Green Infrastructure: Growing Green Benefits



- 1. Green roofs, bioswales, and rain gardens are examples of green infrastructure that absorb:
 - a. Litter
 - b. Stormwater
 - c. Sediment
 - d. Biodiversity
- 2. Stormwater that runs off of streets, sidewalks, and rooftops can collect:
 - a. Litter
 - b. Oil
 - c. Sediment
 - d. All of the above
- 3. In both combined sewer and separate storm sewer systems, stormwater runoff eventually flows to our waterways and may result in pollutants entering the water. How can green infrastructure help reduce the presence of pollution?
- 4. Match the environmental concern with a potential green infrastructure solution.

Concerns

- 1. Smog can cause an increase in asthma cases.
- 2. Polluted stormwater overflow harms fish health and habitats.
- 3. Migratory birds don't find enough food.
- The Urban Heat Island Effect causes city temperatures to be higher than its surroundings.

Solutions

- A. Reduce the stress on sewers through the retention and absorption of stormwater
- B. Provide shade that keeps buildings cool and reduces the use of energy to keep cool
- C. Create micro-environments that contain a variety of plants
- D. Increase the amount of plants that capture airborne pollutants and filter our air
- 5. How does adding planted green space help the health of you and your community?

Answer Key: Green Infrastructure: Growing Green Benefits

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 - d. All of the above
- 3. In both combined sewer and separate storm sewer systems, stormwater runoff eventually flows to our waterways and may result in pollutants entering the water. How can green infrastructure help reduce the presence of pollution?
 - Natural filtration of pollutants through plant, soil and root structures
 - Helps manage amount of water entering sewer, decreasing the likelihood of CSO events for combined systems
- 4. Match the environmental concern with a potential green infrastructure solution.

Concerns

- 1. Smog can cause an increase in asthma cases. D
- 2. Polluted stormwater overflow harms fish health and habitats. **A**
- 3. Migratory birds don't find enough food. C
- The Urban Heat Island Effect causes city temperatures to be higher than its surroundings. B

Solutions

- A. Reduce the stress on sewers through the retention and absorption of stormwater
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- C. Create micro-environments that contain a variety of plants
- D. Increase the amount of plants that capture airborne pollutants and filter our air
- 5. How does adding planted green space help the health of you and your community?
 - Beautifies your neighborhood
 - Personal health / happiness
 - Public health for example, improving air and water quality
 - Reduces cost of living, keeps buildings cooler

