

Practical Maintenance of Green Stormwater Infrastructure at Roger Williams Park

October 10, 2107
Summary of Survey Results

Out of 44 attendees, 16 returned a complete survey, a 36% response rate. Most respondents felt that they would be able to use what they learned in the training and that it had improved their understanding of the maintenance of green stormwater infrastructure. Most survey respondents also indicated that the field training was the highlight of the workshop.

	Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Neither Disagree or Agree 3	Agree 4	Strongly Agree 5	Mean
1. I will be able to use what I learned in this workshop.	6.25%	0%	6.25%	50%	37.5%	4.13
2. The hands-on field training was worthwhile.	6.25%	0%	0%	50%	43.75%	4.25
3. This workshop was a good way for me to explore this content.	6.25%	0%	6.25%	31.25%	56.25%	4.31

Evaluate your improvement in the following areas as a result of this workshop:	No Improvement	Some Improvement	Much Improvement	Mean
4. Understand how vegetated stormwater systems work	31.25%	37.5%	31.25%	2
5. Identify the type of maintenance needed	13.33%	66.67%	20%	2.07
6. Use the inspection/maintenance checklist	0%	60%	40%	2.4

7. Identify weeds versus plantings	18.75%	43.75%	37.5%	2.19
8. Understand how to maintain a swale	20%	60%	20%	2

9. What was the best part of the workshop for you?

Almost all respondents answered that the best part of the workshop involved the field work. All submitted answers are included below.

- I thought the whole day was worthwhile. Really liked Brian's (HW) presentation of explanations. Field work was very informative. Discussion after lunch was valuable too.
- I liked the discussions regarding the maintenance requirements during the "field" portion of the training.
- The hands on training and discussion at the specific sites
- Group efforts
- Hand on identification of plants
- I feel the best part was in the identifying of plants, being with RIDOT Stormwater Maintenance I know how the systems work
- Trainers explaining things at each station
- Learning new stormwater designs being implemented in our area
- Going out to sites identifying issues
- Being able to actually see the installations and receive an overview from the trainers was great
- Plant ID; Wet swale at Polo Lake
- Excellent instructors
- Knowledge of staff/instructors
- Seeing the sections and how they worked
- Field inspection; plant ID; Having BMPs needing maintenance or re-builds
- Seeing specific projects, both design as well as installations in person.

10. What could we have done better?

Overall, the most consistent response was a need for better organization during the field work. All submitted answers are included below.

- Update O&M checklists to flow the way the water flows
- Organized the different groups of people better
- Get more cities and towns involved to educate. I feel this was a good learning experience for all. I think bringing together the various experts was huge.
- Q&A specific to maintenance staff → maybe hand out questions and have them discuss during lunch with one trainer in each group → group answers

- Training was up to par with knowledge needed for my job
- There was a lack of organization with establishing teams to go out into the field. Multiple people had their own opinion on how to do it and it took a while to get on the same page.
- I think a better overview of “common” GI structures would have helped. And instead of trying to provide an overview of the sites inside where it’s hard to see, maybe have posters that the trainers can use to provide overviews outside at the actual sites. Also, groupings were very confusing (as was the checklist) and there weren’t enough handouts – it was hard to follow along without the plans.
- Pre arranged grouping
- ½ day seminar. Holds your audience more.
- Somewhat disorganized starting tours
- Planned out how the group would divide up and flow between site visits.

Additional Comments and Suggestions for Future Training

- Talk about other sources – road sand, herbicides, fertilizers impact on stormwater
- Overall this was an enlightening training. People learn by doing.
- Perhaps other cities and towns hosting a similar work shop with other types of structures ponds etc.
- Thank you. Well worth the time.
- Materials were great! And every detail was explained very well
- ? of the #’d design docs, including the hardscape and name of parts; Provide a “kit of parts.” What are major types of GI? Then what elements make them up. Check dams, sediment basins, stone swale, vegetated swale, etc.