

# Structural Measures at a Glance

## GENERAL COASTAL RISK REDUCTION PERFORMANCE FACTORS: STORM SURGE AND WAVE HEIGHT/PERIOD, WATER LEVEL



### Levees

#### Benefits/Processes

Surge and Wave attenuation and/or dissipation  
Reduce Flooding  
Risk Reduction for vulnerable areas

#### Performance Factors

Levee height, crest width, and slope  
Wave height and period  
Water level

### Storm Surge Barriers

#### Benefits/Processes

Surge and Wave attenuation  
Reduced Salinity Intrusion

#### Performance Factors

Barrier height  
Wave height  
Wave period  
Water level

### Seawalls and Revetments

#### Benefits/Processes

Reduce flooding  
Reduce wave overtopping  
Shoreline stabilization behind structure

#### Performance Factors

Wave height  
Wave period  
Water level  
Scour protection

### Groins

#### Benefits/Processes

Shoreline stabilization

#### Performance Factors

Groin length, height, orientation, permeability and spacing  
Depth at seaward end  
Wave height  
Water level  
Longshore transportation rates and distribution

### Detached Breakwaters

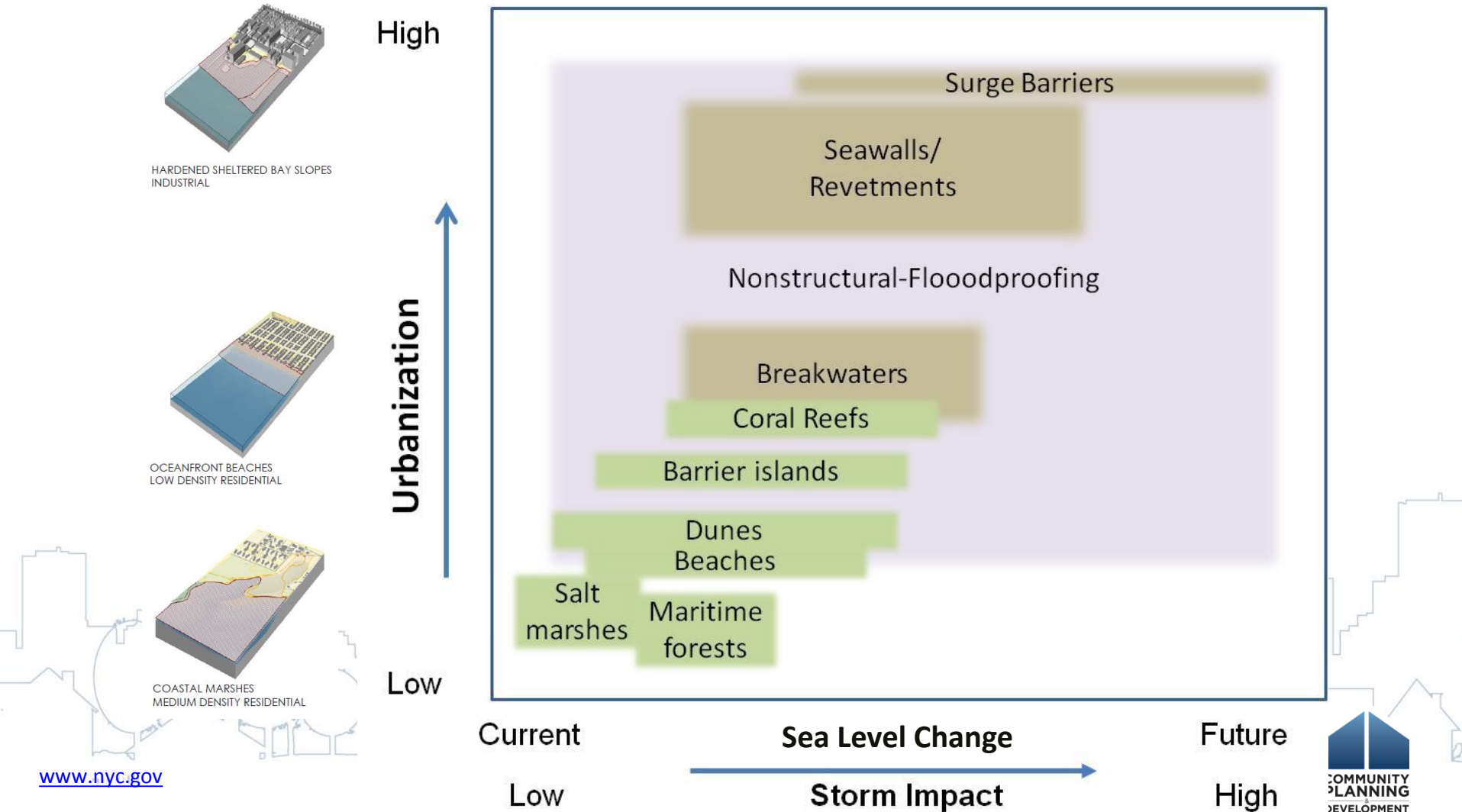
#### Benefits/Processes

Shoreline stabilization behind structure  
Wave attenuation

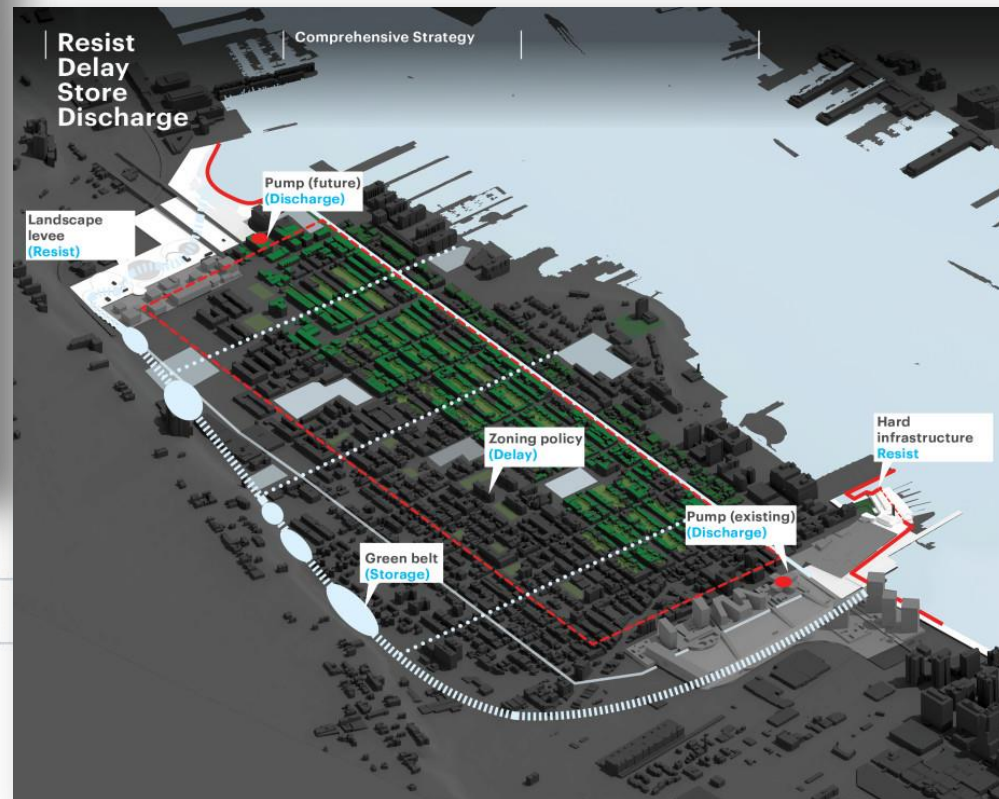
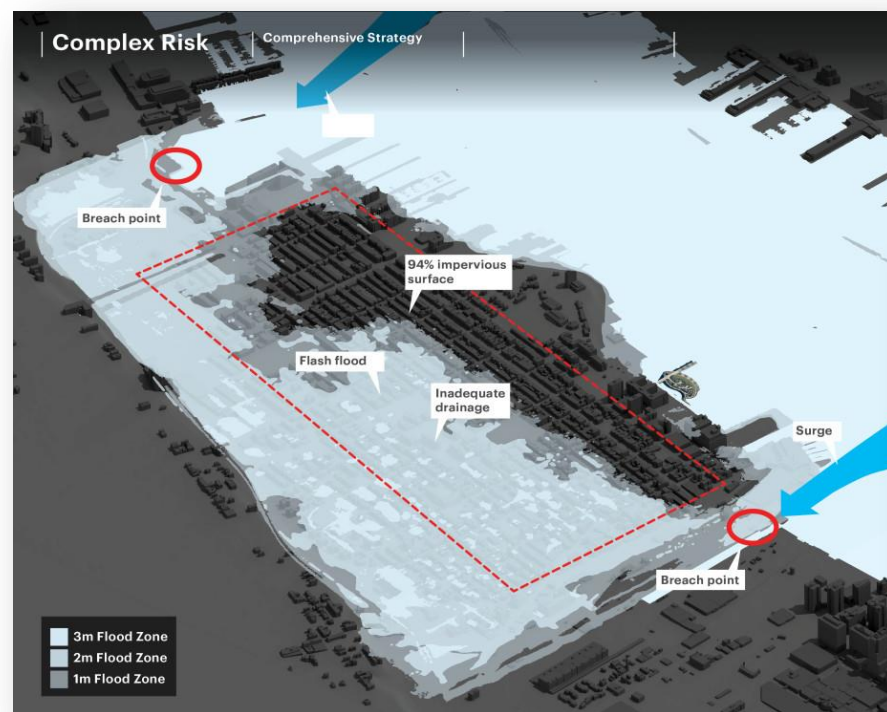
#### Performance Factors

