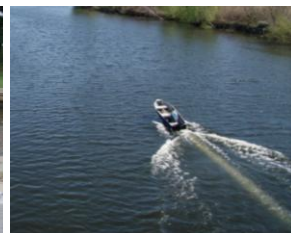


12/10/13

# Alewife 604B BMP Development Project

## Public Meeting at Arlington Stormwater Awareness series

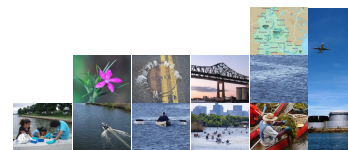
Patrick Herron  
Water Quality Monitoring Director  
Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA)  
[patrick@mysticriver.org](mailto:patrick@mysticriver.org)



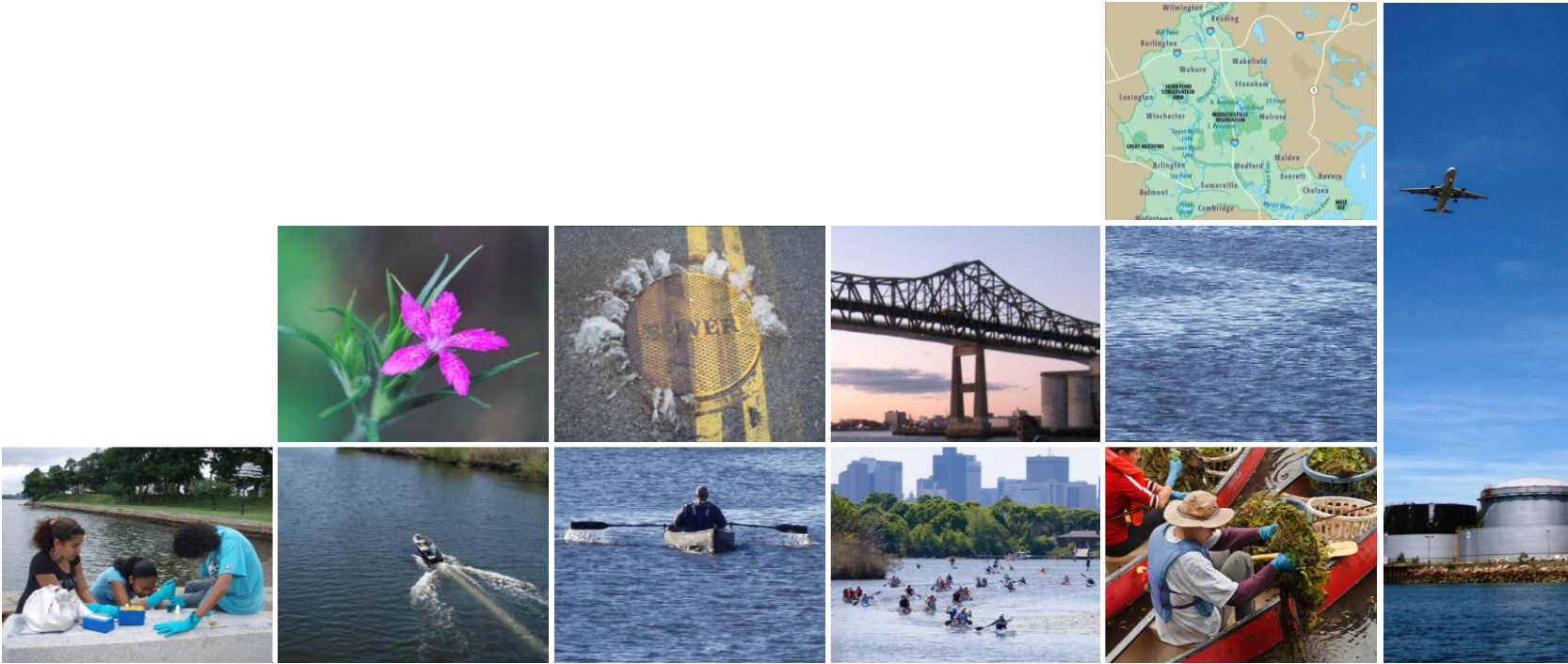
# Tonight's agenda

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- Introduction
  - Water quality impairments in the watershed
  - Project purpose and scope
  - Green infrastructure
- Site identification workshop
- Next steps

