



August 31, 2005

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR GREEN ROOF AND RAINWATER HARVESTING DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is seeking candidate sites for two demonstration projects in the Ipswich River watershed:

- Green Roof demonstration
- Rainwater Harvesting demonstration

Funded through a Targeted Watersheds grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, these are two of nine pilot projects intended to demonstrate and quantify the benefits of low-impact development and water conservation techniques in restoring flows to the Ipswich River.

Green Roof Demonstration

A green roof is a vegetated roof system designed to reduce stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution.

- Funding available: up to \$120,000. The project proponent would be asked to contribute matching funds.
- Types of projects: municipal or other high-visibility roof project that is part of new construction or that is scheduled for a new roof or roof repairs. The project must be located within the Ipswich River watershed.
- Project timeline: Design and construction of the green roof should be completed no later than December 2006.
- Benefits to project sponsor:
 - Reduce stormwater runoff
 - Reduce nonpoint source pollution to environmentally sensitive areas
 - Improve energy efficiency of the building and reduce “heat-island” effect in the vicinity of the building
 - Improve site aesthetics

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Rainwater Harvesting Demonstration

Rainwater harvesting is a method of capturing and reusing rainwater for nonpotable applications, such as landscape irrigation. The grant will provide funding towards the installation of one large-capacity system, which will include an underground storage vault with a capacity of up to 10,000 gallons, a pressure pump, and a flow meter.

- Funding available: up to \$10,000. The property owner would be expected to contribute matching funds.
- Types of projects: any new development or redevelopment with substantial outdoor watering needs. The project must be located within the Ipswich River watershed.
- Project timeline: The project should be one in which excavation work is scheduled for Fall 2005 or Spring 2006, so the system can be installed at the time of excavation and be operational by Summer 2006.
- Benefits to project sponsor:
 - Reduce potable water use
 - Reduce demands on public water supplies
 - Reduce negative impacts to sensitive environmental resources from site runoff

For More Information

Interested parties should contact the following within the next few weeks to discuss candidate sites for both demonstration projects.

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