Breakwater height and width.  
Breakwater permeability, proximity to shoreline, orientation and spacing

# Combined Approaches (Notional Graphic)



# Sandy's Rebuild By Design Effort: Hoboken

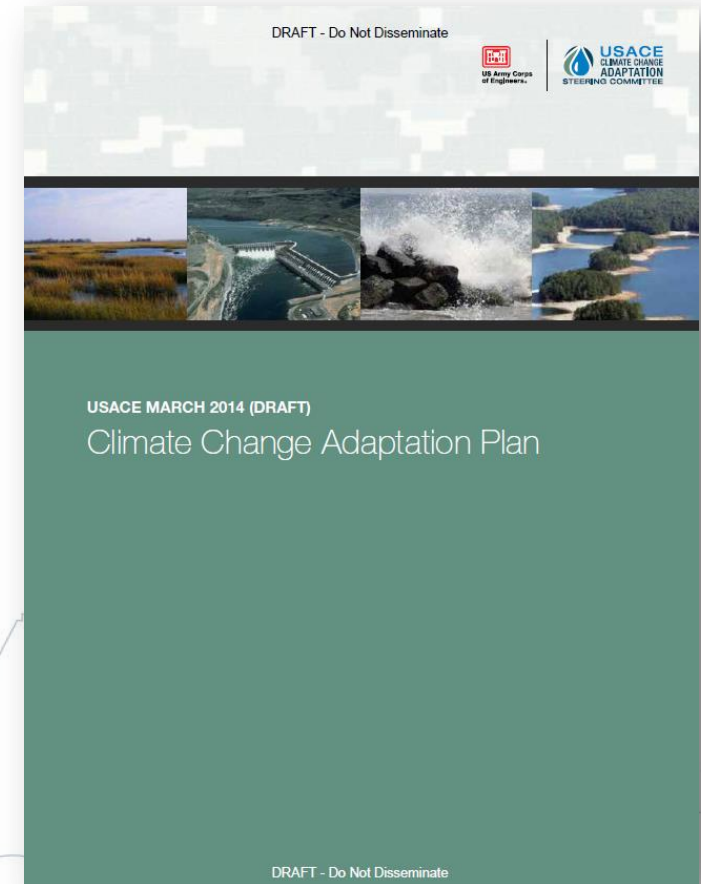




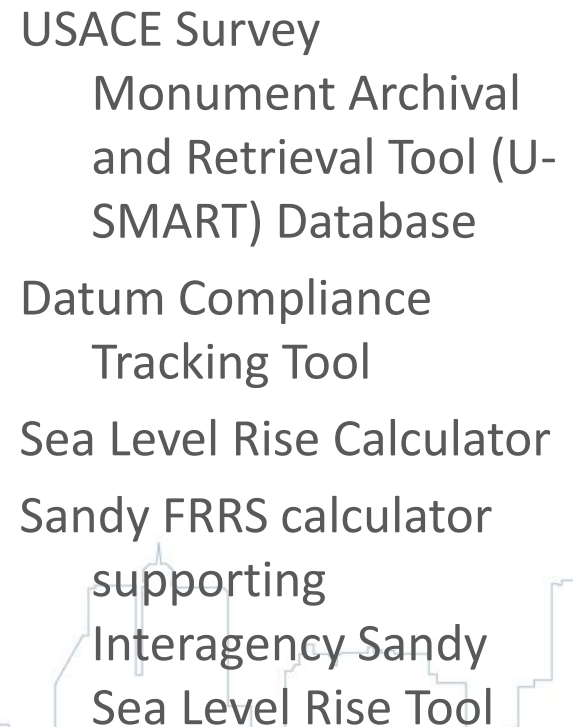
# For More Information

USACE is working with other agencies and experts to develop actionable science on which to base policies and guidance