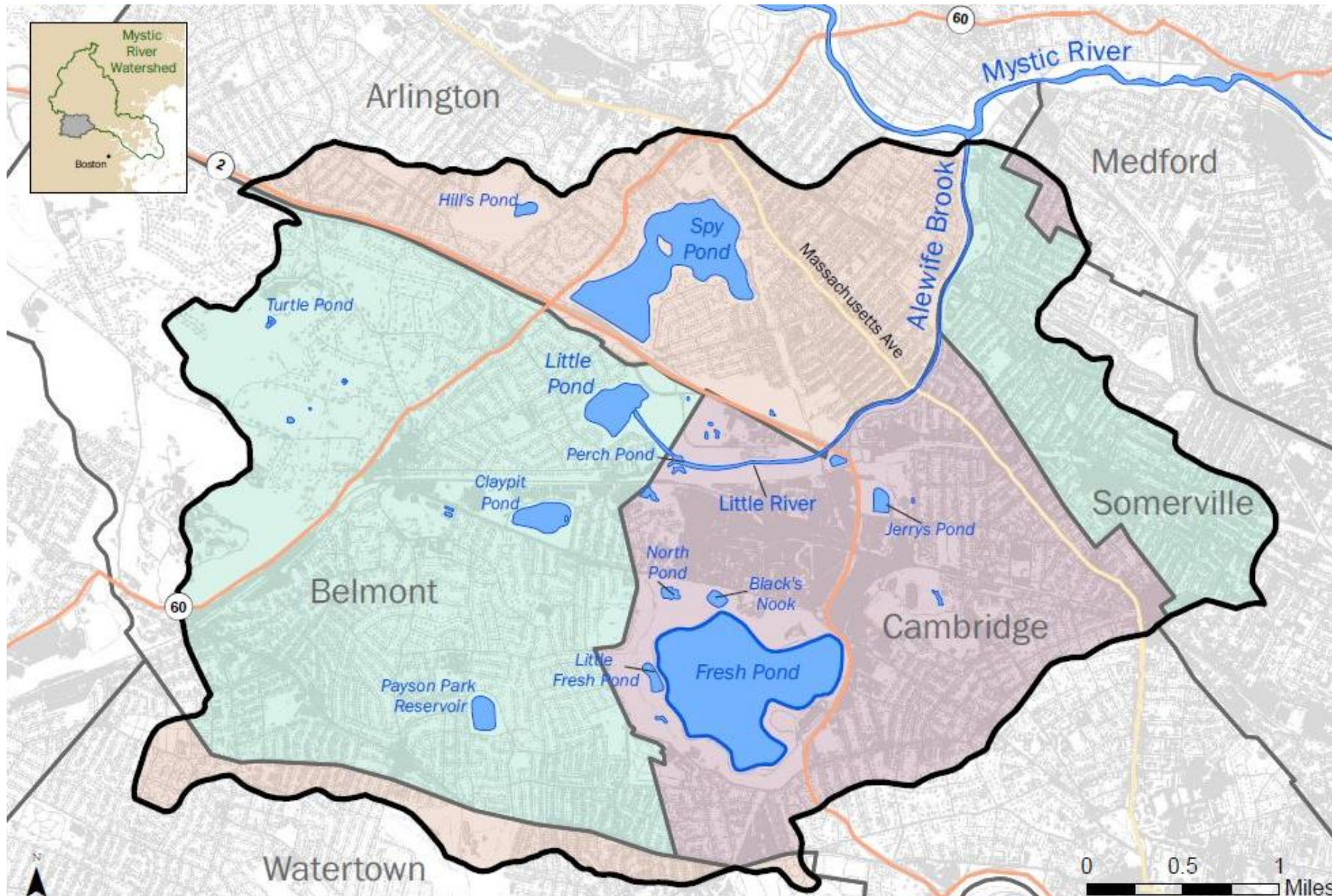


# INTRODUCTION



# Alewife Brook subwatershed

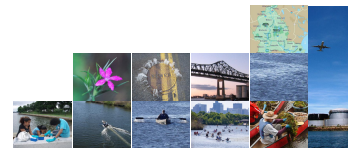
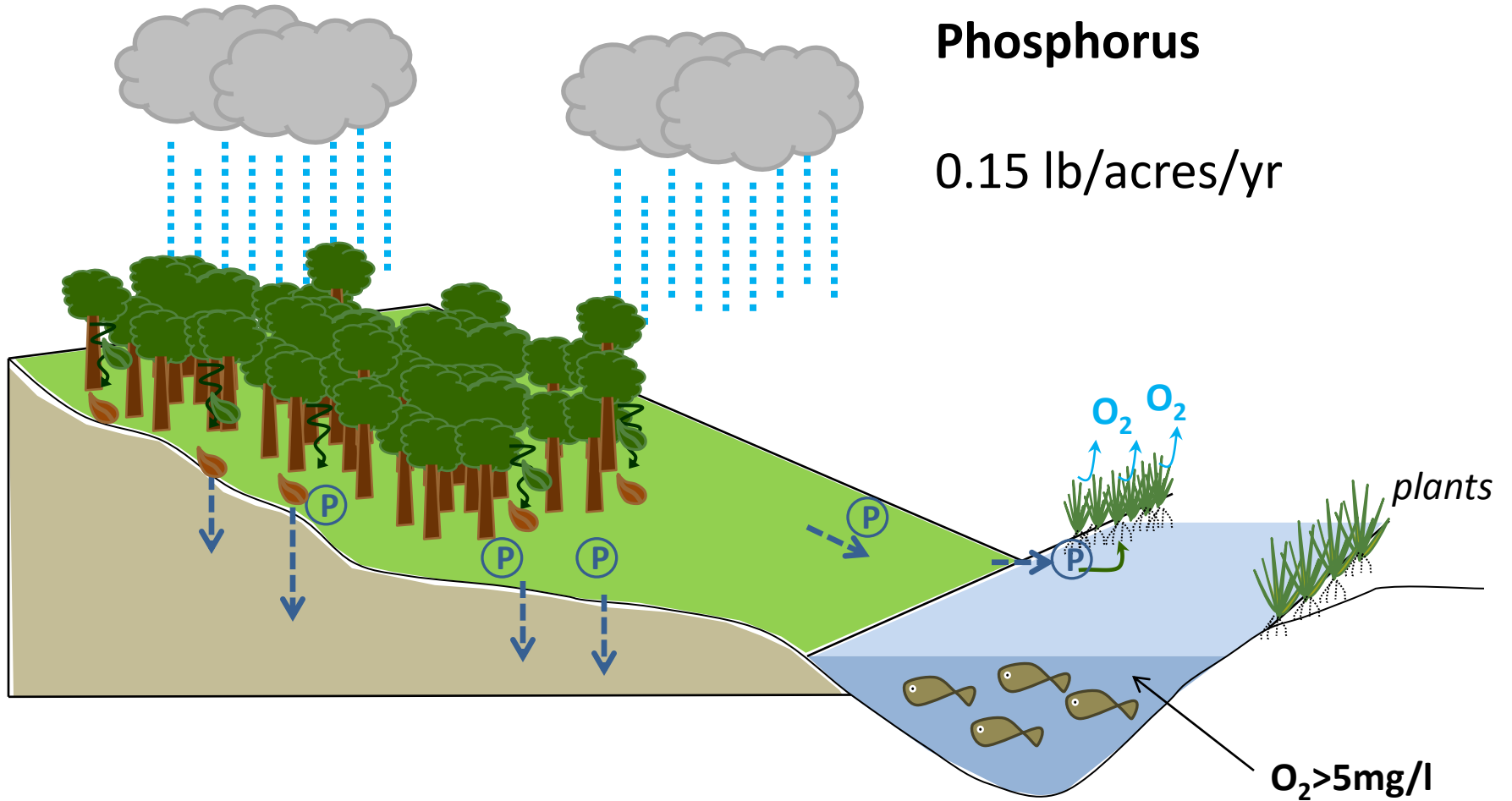
12/05/13



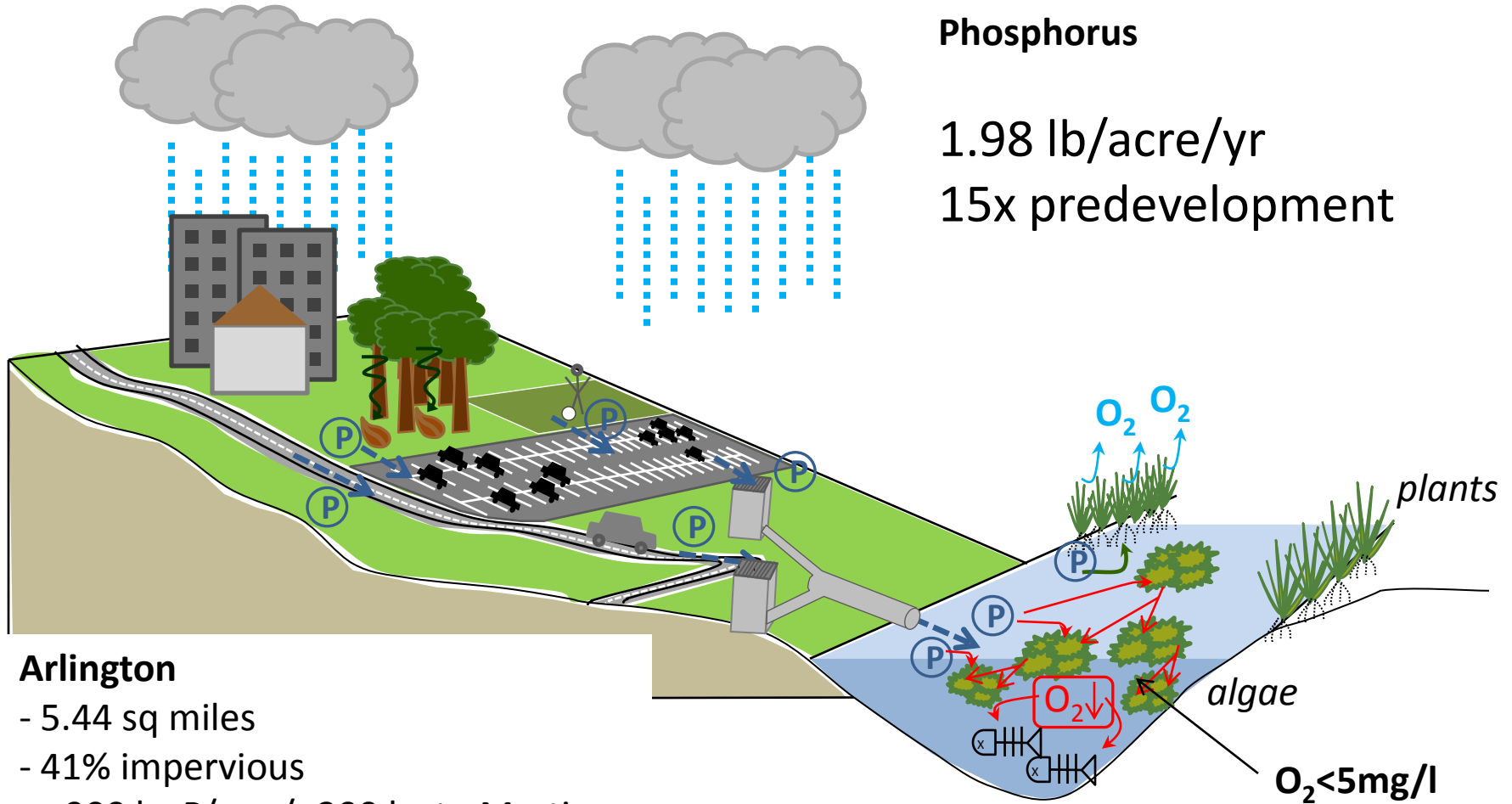
An aerial photograph showing a residential watershed. A river or stream flows through the center, heavily infested with bright green aquatic plants, likely water hyacinths or algae. Several boats are docked at a wooden pier along the riverbank. The surrounding area is densely populated with houses and trees. A road with a car is visible in the bottom right corner. The text "Water quality impairments in the watershed" is overlaid in white on the river area.

**Water quality impairments in the watershed**

# Undeveloped watershed

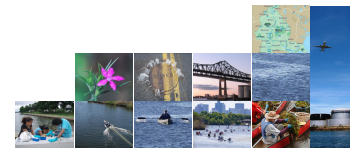


# Developed landscape - Eutrophication



## Arlington

- 5.44 sq miles
- 41% impervious
- >900 kg P/yr +/- 300 kg to Mystic River



# MyRWA water quality website

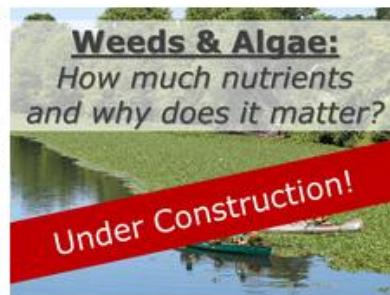


[HOME](#) [WATERSHED INFO](#) [PROJECTS & PROGRAMS](#) [EVENTS](#) [PUBLICATIONS](#) [MAKE A DIFFERENCE](#) [ABOUT US](#)

## HOW IS WATER QUALITY IN THE MYSTIC RIVER WATERSHED?

The Mystic River Watershed Association has been collecting water quality data and studying this question for over a decade and has your answer! Because there are so many measures of water quality, it is best to ask this question in a few different ways. To begin answering this question, choose the path below that interests you most.

