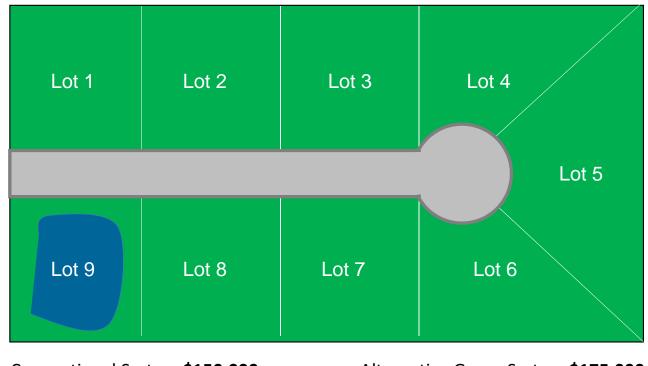


## **Current Practices**





## Stormwater, an Afterthought



Conventional System **\$150,000**Sale of 8 Lots \$400,000

Profits \$250,000

Alternative Green System **\$175,000**Sale of 9 Lots \$450,000

Profits **\$275,000** 





Designed Impairment

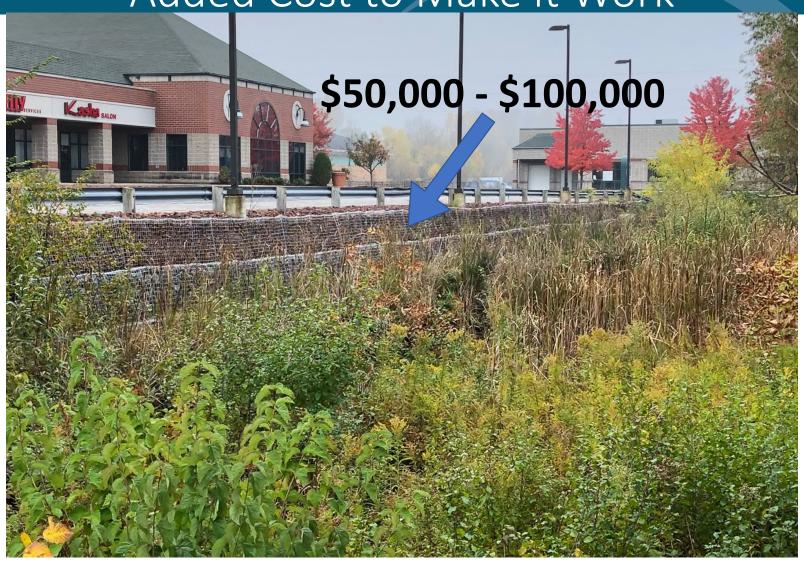


### Think About Owner & Who Comes Into Contact





## Added Cost to Make it Work





