



The ARAMARK Tower  
1101 Market Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-2994

HOWARD M. NEUKRUG, P.E.  
Commissioner

Contact: **Laura Copeland, 215-685-4902**  
**[laura.copeland@phila.gov](mailto:laura.copeland@phila.gov)**

**For Immediate Release:** June 21, 2012

**PWD and PIDC Award \$3.2 Million in Grants to Promote Green  
Stormwater Management Practices on Private and Non-Profit Properties  
Resulting in the Planned Development of 64 Green Acres**

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) and the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) have awarded \$3.2 million in grants to promote green stormwater management practices in a highly competitive selection process.

Launched in January 2012, the Stormwater Management Incentives Program (SMIP) grant program is designed to be a catalyst for transforming large, commercial impervious properties that generate high volumes of stormwater runoff and burden the city's sewer system and waterways, into properties that build and maintain green stormwater management practices. These practices include rain gardens, vegetated infiltration basins, porous asphalt, and green roofs.

"This grant program is a win-win for the Water Department and for our business customers who have been impacted by an increase in stormwater fees resulting from our parcel based fee for stormwater," stated Water Commissioner Howard Neukrug. "By working with customers who can manage stormwater from many acres of hard surfaces – and ideally public runoff from streets – we can transform pockets of our combined sewer areas into green acres in a cost effective way. This is the best example of a public/private partnership."

The SMIP grant is an important component of PWD's *Green City, Clean Waters* Plan and includes an ambitious goal to convert 9,500 impervious areas to "green acres" that capture and manage the first one inch of stormwater runoff to achieve beautiful, fishable, clean and healthy rivers and streams. The grant will also allow businesses, institutions and other non-residential customers to reduce their stormwater rates by providing funding for the design and implementation of these green infrastructure projects and to join the City of Philadelphia in its quest to be the greenest city in the nation.

"PIDC supports PWD's progressive stormwater management initiatives which use green strategies to reduce stormwater runoff," stated John Grady, President of PIDC. "Through the SMIP grant program, PIDC is excited to partner with PWD to help local business owners mitigate the economic impact of PWD's stormwater initiatives while also increasing the City's green space."

Projects were evaluated based on a variety of criteria with cost-effective green acres bearing the highest percentage of points. From 45 applications received by the March submission date, eight applications met the primary criteria in addition to offering innovative and inspiring green stormwater management solutions that can demonstrate similar opportunities on other public and private sites.

The eight projects together result in the creation of 65.5 green acres. One green acre will manage at least the first inch of rainfall over an acre that drains to a common stormwater management practice.

The winning projects include:

**Trustees of Green Street Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia**

**Award Amount: \$91,080**

**Location: 5500 Germantown Avenue**

Greene Street Friends School will depave and seed a 16,330 sq.ft. area which until recently was used for parking to become a grassy play area and will create a rain garden to manage runoff from 9,280 sq.ft. of an adjacent paved area that will remain in use as parking. Upon completion, the project will manage 18,912 gallons of runoff from a 1.5" storm (exceeding the program requirements) and create a green open space for students that will be open to the community during out of school hours.

**School District of Philadelphia**

**Award Amount: \$795,000**

**Locations: 5801 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street; 6100 Stenton Ave.; 2901 Princeton Ave., 3501 Powelton Ave., 2000 Wakeling Street**

The School District of Philadelphia proposes stormwater management at five schools. (1) Lowell Elementary School: 5 proposed rain gardens and pavement removal, (2) Martin Luther King High School: 5 proposed rain gardens and pavement removal, (3) Mayfair Elementary School: 1 proposed rain garden, (4) Samuel Powel Elementary: 2 proposed rain gardens, and (5) Warren G. Harding Middle School: 2 proposed rain gardens.

**Newman and Company, Inc.**

**Award Amount: \$370,000**

**Location: 6101 Tacony Street**

Newman and Company, Inc proposes a rainwater harvesting system to collect runoff from 265,000 sq. ft. of directly connected impervious rooftop area. Harvested rainwater will be collected in a central storage tank and introduced into the paper manufacturing process. Project benefits include a reduction in runoff volume to the PWD combined sewer and a reduction in potable water demand for Newman and Company.

Newman is matching the grant funding with \$125,000 in equity. The project (including SMIP and match) has a total estimated budget of \$495,000.

### **Pennypack Woods HOA**

**Award: \$135,500**

**Location: 8724 Crispin Street**

Pennypack Woods HOA submitted for the design of one stormwater wetland and two bioretention facilities to collect runoff from approximately 26 acres of both public and private directly connected impervious area (DCIA). The DCIA is a combination of rooftop, sidewalk and parking/driveway areas. Project benefits include a reduction in runoff volume to the PWD separate sewer system and an improvement in stormwater quality discharging from the property.

Pennypack Woods HOA is matching the grant funding with \$125,000 in equity and \$500,000 from an EPA Construction Grant. The match will be used to fund the construction of the project.

### **Methodist Home for Children Resources**

**Award Amount: \$70,000**

**Location: 4300 Monument Road**

Methodist Home proposes the design and construction of several individual rain garden/bioretention facilities to collect runoff from approximately 44,180 sq. ft. of directly connected impervious area (DCIA). The DCIA is a combination of rooftop, sidewalk and parking/driveway areas. Project benefits include a reduction in runoff volume to the PWD combined sewer system and an improvement in stormwater quality discharging from the property.

Methodist Home is matching the grant funding with \$20,000 in equity. The project (including SMIP and match) has a total estimated budget of \$90,000.

### **Thomas Scattergood Behavioral Health Foundation**

**Award Amount: \$530,000**

**Location: 4641 Roosevelt Boulevard**

The Scattergood Foundation will retrofit the existing pond located on the Friends Hospital Site to reduce the rate and/or volume of runoff reaching the Tacony Creek. The pond will also provide aesthetic benefits to patients of the hospital and will be used as an instructional facility for students. The retrofit includes improvements to the current pond, the creation of a bioretention facility, and improvements to the stream channel and swale adjacent to the segment of Tacony Creek recently restored by PWD.

### **ACE/Dougherty Company**

**Award Amount: \$975,000**

**Location: 6301 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

ACE/Dougherty proposes the use of infiltration basins, bio-filtration systems, vegetated swales, depaving and porous pavers. Two fields on the property will be used as stormwater infiltration basins and will be surrounded by vegetated swales. Sidewalks around the front of the facility will be de-paved and replaced with porous pavers connected to smaller infiltration basins.

The project will also de-pave the onsite running track and ancillary athletic pads and replace them with grass.

**Westinghouse Lighting Corporation/Sportsmen Ventures**

**Award Amount: \$315,000**

**Location: 12401 McNaulty Road**

Westinghouse proposes two surface infiltration basins. An existing detention basin on the property will be modified and a new basin will be built.

# # #