

# 2011 URBAN PROGRAM UPDATES



Since the start of the urban conservation program 4 years ago an estimated 600 practices have been installed that have managed an estimated 124

million gallons of stormwater runoff. Approximately 15,000 to 20,000 people have been reached through presentations, workshops, field days and media outreach efforts. A significant increase in the outreach and in the management of stormwater runoff will occur as the urban conservation program grows.

There has also been beneficial economic impacts from the Urban Conservation program. DMACC leveraged a \$500,000 WIRB grant into a \$1.7 million dollar project on their Ankeny campus. St. Ambrose University and the city of Davenport partnered on a street and parking lot project that leveraged a \$400,000 WIRB grant into a \$1.8 million dollar project. The East Okoboji Beach project leveraged a \$500,000 WIRB grant into an estimated \$3.3 million dollar project to protect the lake.

In Dubuque, the State Revolving Fund's stormwater loan program will play a significant role in stimulating a \$14 million project that will eliminate frequent flooding while protecting water quality and creating a linear green space that will be a significant new community amenity. In many other locations rain garden installation, permeable pavement projects, and soil quality restoration services are creating new revenue streams for local businesses that are developing new services that manage water sustainably.



*A rain garden at a new fire station in Coralville infiltrates roof runoff. Another bioretention cell manages parking lot runoff at this site.*



*This green roof is part of a building renovation in Des Moines that features a treatment train of stormwater management practices.*



*East Okoboji Lake is visible in the background of this multi-tiered bioretention cell that is cleansing street water before discharging it to the lake.*



*This multi-tiered outlet structure on the forebay installed above DMACC Lake traps sediment, allowing easy cleanout and lake protection.*



## Highlights of 2011

- The East Okoboji Beach project retrofitted a subdivision with bioswales and bioretention cells to improve water quality in East Okoboji Lake.
- Completion of the DMACC Lake Watershed project which installed a number of practices to protect the lake on the Ankeny Campus.
- The Summerbrook Park project installed a number of practices and educational signage in Ankeny's high use city park as part of the Fourmile Watershed Project in Polk County.
- Collaboration on two pilot projects for the Iowa Economic Development Authority Green Streets & Main Street programs in Woodbine and West Union.
- Outreach to Sustainability Coordinators of colleges, universities and community colleges in Eastern Iowa.
- Kirkwood Community College will incorporate urban conservation training into the curriculum next year.
- Creation of training sessions through a partnership between West Pottawattamie SWCD and Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs.
- Passage of ordinances in Johnson and Dubuque Counties that provide water quality protection along with flood control.
- Approval and funding for the first exclusively urban watershed project in Davenport.
- Clear Lake continues to focus on cleaning up dirty stormwater that flows into the lake. Six infiltration-based practices were installed that treat 21,000 gallons of runoff annually.
- Eleven Rainscaping training sessions were attended by over 200 professionals that can move through the process of becoming a certified Rainscaper.
- Rainscaping Iowa certified the first six Rainscapers in 2011 to service the growing demand for rainscaped landscapes. Engineers, landscape architects, and landscape designers became the first certified Rainscapers.



*Carter Lake City Hall added a bioretention cell to manage stormwater. The Carter Lake Watershed project was recognized by EPA for its success.*



*A bioretention project in Ankeny's Summerbrook Park treats street runoff to protect Fourmile Creek and demonstrates how to rainscape.*



*A contractor demonstrates the soil quality restoration practice of deep tillage on a compacted urban lot at a Rainscaper certification training.*

