



Hi! When it rains, green infrastructure collects the rain water or “stormwater” that falls on streets, sidewalks, rooftops, and parking lots. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) builds green infrastructure to reduce flooding and improve water quality in local waterways.



Infiltration Basin with Grass Top



Infiltration Basin with Concrete Top

DEP has built thousands of green infrastructure assets across the City that capture rainwater to reduce flooding and improve harbor water quality. One type of green infrastructure asset is an **Infiltration Basin** that is installed along street curbs. Infiltration basins maintain the look and feel of the existing sidewalk while still offering sustainability benefits. They do not include the trees or tree guards you may have seen in our rain gardens.

DEP performs multiple studies before deciding if an Infiltration Basin is feasible. If the sidewalk has an existing grassy strip, an Infiltration Basin with Grass Top will be installed (re-routing or capping existing irrigation systems as necessary). If the existing condition is concrete, an Infiltration Basin with Concrete Top will be installed. Once constructed, DEP is fully responsible for the maintenance of the Infiltration Basin.

Benefits of Green Infrastructure Infiltration Basins:

- ✓ Improves street drainage
- ✓ Reduces puddles and ponds
- ✓ Decreases stormwater entering the sewer system
- ✓ Beautifies community with new concrete and grass
- ✓ Creates green jobs
- ✓ Makes waterways cleaner