*Click an image for more information.*



[Click here for information about the Mystic Monitoring Network.](#)

Mystic River Watershed Association 20 Academy Street, Suite 306, Arlington, MA 02476-6401 (781)316-3438

Photo Credits: Red-Eared Slider Turtle by David Fichter; River Herring by Patrick Herron; Sailing On Upper Mystic Lake by Ken Legler; Great Blue Heron by John Harrison; Mystic River from the  
by Tanasijevic; Sunny Morning after Fresh Snow Storm on the Mystic River by Rich Jarvis; Water

<http://mysticriver.org/water-quality-explore/>





# MyRWA water quality website

HOME WATERSHED INFO PROJECTS & PROGRAMS EVENTS PUBLICATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE ABOUT US

## I LOVE THIS STUFF: MORE WATER QUALITY INFORMATION PLEASE!

*More information coming soon!*

### 2013 Raw Data

Select a characteristic from the drop-down menu to view the results for each month:

Learn more about these characteristics and sampling dates at the [Monitor Resources](#) page.

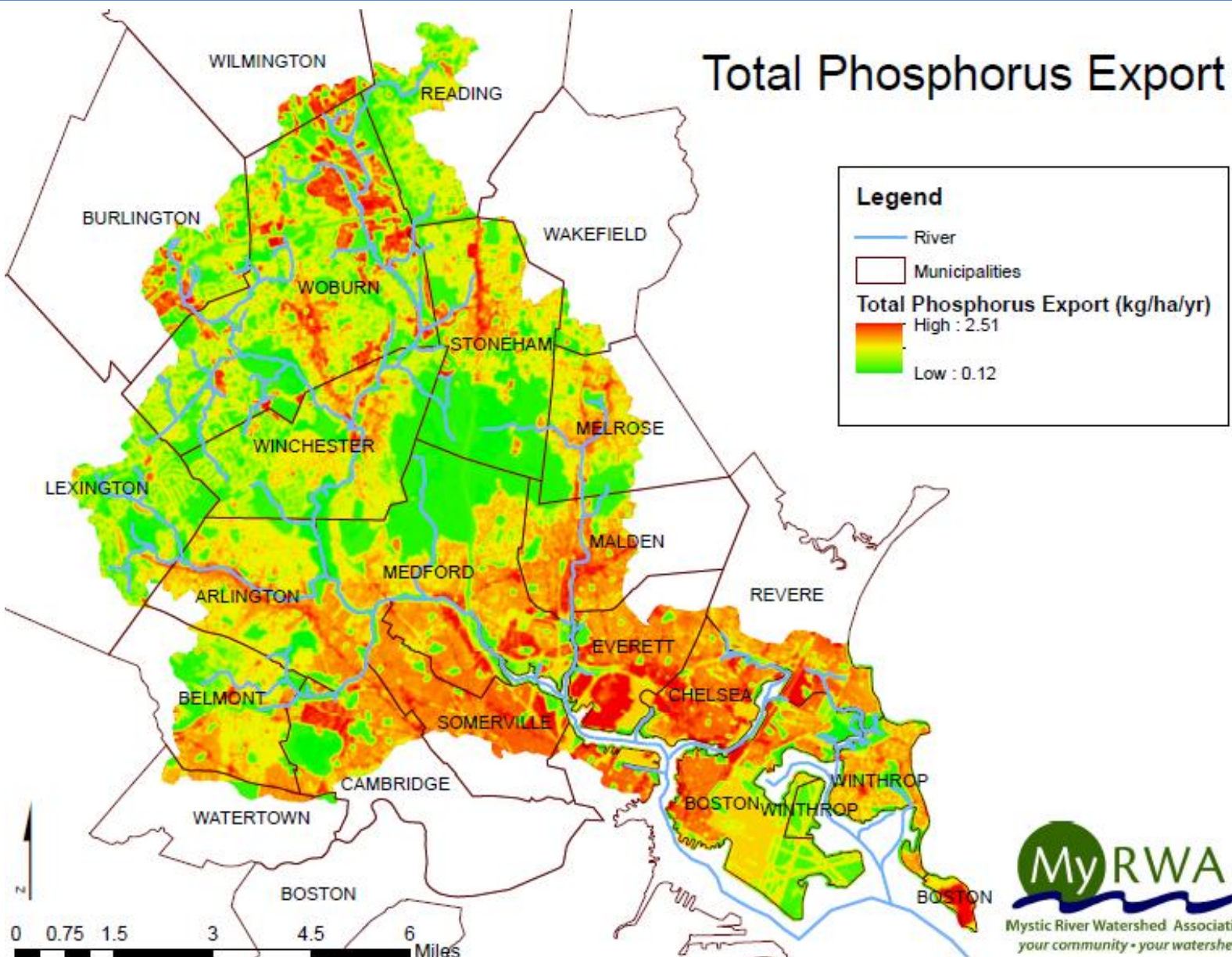
#### 2013 Total Phosphorus (mg/l)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Aberjona River (Lower)	0.0480	0.0719	0.0371	0.0390	0.0442	0.0610	0.0567	0.0443	0.0470
Aberjona River (Middle)	0.0587	0.0771	0.0401	0.0327	0.0398	0.0527	0.0384	0.0342	0.0380
Aberjona River (Upper)	0.0628	0.0730		0.0430	0.0473	0.0479	0.0309	0.0560	0.0318
Alewife Brook	0.0893	0.1060	0.0721	0.1023	0.0848	0.1558	0.0938	0.0847	0.1008
Belle Isle Inlet	0.8010	0.1770	0.2010	0.0465	0.1030	0.0740	0.2620	0.1040	0.0875
Chelsea River	0.0310	0.0250	0.0865	0.0200	0.0330	0.0410	0.0530	0.0395	0.0490
Malden River	0.0676	0.0804	0.0519	0.0493	0.1059	0.0743	0.0865	0.0587	0.0813
Meetinghouse Brook	0.0535	0.0424	0.0358	0.0953	0.0365	0.0400		0.0298	0.0853
Mill Brook	0.1172	0.0639	0.0534	0.0584	0.0652	0.0838	0.0652	0.0499	0.0619
Mill Creek	0.7110	0.0585	0.0420	0.0580	0.0530	0.0750	0.0765	0.0910	0.0950
Mystic River (Lower)	0.1890	0.0250	0.0390	0.0520	0.0350	0.0650	0.0560	0.0460	0.0420
Mystic River (Middle)	0.0840	0.0440	0.0370	0.0290	0.0395	0.0540	0.0690	0.0340	0.0600
Mystic River (Upper)	0.0373	0.0362	0.0310	0.0315	0.0197	0.0330	0.0391	0.0278	0.0297
Upper Mystic Lake	0.0409	0.0329	0.0280	0.0252	0.0186	0.0398	0.0427	0.0254	0.0256
Winn Brook	0.0784	0.0845	0.0597	0.0511	0.0709	0.1028	0.0952	0.0970	0.1662

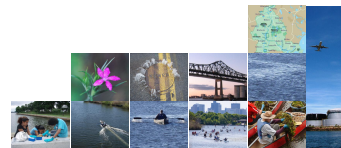
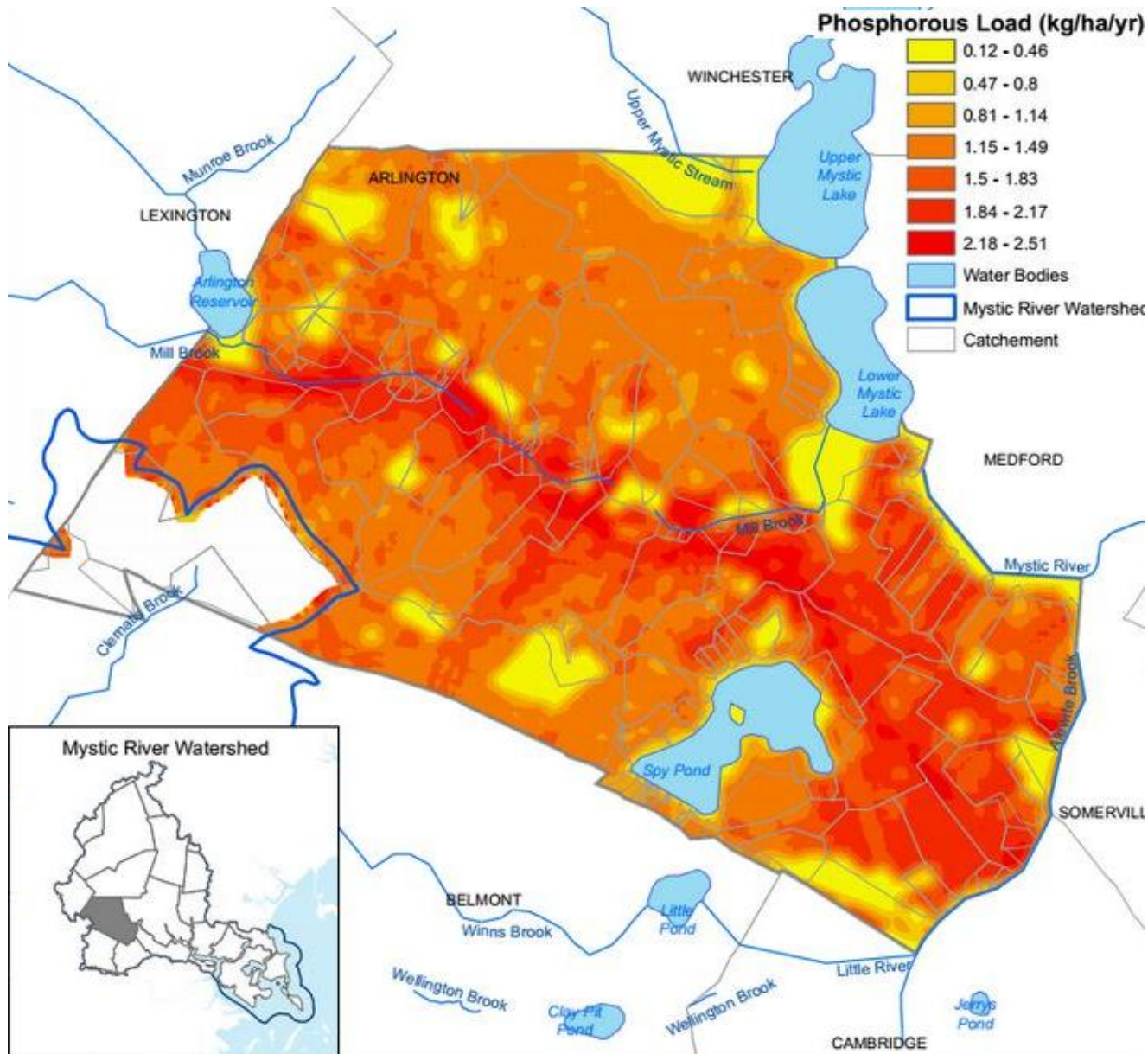
<http://mysticriver.org/in-depth-water-quality/>



