

Green Infrastructure Walking Tour

Pardon our appearance – this page is a work in progress!

Highland Park installed its 10th green infrastructure demonstration garden in May 2023 thanks to a generous grant from Sustainable Jersey and the PSEG Foundation. To celebrate this milestone, Sustainable Highland Park developed a Green Infrastructure Walking Tour with ten stops at various green infrastructure demonstrations around town. See below for the map, list of green infrastructure projects, and plant materials used in each of the projects, as well as suggestions in making your lawn and landscaping more stormwater-friendly!

What is [green infrastructure](#)?

Green Infrastructure is an approach to managing stormwater runoff by infiltrating it in the ground where it is generated using vegetation or porous surfaces, or by capturing it for later reuse. Green Infrastructure:

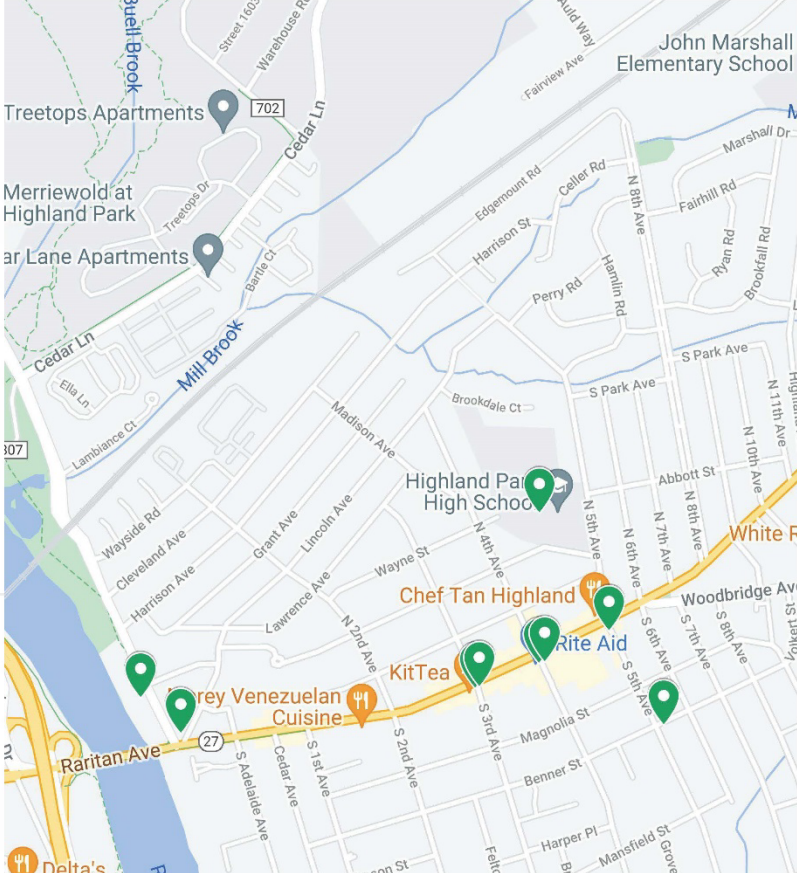
- Reduces stormwater volume
- Reduces impervious cover
- Decreases and delays peak discharge
- Prevents pollution
- Recharges groundwater

Where can I experience Green Infrastructure in Highland Park?

Highland Park Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure Projects

- Teen Center Rain Garden & Poured Pavement
- So. 3rd Rain Garden - East
- So. 3rd Rain Garden - West
- So. 4th Rain Garden - East
- So. 4th Rain Garden - West
- So. 5th Rain Garden - West
- HPHS Rain Garden & Bioretention Basin
- Environmental Education Center Green Roof
- Centennial Park Rain Garden



Tour Stop #1: Environmental Education Center Green Roof

20 River Road

This green roof is designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Green roofs are planted with native vegetation and contain several layers of engineered soil to manage drainage and weight. The plants on this green roof are drought -resistant, native, and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #2: Centennial Park Rain Garden at entrance to Highland Park

Intersection of River Rd, Raritan and Lincoln Aves

This garden is designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #3 & 4: Downtown Rain Gardens

South 3rd and Raritan Ave., east and west sides of street

These gardens are designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #5 & 6: Downtown Rain Gardens

South 4th and Raritan Ave., east and west sides of street

These gardens are designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #7: Teen Center Courtyard Rain Garden and Porous Pavement

South 5th and Benner Ave,

This garden and porous pavement is designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #8: Downtown Rain Garden

South 5th Avenue and Raritan Avenue, west side of street

This garden is designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and

waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #9: Highland Park Public Library Rain Garden, just installed

31 North 5th Ave.

This garden is designed to capture and filter stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. Rain gardens promote groundwater replenishment and reduce pollutants entering streams and waterways. The plants in our rain gardens are native to the region and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.

Tour Stop #10: High and Middle School Rain Garden and Bioretention Basin

Enter on N. 5th Ave, by HS Cafeteria and in field facing playground

Stormwater detention basins are designed to capture and temporarily hold stormwater runoff before it enters the storm sewer system. This bioretention basin, located in the back of the Middle School, has added vegetation and can reduce pollutants from entering streams and waterways. The plants in this basin are drought-resistant, native to the region, and provide pollinator and wildlife habitat.