## Added Cost to Make Beautiful





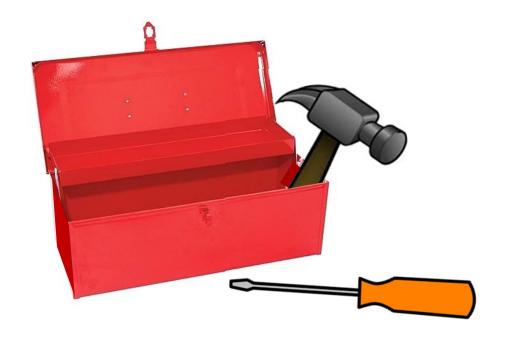






## Increasing the Return on Investment

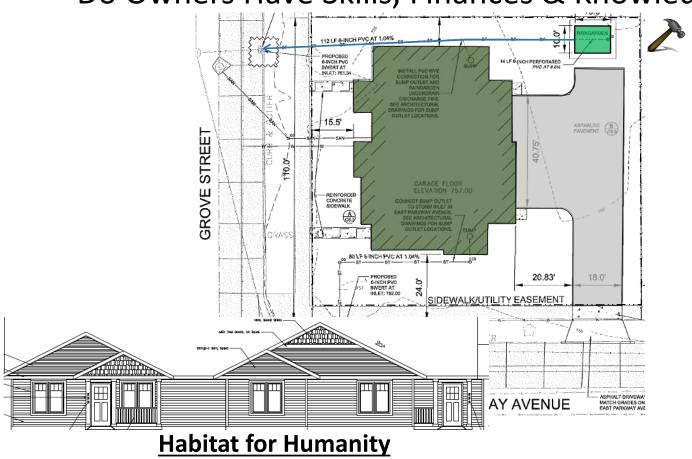
#### We Can Do Better





#### Intentional Increased Costs & Challenges

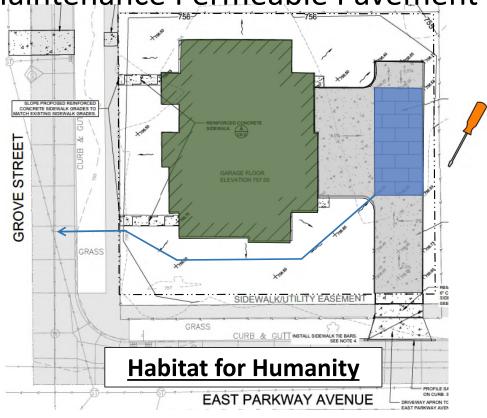
Do Owners Have Skills, Finances & Knowledge?





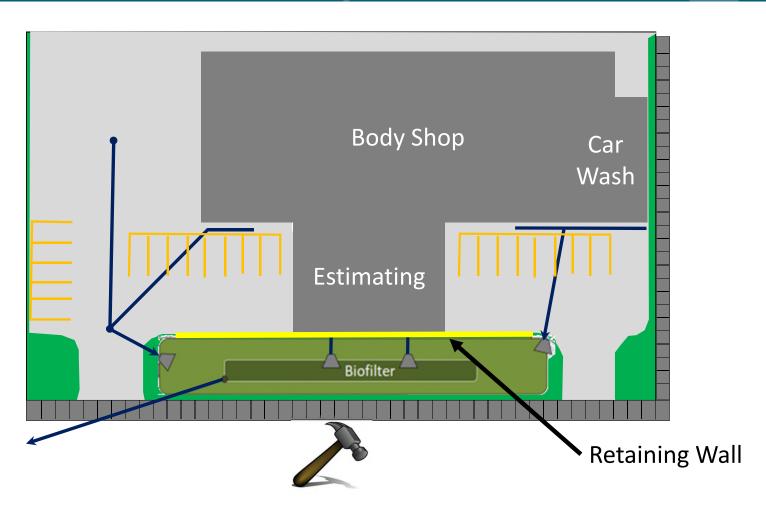
#### Consider Who and How People will Encounter BMP