# Total Phosphorus source geography in the watershed



# Total Phosphorus source geography in Arlington



A group of four people are gathered around a table in a meeting room, focused on a large map or document. The room has wood-paneled walls and a staircase in the background. The group consists of three women and one man. One woman on the right is pointing at the map, while the man in the center is writing on it. The woman on the left is looking on attentively, and another woman in the background is resting her chin on her hand. The text 'Project purpose and scope' is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent dark background across the middle of the image.

## Project purpose and scope

# Why are we engaged in this project?

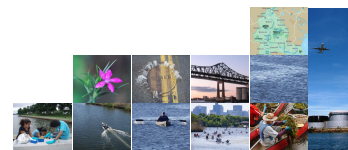
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- Problem

- Too many nutrients are being carried off of the land area

- Objectives of the project

- Initiate a conversation
- Identify pollution sources
- Identify opportunities
- Develop conceptual designs for two structures
- Share key expertise among municipalities



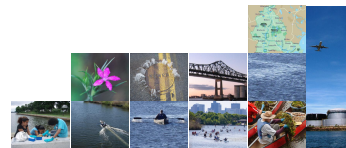


# Green stormwater infrastructure for Arlington

# Glossary

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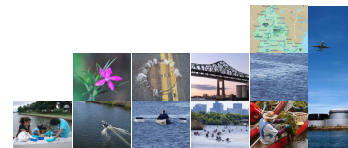
- LID (Low Impact Development)
  - Definition: Planning and design approach to restore pre-development hydrology of urban and developing watersheds
- BMPs (Best Management Practices)
- Green (stormwater) infrastructure



# Low Impact Development toolbox

---

- Preserve Existing Vegetation and Soils
- Re-vegetate Impervious Land
- **Bioretention swale and basin (rain garden)**
- **Permeable pavements**
- **Constructed wetland**
- Green Roof
- Street Trees
- Rainwater Harvesting







**Bioretention basin /  
Raingarden**  
Hardy School, Arlington



NO PARKING  
HEALTH HAZARD

# Raingarden - Hardy School, Arlington



**\$3,700 Materials**

**\$830 Labor**

**Design**

**Excavation**

**Volunteers**

**MyRWA Staff Outreach**

**(In-kind)**

**(In-kind)**



# Low Impact Development (LID)

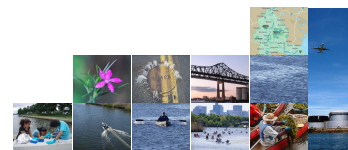
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- **Characteristics**

- Small scale facilities
- Manage runoff as close to source as possible
- Mimic natural processes
- Slow down, cleanse, infiltrate and reuse rainwater

- **Benefits**

- Reduce localized flooding
- Improve water quality
- Reduce stream erosion
- Improve quality of life
- Cost effectiveness





# Bioretention Basin: Green Street Application

Curb Extension, Portland OR



Peabody square, Dorchester

# Bio(retention) Swale

## MIT Campus – Cambridge , MA



# Bioretention Swale –Chelsea, MA





# Swale – Berlin (Germany)



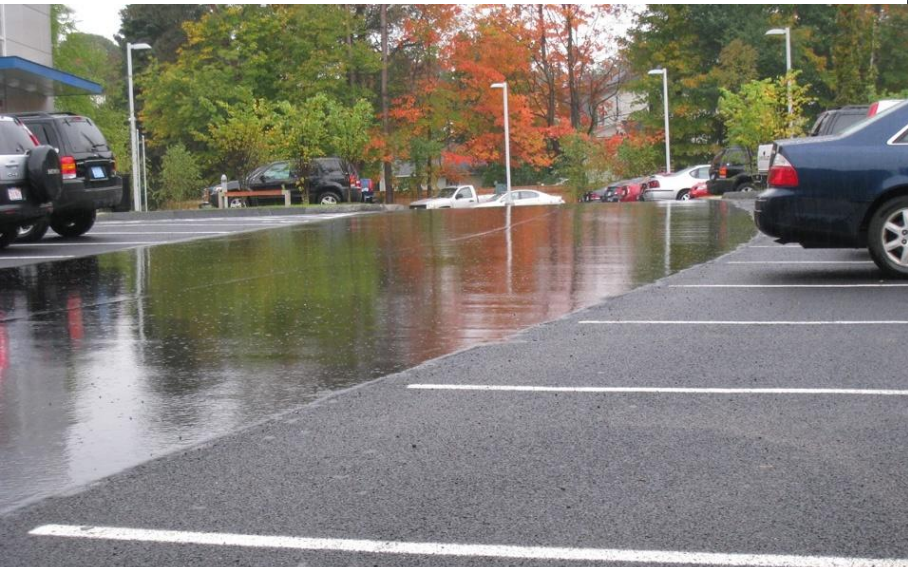
# Bioretention Swale – near Paris (France)



Porous paving



# Porous paving



# Porous Asphalt Winter Conditions - Welch School, Peabody MA



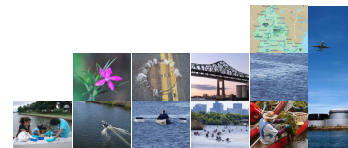
# Permeable Pavers (Interlocking and Grid Types)



# Constructed wetlands



# Constructed wetlands







**Previous project in Horn Pond, Woburn MA**

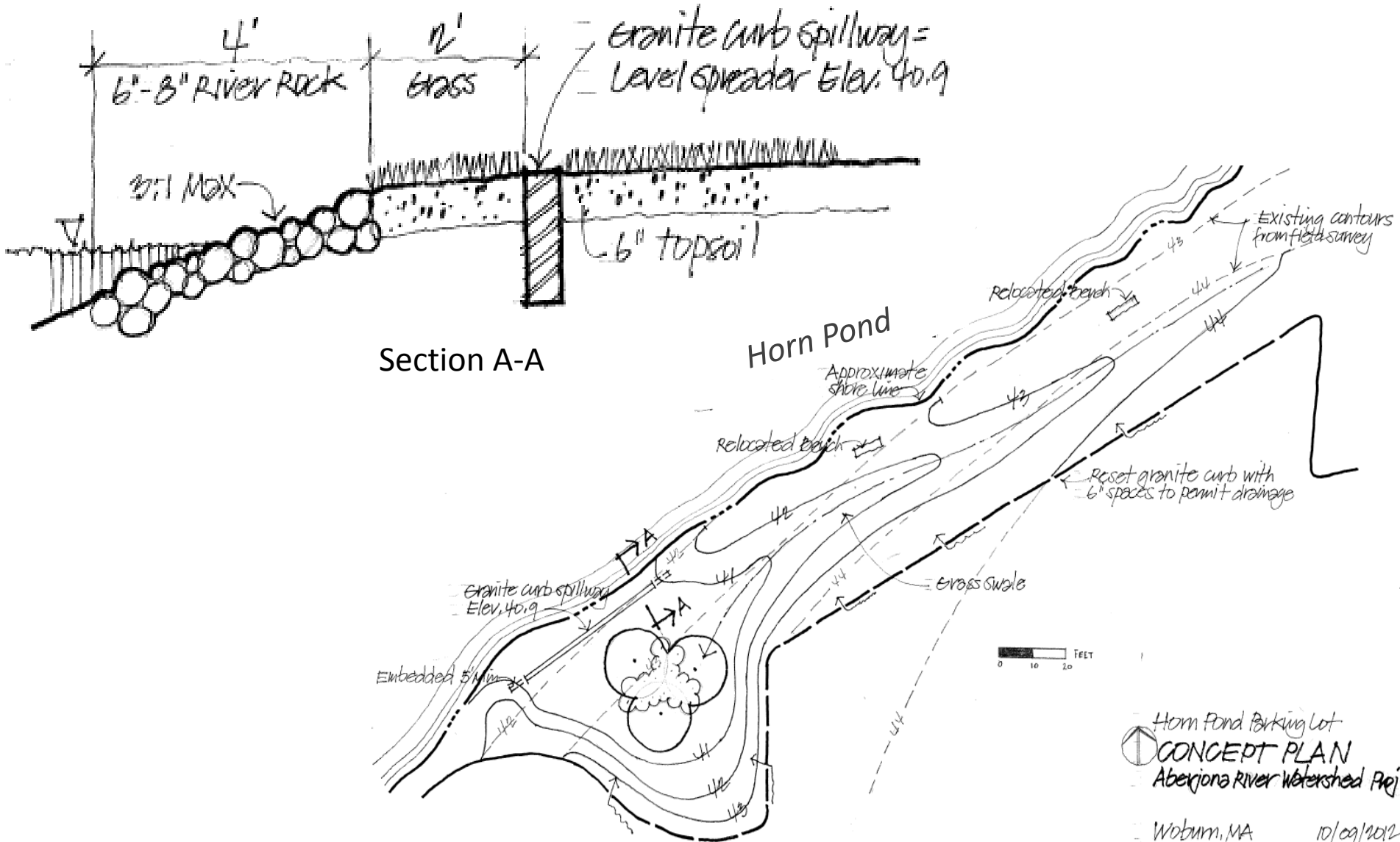
# Previous project in Horn Pond, Woburn MA

