Benefits of this Project

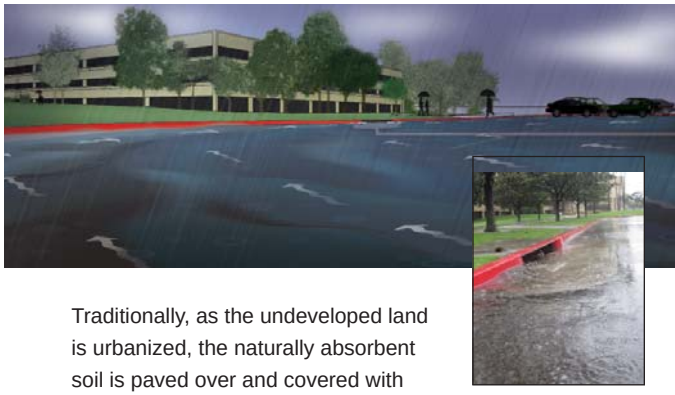
By promoting the natural movement of water within a watershed, Green Streets Urban Retrofit projects enhance stormwater infiltration and increase groundwater recharge, helping to maintain local groundwater supplies while reducing pollution entering creeks, rivers and the ocean.

Funding for this project has been provided in part through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board.

Funded in part by CalRecycle
The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

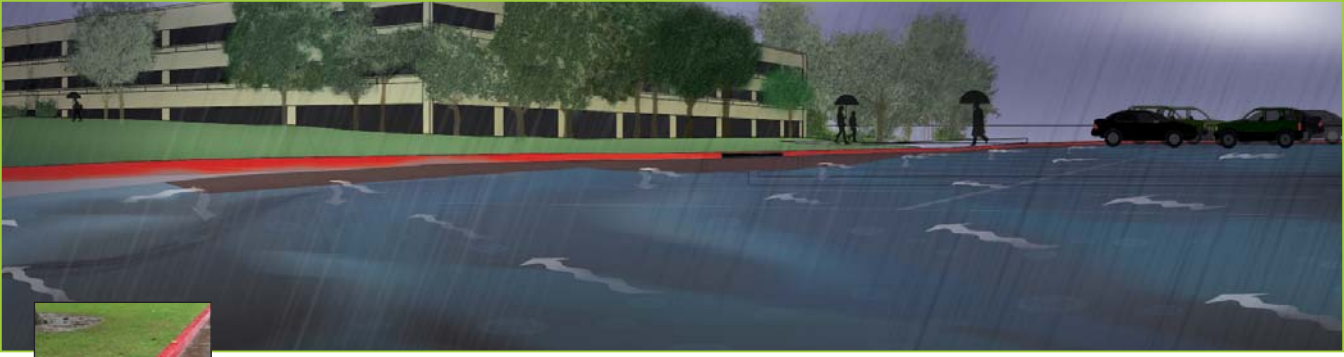
County Government Center Parking Lot Green Streets Urban Retrofit

Before the land in Ventura County was developed, the natural movement of water was effective and efficient. The majority of rainwater would infiltrate the soil, replenishing groundwater supplies while vegetation released rainwater into the atmosphere through evapotranspiration. The small amounts of rainwater that did not infiltrate became stormwater runoff.



Traditionally, as the undeveloped land is urbanized, the naturally absorbent soil is paved over and covered with houses, streets, parking lots and other impervious surfaces through which water cannot infiltrate. This greatly increases the amount of stormwater runoff.

Debris, automotive fluids, metals from brake pads, fertilizer, bacteria and other pollutants accumulate on impervious surfaces during dry periods. When it rains, stormwater flushes these pollutants through curbs, pipes and stormdrains into creeks, rivers and the ocean where they can harm people, animals and the environment. The dirtiest stormwater occurs at the start of an early season storm after pollutants have accumulated over the dry period and is referred to as the first flush.



Green Streets design is an innovative approach to land development or redevelopment that maintains or mimics natural processes to reduce the impacts of stormwater pollution from roads, parking lots and other impervious surfaces.

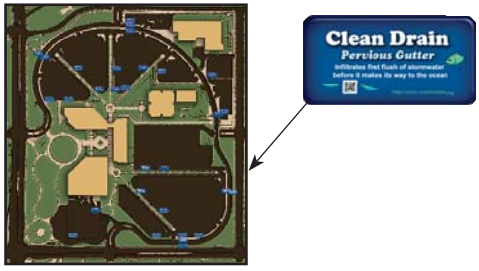
Green Streets designs create infiltration systems to catch, retain and clean the stormwater through the use of sidewalk planters, vegetated swales and pervious concrete. This approach of keeping water where it falls reduces the risk of flooding downstream while treating stormwater as a resource, instead of a waste product.

This County Government Center Parking Lot Green Streets Urban Retrofit Project is designed to capture, filter and infiltrate the first flush of stormwater runoff using a pervious gutter infiltration system from the entire 39-acre Government Center parking lot.

The pervious gutter infiltration system design includes; infiltration trenches, drywells, gravel and filter fabrics and pervious concrete. The project contributes to the groundwater supplies while reducing stormwater pollution to creeks, rivers and the ocean.

Clean Drain Locations

Aerial view of the Government Center parking lot identifying the locations of the pervious concrete infiltration systems. They are easily identified by the blue Clean Drain symbol on the



County Government Center

Find Out More Online

We invite you to visit http://uninc.vcstormwater.org for further information.