Lower Maintenance Permeable Pavement System



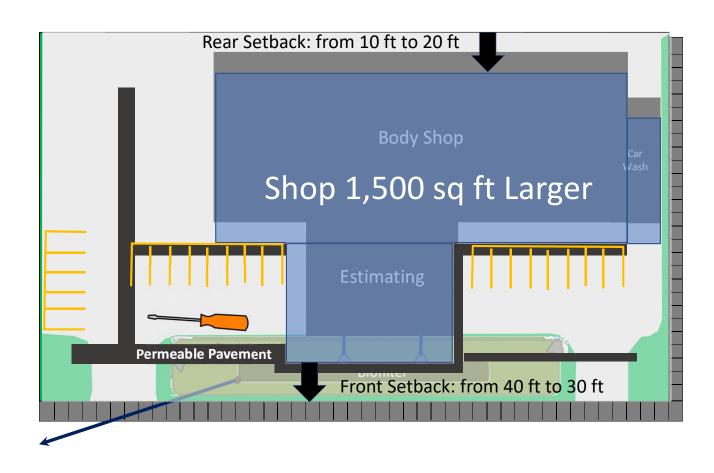


## Auto Body Shop Cost of Stormwater



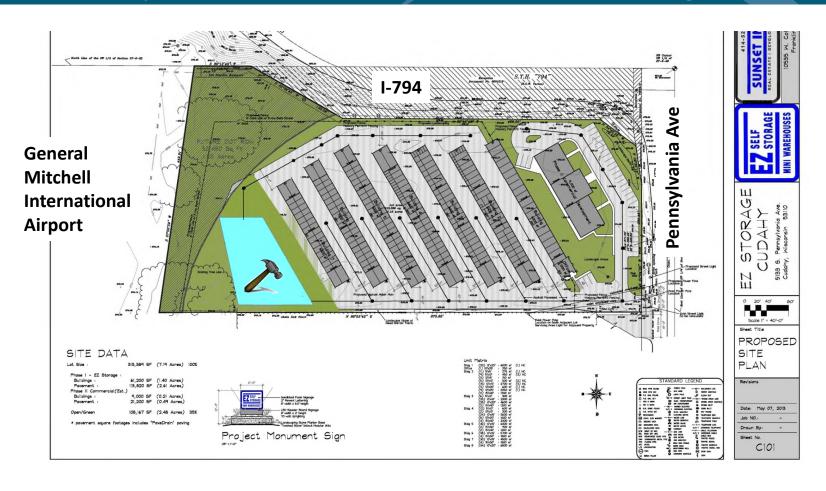


## Auto Body Shop Cost of Stormwater





## Unpermittable Traditional Design





## Bring More to Owner's Bottom Line







### Bring More to Owner's Bottom Line



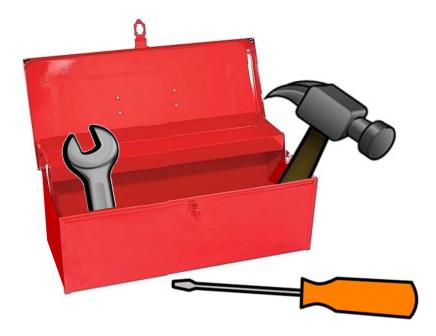
- Permittability of Project
- Additional building of 34 rental units
- \$53,000 in additional <u>annual</u> revenue
- \$4,000 reduction in the <u>annual</u> stormwater utility fee
- \$75,000 one-time grant from the MMSD



### Increasing the Return on Investment

We Can Do Better

We Have the Tools





#### Bioswale Complaints - Performance

- Collects trash / litter
- ROW width impedes pedestrian egress
- Mulch floats (adding to maintenance)
- Trip-fall hazard
- Sometimes deep
- Long term permeability
- Soil Permeability Impacted by Salt







#### Bioswale Complaints - Maintenance

- Inspect Frequently and Repair When Necessary
- Removed/Replace Top 2 3 inches as Needed.
- Vegetation Checked for Growth and Weeds
- Removal of Litter and Debris
- Inspection of Underdrain Clogging
- Routine Remove Accumulated Sediment
- Remove Rocks and Debris From High Flows
- Annual Totals 130 150 hr \$5,000 \$5,500

