

# U.S. EPA Stormwater Educational Videos

*Reduce Runoff: Slow It Down, Spread It Out, Soak It In*

*Building Green: A Success Story in Philadelphia*

*RiverSmart Homes: Getting Smart about Runoff in Washington, DC*



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds

<http://water.epa.gov/aboutow/owow/>

EPA-840-F-10-004

United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
4501T  
Washington, DC 20012



## What is LID (Low Impact Development) ?

Low Impact Development (LID), also known as Green Infrastructure, helps mimic the natural way water moves through an area before development by using design techniques that infiltrate, evapotranspire, and reuse runoff close to its source. LID helps protect and restore water quality. Using vegetated areas that capture runoff also improves air quality, mitigates the effects of urban heat islands, and reduces a community's overall carbon footprint.

**For more information, visit:**

**Low Impact Development**  
[www.epa.gov/nps/lid](http://www.epa.gov/nps/lid)

**Green Infrastructure**  
[www.epa.gov/greeninfrastructure](http://www.epa.gov/greeninfrastructure)

**Watch the videos and download them for free!**

<http://www.epa.gov/nps/lid/video.html>

## Reduce Runoff: Slow It Down, Spread It Out, Soak It In

This 9-minute video by the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Botanic Garden highlights green techniques such as rain gardens, green roofs and rain barrels to help manage stormwater runoff. The film showcases green techniques that are being used in urban areas to reduce the effects of stormwater runoff on the quality of downstream receiving waters. The techniques are innovative stormwater management practices that manage urban stormwater runoff at its source, reduce the volume of stormwater runoff, and capture harmful pollutants. Using vegetated areas to capture runoff improves air quality, mitigates the effects of urban heat islands, and reduces a community's carbon footprint. The video is also available with Spanish subtitles.



## Building Green: A Success Story in Philadelphia

In 2010, EPA's Office of Water produced this 11-minute video which highlights innovative efforts by green builders in Philadelphia who are helping protect and restore environmental quality and beautify the city. By installing cisterns, green roofs, porous pavers, solar panels, and Energy Star appliances, builders are capturing rainwater, reducing stormwater runoff, and saving energy. The exciting news is that the units are selling even in a depressed market, thanks to many of the amenities, including the attractive green roofs, reduced utility bills and proximity to public transit. The city is now offering incentives to builders and developers like Onion Flats to use green techniques to help meet clean water and other environmental goals.



## RiverSmart Homes: Getting Smart about Runoff in Washington, DC

This 12-minute video produced in 2010 highlights RiverSmart Homes, a program that was launched in 2006 by the District Department of the Environment as a way to combat Washington, DC's serious stormwater problems and to actively involve the community. Residential properties are the single largest land use in the nation's capital, and the program actively engages the community in restoring the rivers. Thanks to this unique urban waters project, homeowners in diverse city neighborhoods are enthusiastically adopting environmentally friendly landscaping practices to reduce the effects of stormwater runoff and help bring back the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, as well as lesser known Rock Creek and Oxon Run.

