

## Green Infrastructure

### 1. Purpose

The Village of North Aurora seeks to improve water quality by strategically implementing Green Infrastructure principles into infrastructure projects.

### 2. Definition

Section 502 of the Clean Water Act defines green infrastructure as "...the range of measures that use plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest and reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspiration stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters. Green infrastructure is a patchwork of natural areas that provides habitat, flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water. At the neighborhood or site scale, stormwater management systems that mimic nature soak up and store water.

### 3. Benefits

Green Infrastructure principles can lead to a cleaner environment and reduce flooding by encouraging infiltration that will recharge aquifers, filter out pollutants, and reduce the volume of runoff.

### 4. Policy Goals

The Village's Green Infrastructure policy will consider implementing green infrastructure principles through the planning, design, and implementation processes for construction, reconstruction, or retrofit of public infrastructure projects and private development. Implementing green infrastructure throughout the Village can demonstrate the Village's commitment to a cleaner environment and influence citizens to be more environmentally conscious.

### 5. Exemptions

Green Infrastructure strategies are intended to be implemented where they are context sensitive and financially appropriate. Retrofitting historic properties to include green roofs may not be an appropriate green infrastructure strategy. Similarly it is not the intent of this policy to impose strategies that would limit the ability to develop a property or complete a project. Rather the intent is to consider how green infrastructure can enhance a project and improve the environment in a responsible manner within the context of the project.

### 6. Evaluation Goals

Success of this project will be measured by the number of projects that plan for, design, and construct projects that include green infrastructure principles.