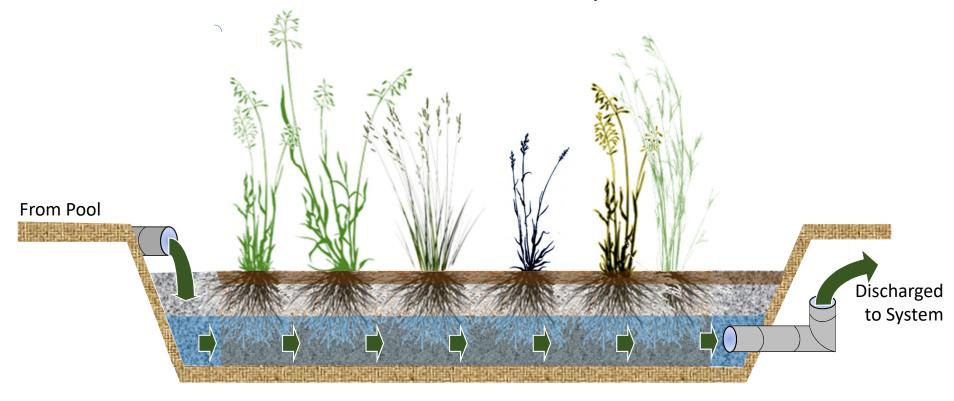






### New Tool – Subsurface Horizontal Flow Wetland

#### Prairie Treatment System





### Improvements to Green Infrastructure

• Stormwater plantings at or above grade

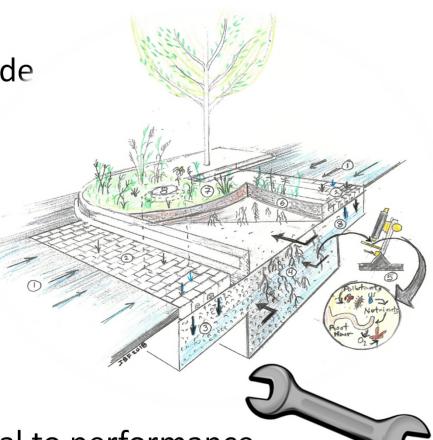
Trash / litter remains on street

Does not impede pedestrian egress

No standing water

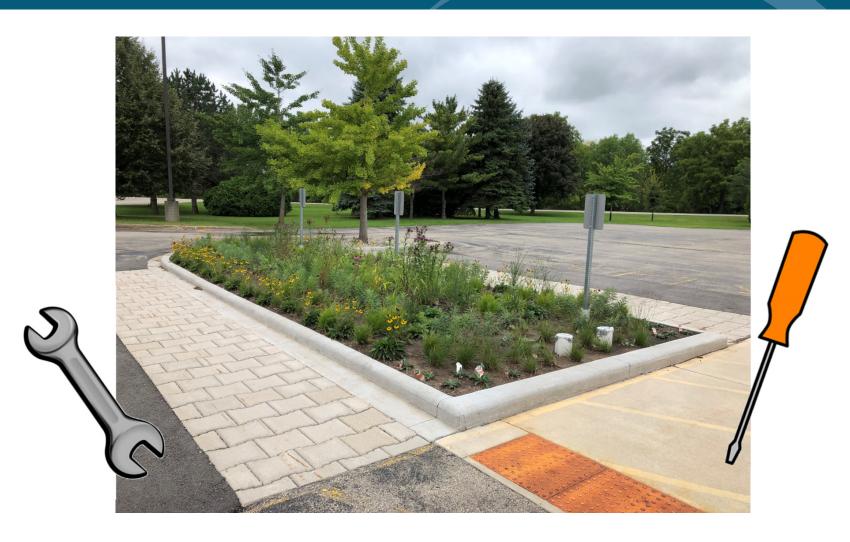
Not Impacted by Salt

Long term soil permeability not central to performance





## New Tool – Subsurface Horizontal Flow Wetland





#### **Save Money By Integrating Construction**

Pavement and a landscaped parking island costs

\$6,000

Cost to add the Prairie Treatment System

\$24,000

Cost of the extra land for the Prairie Treatment System

Total cost of this Prairie Treatment System

\$30,000

#### **Cost savings**

\$27,000

- Reduces the peak runoff rate for a 10-year rainfall to runoff rates equal to undeveloped land.
- · Is able to capture rainfall as high as 2.5 inches per hour without ponding.
- Is crossed by 4 buried communication conduits and one electrical conduit without interference.

#### **Conventional Parking Lot With Bioswale**

- Pavement and a landscaped parking island costs \$6,000
- Drainage infrastructure costs

\$8,000 \$30,000

· Cost of an equivalent bioswale Cost of the extra land for the bioswale

· Total cost

\$13,000 \$57,000

- 5. Microbes living on gravel and plant roots breakdown pollutants.
- 6. Soil cover insulates the gallery and absorbs odors from
- 7. Native prairie plant's deep roots absorb released nutrients.
- 8. A ¾-inch hole in manhole drains the rain water from the gallery in approximately 20 hours. When the gallery is full a second 10-inch hole keeps the gallery from overflowing into the parking lot.