## LID Retrofit opportunity: Vegetated swale



# Previous project in Horn Pond, Woburn MA

## LID Retrofit opportunity: Vegetated swale



# Previous project in Horn Pond, Woburn MA

## LID Retrofit opportunity: Vegetated swale

- Water Quality Improvements:

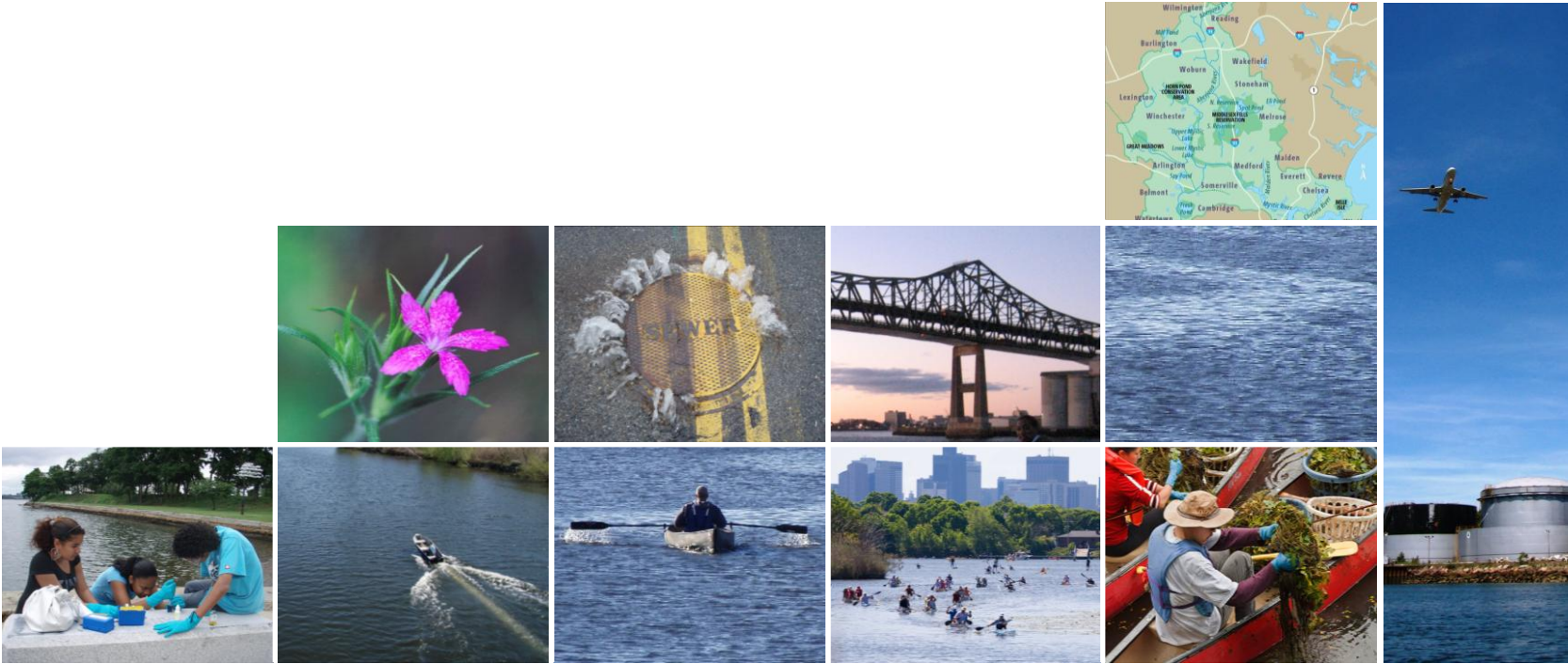
- 82% Total Suspended Sediment (TSS) removal
- 60% Total Phosphorus removal (ave.)
- 40% Total Nitrogen removal (ave.)
- 70% Metals removal (ave.)
- 48% Organics removal (ave.)

- Project Benefits:

- Improved Water Quality
- Reduced Erosion/ Sedimentation
- Ease of Maintenance
- Improved Aesthetics

**Estimated Cost: \$15,600.**

# SITE IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP



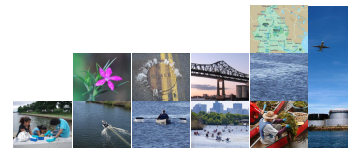
# Stormwater quality concerns

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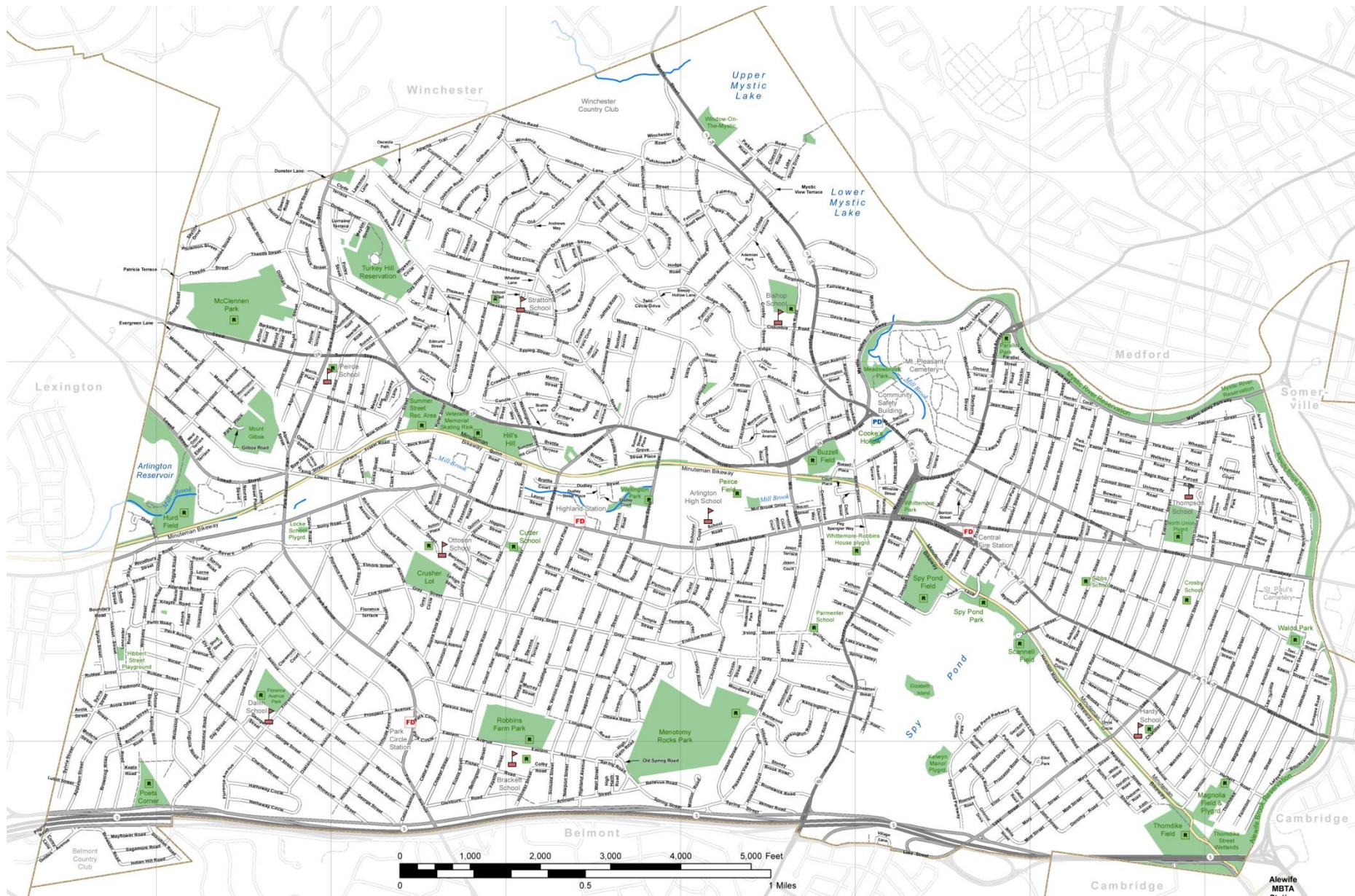
What part of the land area or drainage area (e.g. street, parking lot, development) do you have the greatest concern about stormwater water quality?

e.g.

