

# Green Infrastructure at Sacred Heart Church

## Green Infrastructure Manages Stormwater Runoff

Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) is an engineered design for city landscapes that uses plants to absorb, retain, and slow stormwater runoff. GSI has the ability to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs), flooding, and in Detroit, drainage charges. GSI adds green space to the community, swapping pavement for trees and water features, which provides a cooling effect and encourages recreation and community gathering.

GSI can be incorporated into:



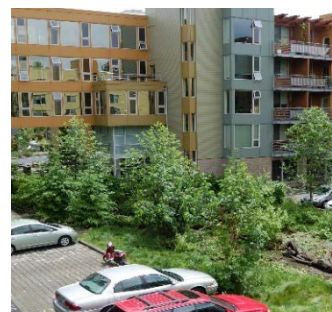
Parking Lots



Vacant Properties



Streets



Housing Developments

## The Sacred Heart Church Parking Lot Project

Using nature to transform the Sacred Heart Church parking lot, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is working closely with the parish to install a series of green stormwater facilities. This project was made possible through grant funding TNC received from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and will be installed at no cost to the church.

### Project Goals

- Manage stormwater on the property
- Benefit the environment
- Beautify the property
- Increase awareness of GSI and its benefits
- Reduce the church's drainage charge

### Targeted Timeline

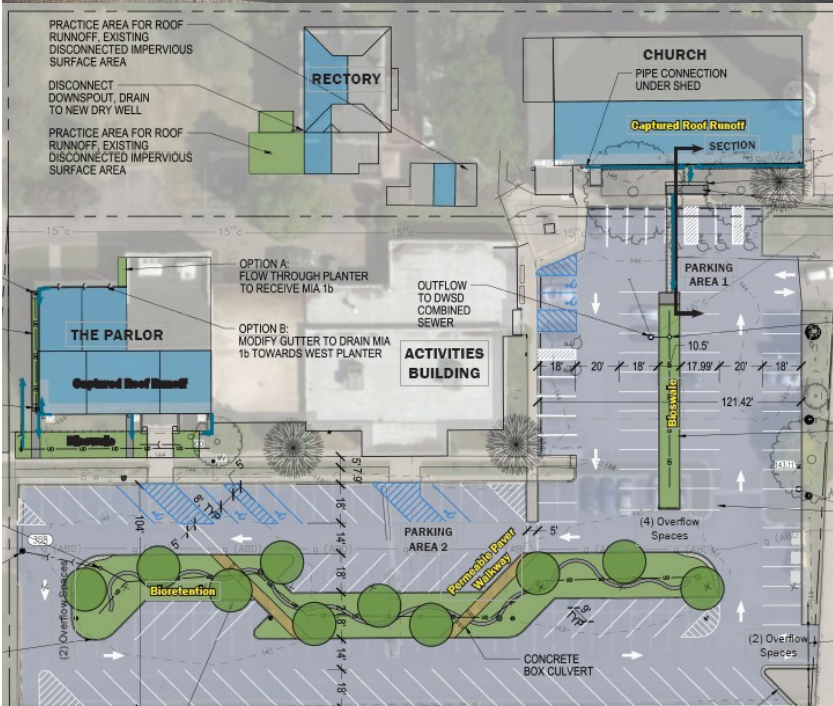
<i>Site Investigation</i>	May 2018 — June 2018
<i>Design Phase</i>	June 2018 — May 2019
<i>Break Ground</i>	May/June 2019
<i>Construction</i>	May/June — August 2019
<i>Landscaping</i>	August — September 2019
<i>Dedication</i>	September 2019



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



For more information, please contact:

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## What makes this project so unique?

Once completed, the new green stormwater facilities are expected to manage rainfall runoff from 1.3 acres of impervious area (hard surfaces e.g. roof tops, asphalt, sidewalks, etc.) Annually, this equates to an estimated 1.1 million gallons making it one of the largest GSI projects at a faith-based institution in Detroit!

## How can you get involved?

### Join the Sacred Heart Church Garden Club!

This group of volunteers will tend to the GSI facilities and ensure that the grounds stay beautiful for years to come. If you are interested in joining, please contact Alex Taylor at [ataylor41512@hotmail.com](mailto:ataylor41512@hotmail.com).

### Help monitor GSI performance.

Once installed, TNC will be gathering real-time data to measure and verify the volume of runoff managed by the GSI facilities. This data will provide a basis for evaluating size and design requirements for future GSI projects across the city and has the potential to alleviate design and cost barriers faced by property owners, making it easier for them to install GSI as well. Volunteers will be recruited to help with this process. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lydia Camel at [lydia.camel@tnc.org](mailto:lydia.camel@tnc.org).

## About The Nature Conservancy in Detroit

Founded in 1951, The Nature Conservancy is a global conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Detroit, our goal is for nature to be synonymous with health and prosperity. Through GSI installations and community partnerships like the Sacred Heart Church Parking Lot Project, we hope to help the city effectively, and beautifully, manage stormwater, while creating public access to nature.