#### Save Money By Integrating Construction

- Pavement and a landscaped parking island costs \$6,000
- \$24,000 Cost to add the Prairie Treatment System
- Cost of the extra land for the Prairie Treatment System
- Total cost of this Prairie Treatment System

\$27,000

\$30,000

#### Why Build A Prairie Treatment System?

- · Allows land to be more productively used for larger developments with retail, manufacturing, parking, warehousing, or leasing instead of dedicating land for stormwater detention ponds.
- · Reduces the amount of land required for development.
- · Has no standing water to turn green or attract mosquitoes
- · Requires no specialized skills to maintain vegetation or permeable pavement.
- Allows space to be used for multiple purposes: paths/sidewalks, utilities, temporary snow storage, outdoor recreation, etc.).

#### **Maintenance Requirements**

Cost savings

- Maintenance of vegetation can be performed by standard landscapers/grounds
- Maintenance of pavement can be performed by standard vacuum pavement sweepers.
- Standard snow plows and snow storage practices can be used.
- Pavement will not heave due to ground freezing.
- · Pavement will not crack and shift.



### Missed Opportunity Typical Big Box Development



- Land Purchase Price\$500,000
- Traditional Storm System\$1,000,000
- Value of Potential Development\$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000
- Missed Property Taxes\$60,000 to \$80,000



Cost of Green Stormwater System\$1,500,000



#### Missed Opportunities

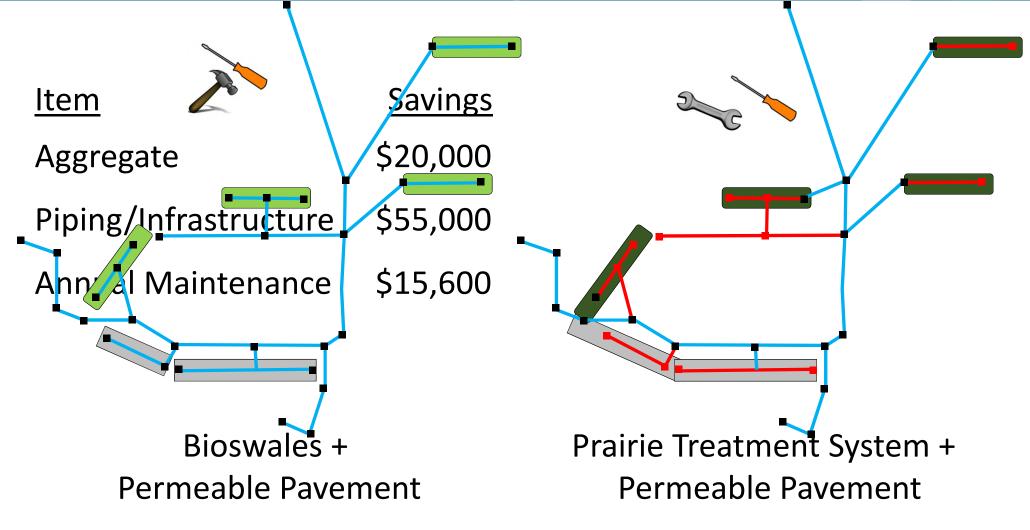
W. Town Center, Champaign, IL







## Different Technology Lowers Costs



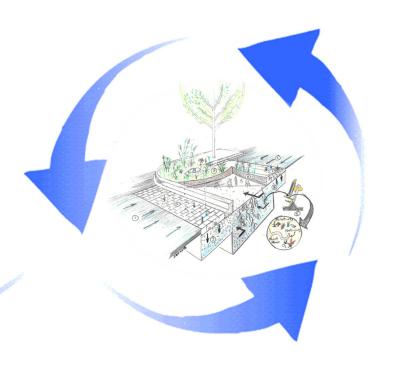


## We Can Do Better

# Think How to Save Costs Think How to Generate More Revenue

Think and act in client's best interest

Consider how people will be exposed to the practice



Expand your "toolbox" beyond pipes, pond bioswales.

Factor in Cost of Maintenance



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