# **Low-Impact Development (LID) Subdivision Demonstration Project:**

department of Conservation and Recreation





A sub-project of the EPA-funded Ipswich River Restoration Targeted Watershed Grant

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has been awarded a grant to pilot and quantify the benefits of low-impact development (LID) and water conservation techniques in the Ipswich River watershed. The purpose of the pilot projects is to enhance groundwater recharge and reduce water demand as a means to help restore flows to the Ipswich River. The program consists of nine pilot projects, including the LID Subdivision Demonstration project.

#### **LID Subdivision Demonstration**

The LID Subdivision demonstration will be a residential or mixed-use subdivision that uses LID principles as the basis of design. DCR will provide funding of up to \$75,000 to a developer or consultant with an existing or proposed subdivision project to partner with DCR to use the site to:

- Demonstrate the feasibility and benefit of combining a wide range of LID techniques into a single development
- *Obtain measurements* to quantify the recharge associated with the demonstration site

### What Projects Are Eligible?

Candidate projects must already be conceptualized and meet these criteria (see the complete Request for Response (RFR) for all evaluation criteria):

- Site is located within the Ipswich River Watershed (see map, next page).
- Site is *EITHER* already designed based on LID principles *OR* is early enough in the planning and design process that LID principles can become the basis for design.
- Project is able to be permitted, planned, designed, and substantially constructed by Sept. 30, 2006.
- Project has funding/financing in place to support its completion, independent from the assistance to be provided through this contract.
- Geologically, the site is conducive to groundwater recharge and total runoff measurements.



The Ipswich River has been stressed by extreme low-flow conditions. 1997 photo by D. Armstrong.

#### What is LID?

LID principles focus on restoring or retaining the predevelopment hydrologic conditions of a site by:

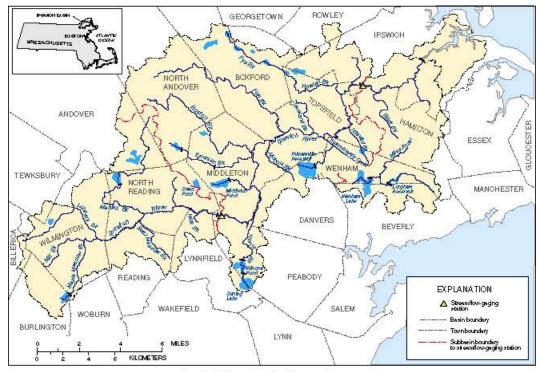
- Decentralizing stormwater recharge
- Maximizing the use of natural vegetation, natural site grading, and open space for non-structural stormwater infiltration
- Minimizing underground stormwater conveyance structures
- Minimizing impervious areas

Constructed LID features of the subdivision may include, but are not limited to: rain gardens, open swales, bioretention areas, vegetated buffers, and vegetated roofs, all of which can reduce stormwater runoff and improve site aesthetics. For more information, see:

www.mass.gov/envir/lid/default.htm .

## **Benefits to Participants**

- Receive funding of up to \$75,000
- Participate in a nationally recognized project
- Demonstrate leadership in innovative approaches to land use and stormwater management
- Potentially improve marketability of project



Ipswich River Basin, Massachusetts

## What Should Potential Projects Include?

The site must incorporate LID principles and practices into the layout and design – for example:

- Minimize impervious areas, such as roadways, driveways, parking lots, and building footprints
- Minimize directly connected impervious areas
- Preserve natural vegetation and open space
- Minimize alterations to the site's topography and soil disturbance during construction
- Increase drainage flow paths
- Match appropriate recharge areas with features such as rain gardens, bioretention cells, swales, and permeable surfaces. Pre-existing site grading should be used, where possible, to direct runoff toward recharge areas.

## **Project Schedule and Deadlines**

Submit written questions to DCR	April 5, 2005
Bidders' conference	April 8, 2005
Responses due	April 22, 2005
Substantial project construction	Sept. 30, 2006

## How Can Bidders Access the Request for Response (RFR)?

- Go to Comm-Pass: http://www.comm-pass.com/
- Click on "Search for Solicitations" along the right-hand side of the page.
- Under "AND Search by Specific Criteria," enter the following in the box marked Document Number and click "search": DSP 092
- Click on the line at the top of the page, "There are 1 Solicitations(s) found that match your search criteria"
- Click on the eyeglasses icon to view the solicitation.
- Click the "specifications" tab along the top of the summary to view the entire solicitation.

### For more information, contact:

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