- heavily used parking lot that drains directly to water body
- significant road surface draining directly without treatment



# Stormwater quality concerns



# Stormwater quality concerns





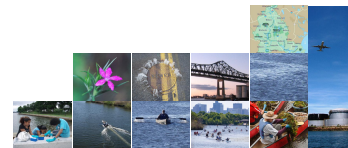
# Stormwater quality concerns



# Most significant flooding issues

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Where are the most significant flooding issues in your town?



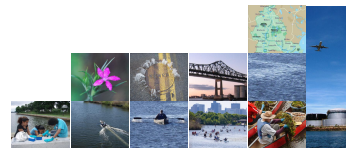
# Public projects

---

What public projects will occur within the next five years within the community ?

e.g.

- development or redevelopment of road
- parking lot
- school
- library
- public offices



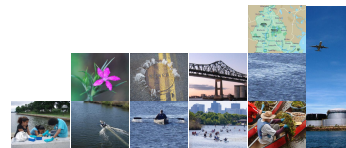
# Private projects

---

What private properties, partners or projects will be amenable toward incorporating green infrastructure

## e.g.

- Condo development
- Businesses
- Churches
- Non-profits
- Private homeowner



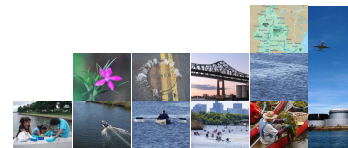
# Best opportunities to incorporate green stormwater infrastructures

---

What do you identify as some of the best opportunities to incorporate green stormwater infrastructures?

## **Positive siting characteristics could include**

- treating a large impervious surface
- placement in a visible location for education
- ease of maintenance
- aesthetics/recreational space
- traffic calming
- heat island reduction
- wildlife habitat
- energy efficiency (green roof)
- costs
- educational/pilot project

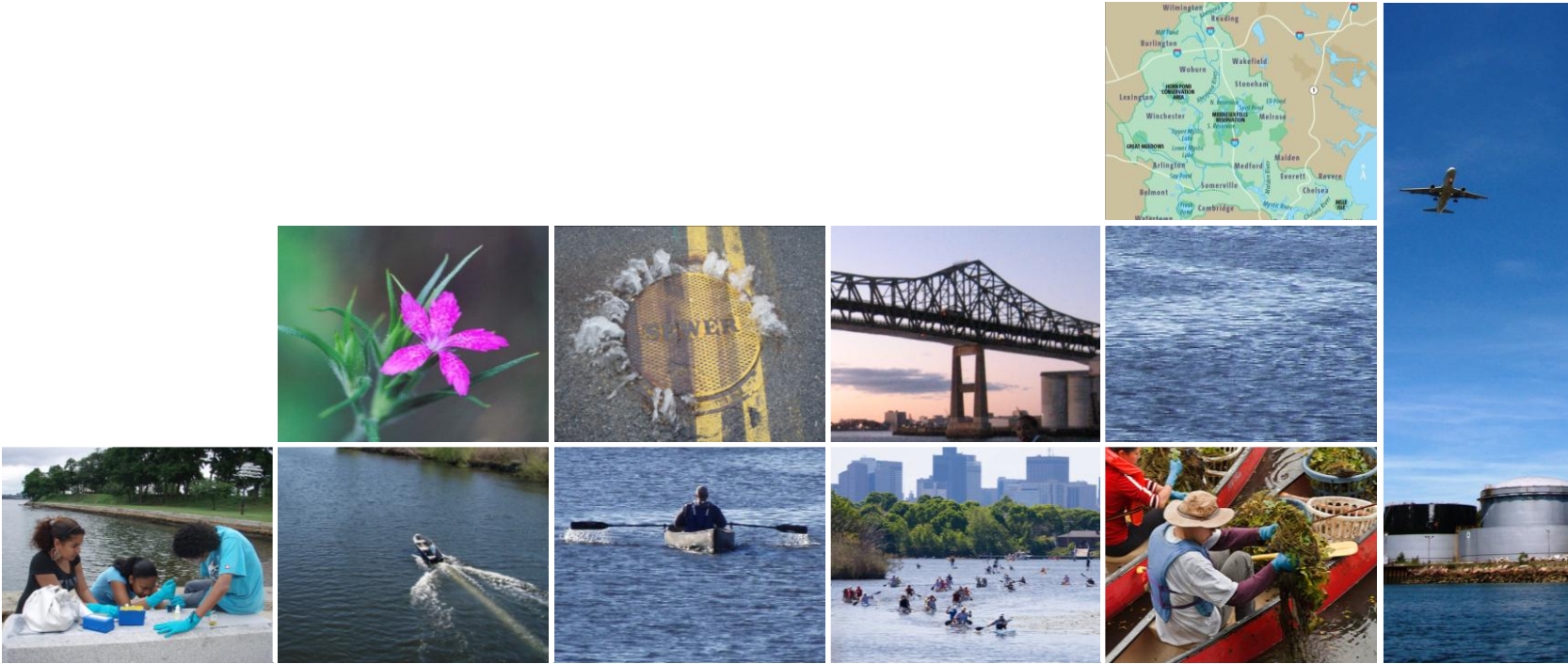




**Workshop conclusion**



# NEXT STEPS



# Additional ideas?

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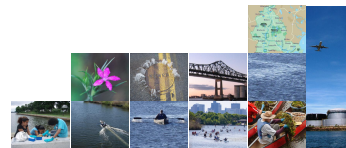
## Contact:

Patrick Herron

Mystic River Watershed Association

[patrick@mysticriver.org](mailto:patrick@mysticriver.org)

(781) 316 3438





# Upcoming dates:

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**January 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>**

Prioritization workshop

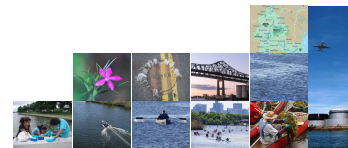
Municipal Staff, key stakeholders, Bioengineering Group

**Feb – March**

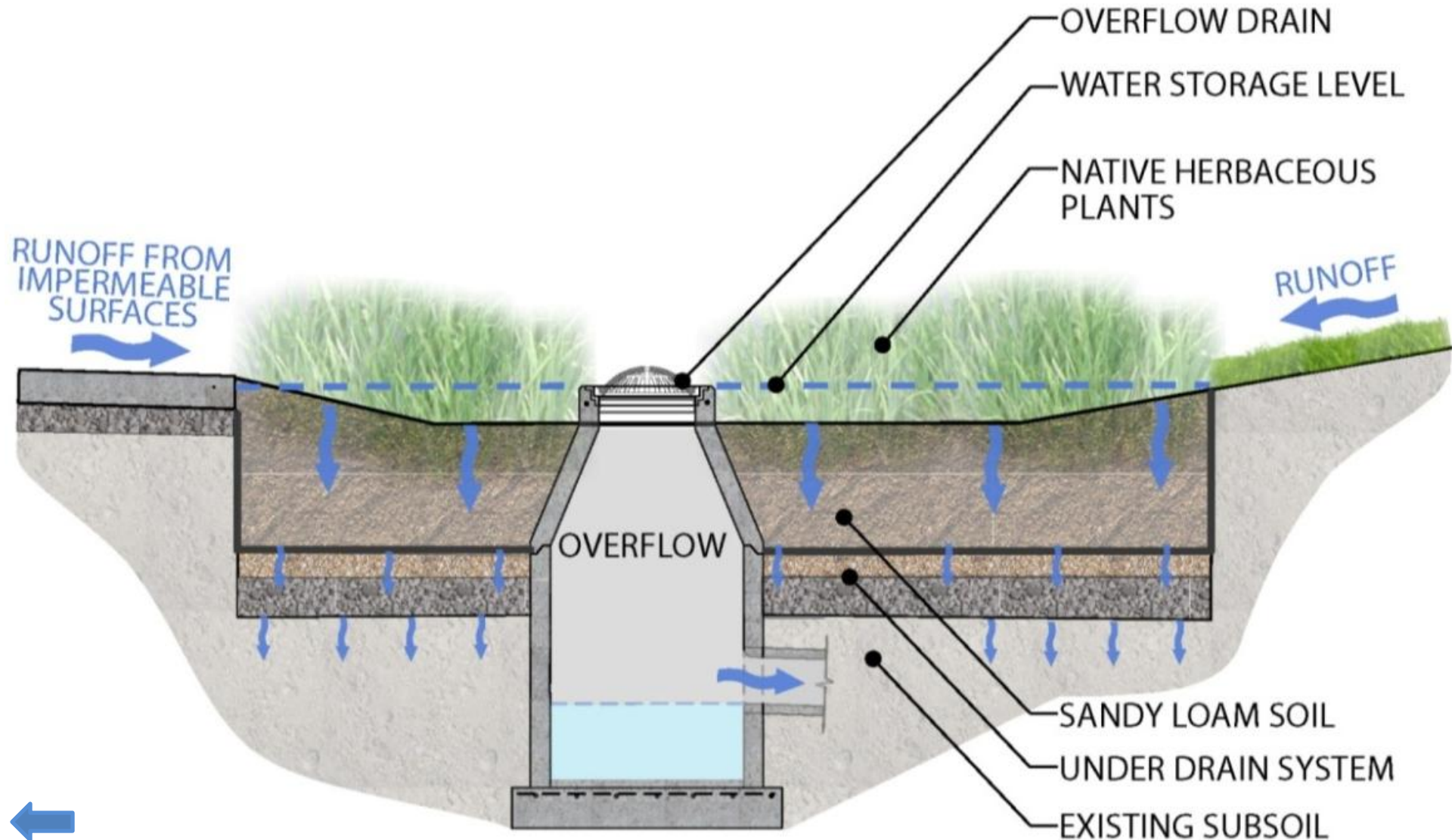
Site visits by bioengineering Group (5 sites)

