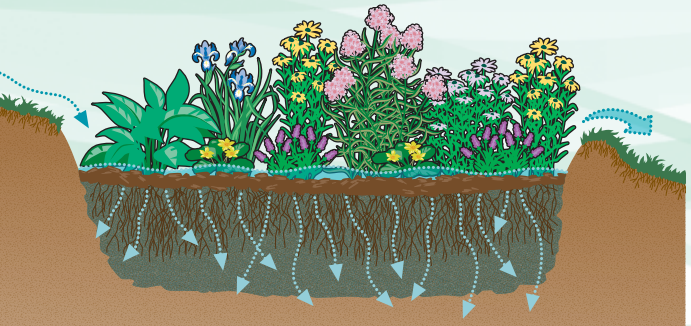
What's Great about Green Infrastructure at School?

- It provides living classrooms that showcase biology, environmental science, earth science, and engineering, all in a hands-on way!
- It protects and beautifies school properties with attractive gardens and natural areas.
- It serves as demonstration projects that can inspire local community members to adopt green infrastructure practices for themselves.

Are you interested in a project on your campus?
Visit *www.schuylkillwaters.org/contact*

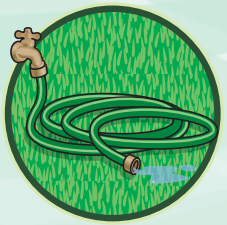
We can help, by providing:

- Funding and grant writing support
- Environmental education training for teachers
- Experiential learning opportunities for students



A rain garden slows the flow of rain water runoff.

Other Ways You Can Protect Clean Water:



- Reduce your water use around the house.

- Dispose of hazardous waste properly.

- Limit the amount of fertilizer used on lawns.

- Wash your car at a car wash, not on the driveway.

- Pick up after your dog in your yard and during walks.

- Volunteer at a trash cleanup.

Schuylkill Action Network

Partnership for the DELAWARE ESTUARY

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
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01/19

GREEN YOUR SCHOOL!

SCHUYLKILL • ACTION • STUDENTS

What is "Schuylkill Action Students"?

Schuylkill Action Students is a program that brings together schools and environmental professionals to protect clean water in the Schuylkill River Watershed.

Why Schools?

School campuses typically have a lot of hard surfaces – roofs, sidewalks, parking lots – that prevent rain from soaking into the ground. This creates **runoff**, which can carry pollution into local waterways and contribute to flooding in communities. Fortunately, runoff can be managed using **green infrastructure**.

Map of the Schuylkill River Watersheds

Did you know?

The **Schuylkill River Watershed** provides drinking water to over 1.7 million people and is the largest tributary to the Delaware River.

What is "Green Infrastructure"?

Green Infrastructure (GI) uses engineered practices that mimic nature to manage water in order to reduce polluted runoff and flooding.

Types Of Green Infrastructure Projects Your School Can Do:

1. Native Plant and Tree Plantings

Native plants that slow down, filter, and absorb water are better than many non-native or invasive plants and trees. These are especially effective at filtering pollutants when planted along a waterway, often times called a riparian buffer.

2. Green Roofs

A section of a roof covered with plants to absorb rainwater.

3. Downspout Planters

Planters connected to gutters that contain gravel, sandy soil mix, and native plants to store and filter water from building roofs.

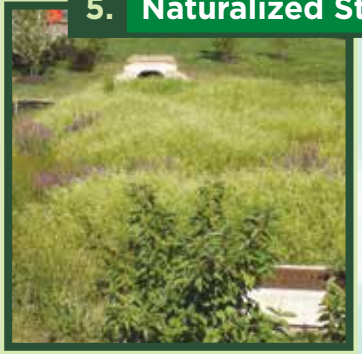
Photo by Philadelphia Water Department

4. Rain Gardens

A garden with special soil designed to increase infiltration and planted with native plants to slow water flow and filter out pollution.

5. Naturalized Stormwater Basins

A large depression in the ground planted with native trees, plants, and shrubs that temporarily holds water, allowing time for pollutants to filter out and rain water to infiltrate.



6. Rain Barrels and Cisterns

Containers that temporarily store rain water from roofs that can be used to water gardens and wash cars.

Photo by Resource Media

And there's more... wetlands, swales, porous pavement, and riparian buffers, just to name a few.