



# Soak Up the Rain New England Webinar Series

Wednesday, May 25th  
1:00-2:30 EST [To Register](#)

*Join us for the second webinar in our 2016 series:*

***“Engaging Urban Residents: Innovative Approaches to Promoting Community-Based Stormwater Management”***

*Presentations include:*

**Pallavi Mande, Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA).** Pallavi will describe the CRWA's *Blue Cities Initiative*. The Initiative works to restore natural hydrology to urban watersheds while enhancing neighborhoods and connecting open spaces. Pallavi will also present case studies of community-based green infrastructure installations in the Charles River watershed which have improved water quality and reduced stormwater runoff while providing other of benefits for neighborhood residents.

**Giovanni Zinn, New Haven Engineering Department, New Haven, CT.** Giovanni will discuss city-wide green infrastructure projects that have helped to address both flooding and stormwater issues in the city. Partners have included the Yale School of Forestry, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and EMERGE Connecticut, Inc. (a transitional work training program). To date, Giovanni has installed more than a dozen bioretention systems in residential areas with plans to install many more in the next two years in the downtown central business district, leveraging federal, state and municipal funding.

**Peter Coffin, Blackstone Headwaters Coalition and the Blackstone River Coalition.** Peter will highlight the Coalition's green infrastructure projects in Worcester, MA, including, the most recent: *Stormwater Benefits of Urban Trees*- an outreach effort to engage inner city residents to understand the role that trees play in reducing stormwater runoff and flooding. Through this project

## Who Should Attend:

Municipal decision makers and DPW staff, environmental organizations, practitioners, and interested citizens- anyone who is considering a new project or looking to build on an existing program.

## Webinar Series

We will be focusing on a range of innovative approaches to addressing stormwater in New England, presented by leaders from around the region.

- Hear about stormwater public outreach resources and programs
- See who's soaking up the rain as we showcase green infrastructure projects and programs
- Learn about the latest tools and resources from EPA and others for implementing and promoting green infrastructure and
- Engage with others as we share information about successes, barriers, and lessons learned while implementing green infrastructure in our New England communities.

over 68 trees were planted and over twenty educational events were conducted. The goal is to plant 100 trees by summer, 2016. Peter will also describe the “*Rain Gardens to the Rescue*” project, which resulted in the creation of several demonstration rain gardens throughout the city.

**Michael Chavez, Fairmount/Indigo Line CDC Collaborative; and Trevor Smith, Land Escapes.** Michael and Trevor will describe the *Living Roof Bus Shelter Initiative* in which green roofs have been installed on bus shelters in Boston. Michael and Trevor will describe: how they collaborated with local groups, the types of community outreach efforts that supported the initiative and how local youth are being trained on the installation and maintenance of the green roofs. They will also discuss how this initiative conveys the many benefits of green roofs and other green infrastructure practices, especially in an urban setting.

## Upcoming Webinar Topics:

- *Latest and Greatest EPA Green Infrastructure Tools*
- *Back to School: Soaking Up the Rain at K-12 Schools*
- *Paying for Stormwater Management: Innovative Funding Strategies*
- *Driving Demand for Green Infrastructure*

\*For questions about the webinar series or if you have ideas for additional webinar topics, please send an email to [soakuptherain@epa.gov](mailto:soakuptherain@epa.gov)

\*Email registration address- <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3676184516157238785>

