

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

STATE PROGRAM: Oklahoma Water Resources Board

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: Oklahoma Conservation Commission

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$300,000



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC) received CWSRF financial assistance and partnered with other state agencies, municipalities, universities, and non-profit groups to implement diverse projects in disadvantaged communities to protect waterbodies on the state's 303d list, which are significantly impacted by NPS pollution. One innovative arm of the project creates a wetland at Lake Eufaula in which the native vegetation and wetland soils will capture and treat stormwater runoff from a portion of the City of Eufaula. The location will include educational components and recreational opportunities so that residents can learn about the value of wetlands. Another project at Lake McMurry used project funds to create a parking lot using permeable pavement, which will increase infiltration and reduce pollutant runoff. The final demonstration and educational project funded by the OCC was a bioretention cell for the parking lot at the Grand River Dam Authority's state-of-the-art water quality and research lab. The bioretention cell will capture and treat runoff from the parking lot area at the education center and will be used as part of a tour to educate visitors about the principles of low-impact development and the efforts necessary to protect Grand Lake water quality.

To read more about this case study, please visit https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-11/documents/pisces_compendium_final2.pdf.