**May**

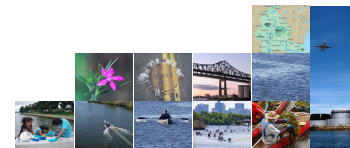
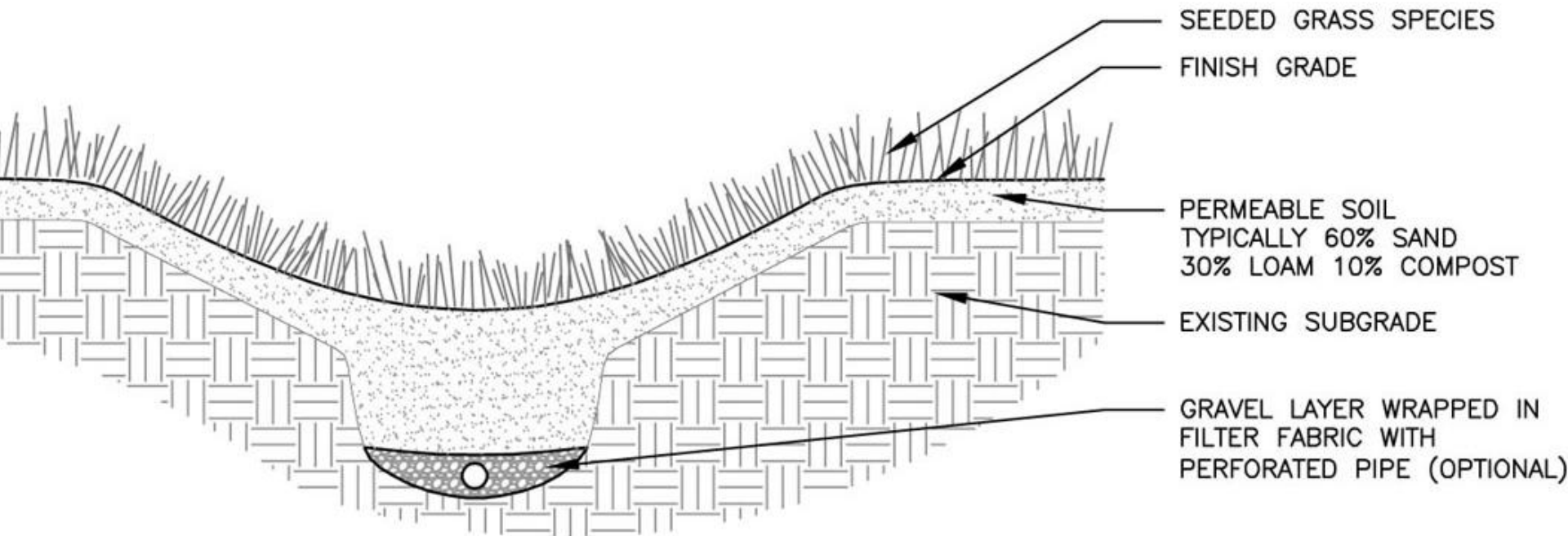
Development of conceptual design on two sites



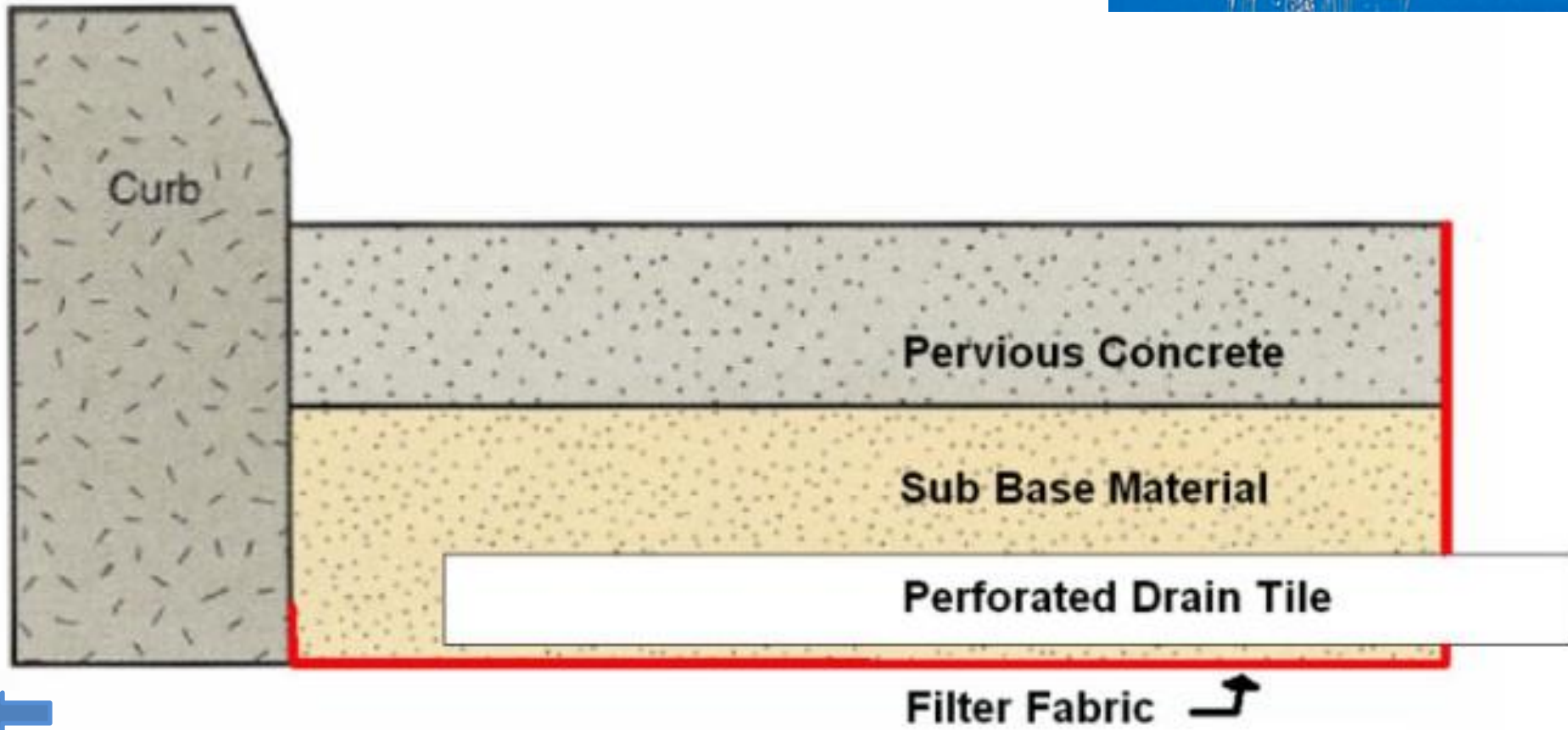
# Bioretention Basin – illustrative section



