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Green Infrastructure Fact Sheet

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Abstract

Large paved surfaces keep rain from infiltrating the soil and recharging groundwater supplies. Alternatively, *Green infrastructure* uses natural processes to reduce and treat stormwater *in place* by soaking up and storing water. These systems provide many environmental, social, and economic benefits that promote urban livability and add to the bottom line. Green infrastructure refers to *systems use vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage stormwater* and generate healthier urban environments. Run-off from impervious surfaces, leakage from sewage infrastructure, septic systems, agricultural ditches and tile drains creates excess nitrogen (N) in groundwater, rivers, lakes, and coastal areas. Many green infrastructure elements can be optimized for N removal by sustaining conditions necessary that promote biological N transformation (e.g. denitrification).

Key Words

Green infrastructure, nitrogen, urban ecosystem, water quality