

BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS: **SIDEWALK SHEDS NEAR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURES**

BACKGROUND

This bulletin provides guidance to owners, contractors, and designers for placing sidewalk sheds near green infrastructure.

Green infrastructure is typically located within or adjacent to a sidewalk right of way. Care must be taken when designing and placing a sidewalk shed to ensure the sidewalk shed does not damage or negatively impact green infrastructure.



Photo Source: NYC DEP

Rain gardens are a type of green infrastructure.

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is defined in 15 RCNY §19-01 as “the range of city-owned measures that use plant or soil systems, permeable pavement or other permeable surfaces or substrates, stormwater harvest or reuse, or landscaping to store, infiltrate or evapotranspire stormwater and reduce flows to sewer systems or to surface waters.”

Read [Buildings Bulletin 2021-004](#) for full details on how to identify green infrastructure.

HIGHLIGHTS

Owners, contractors and designers must comply with the restrictions in the Bulletin when designing and installing sidewalk sheds near the following types of green infrastructure:

- rain gardens
- concrete top infiltration basins
- grass top infiltration basins

The restrictions aim to prevent damage to these green infrastructures, ensuring sidewalk sheds do not impede on their continual operation, including maintenance access by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) while complying with the requirements of the Building Code.

DEP may require additional measures when working near green infrastructure. [Read the Bulletin for full details.](#)

How do I know my project is compliant?

Talk to your registered design professional and contractor about the restrictions detailed in this Bulletin to make sure your project is compliant.

Send questions to constructioncodes@buildings.nyc.gov.