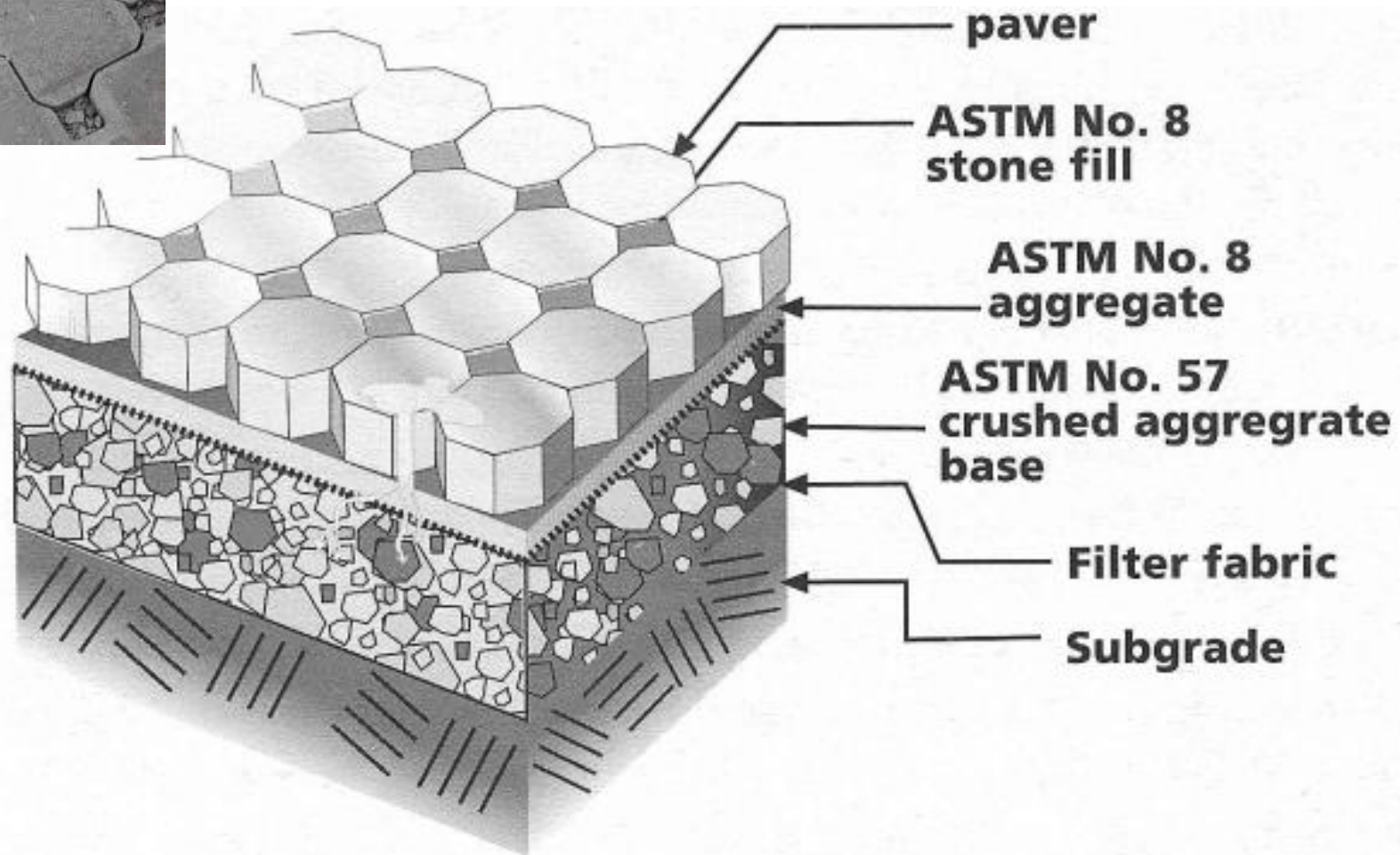
# Bioretention Swale – illustrative section



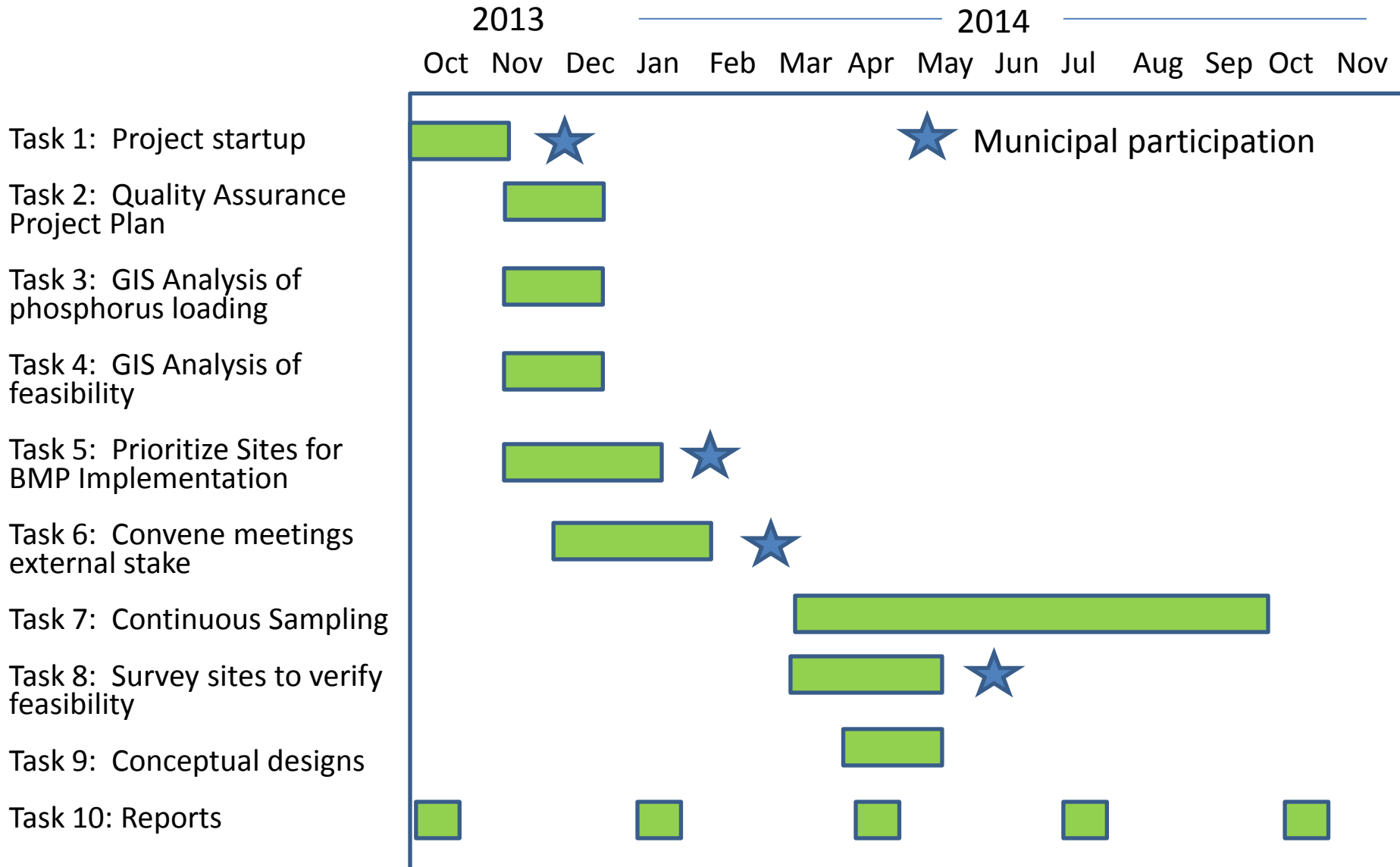
# Porous pavement – illustrative section



# Permeable pavers – illustrative 3D-section



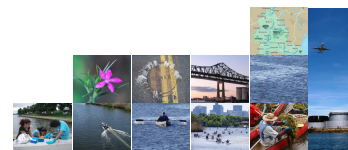
# Project Schedule



# LID Resources

---

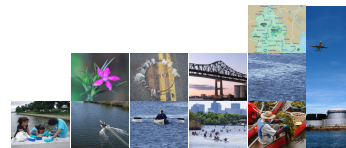
- University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center
  - [unh.edu/unhsc](http://unh.edu/unhsc)
- US EPA Green Infrastructure
  - [water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/DEP](http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/DEP)
- Low Impact Development Center
  - [lowimpactdevelopment.org](http://lowimpactdevelopment.org)
- Boston Complete Streets
  - [bostoncompletestreets.org](http://bostoncompletestreets.org)
- Boston Water & Sewer Commission: Stormwater BMP Guidance Document (2013)
- Charles River Watershed Association
  - <http://www.crwa.org/bluecities.html>



# Site Suitability

---

- Resource Area (Buffers)
- Terrain (Slope)
- Soils and Subsoils (Infiltration)
- Hydrology (Depth to SHWT)
- Contamination
- Utilities





# Maintenance

	Bioretention basin	Bioretention swale	Constructed wetland	Porous pavement	Permeable pavers
Capital cost	\$8 - \$12/sq ft	\$5 - \$10/linear ft	\$0.75-\$2.00/sq ft (\$30k – \$80k/acre)	\$2-\$3/sq ft	\$8 - \$12/sq ft
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Confirm plant growth</li> <li>•Irrigate during plant establishment</li> <li>•Remove invasive species</li> <li>•Remove sediment and debris as necessary</li> <li>•Periodically inspect drainage structures</li> <li>•Swales: mow and remove vegetation once/year</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Periodic inspection <b>during</b> and after rain events to confirm proper drainage</li> <li>•Vacuum sweeping 2-4 times per year</li> <li>•Annual inspection of paver blocks for deterioration</li> <li>•Replace gravel as necessary</li> </ul>	
					



# LID BMP Costs

- Design
- Testing and Permitting
- Construction
- Maintenance
- Monitoring