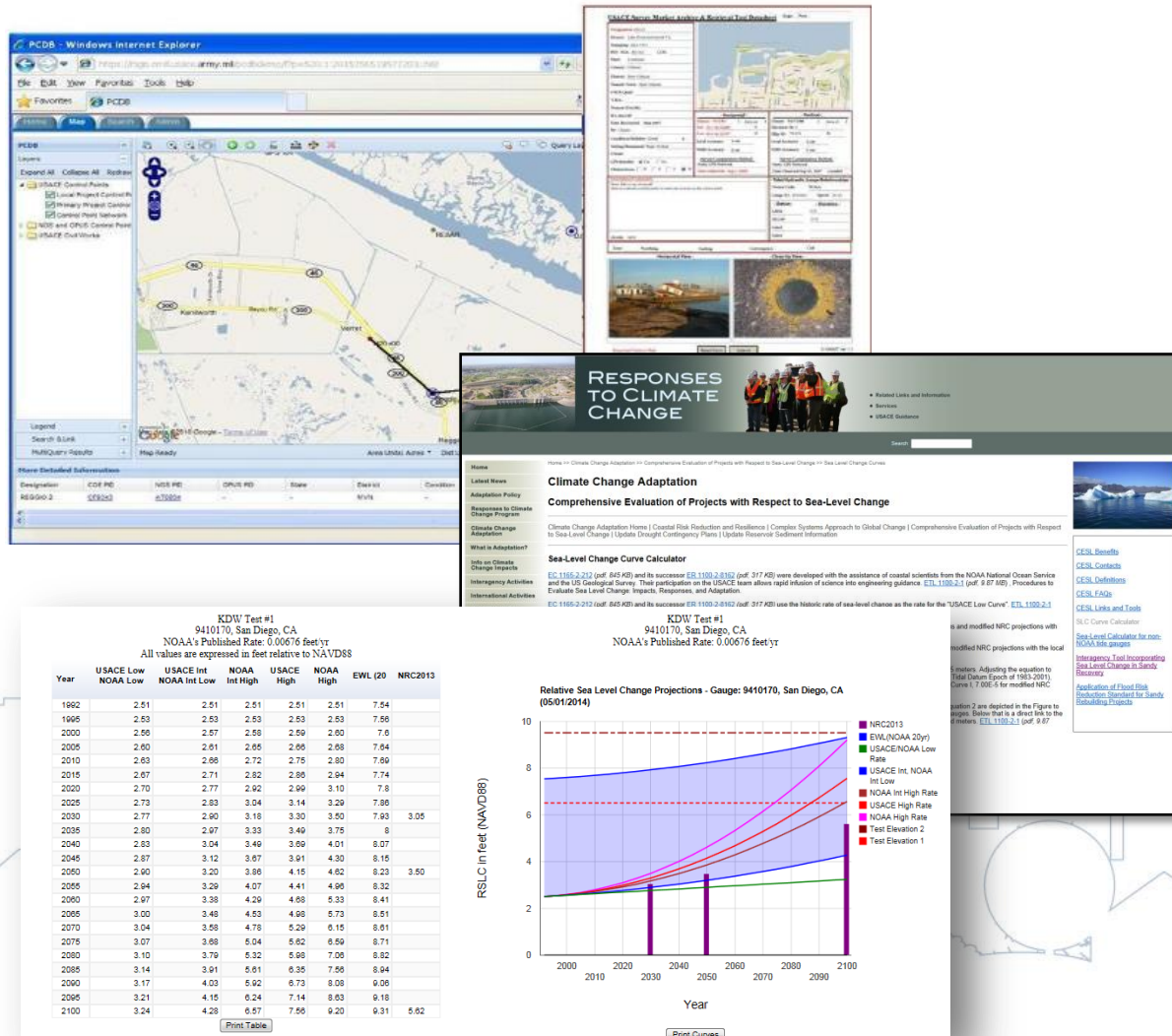
- Focusing on specific areas
- Conducting vulnerability assessments
- Building adaptive capacity
- Beginning with datums, changing sea levels, then hydrology, developing approaches and technical guidance
- Developing tools to streamline implementation



# Adaptation for New Infrastructure – USACE Tools 1/2



USACE Survey  
Monument Archival  
and Retrieval Tool (U-  
SMART) Database  
Datum Compliance  
Tracking Tool  
Sea Level Rise Calculator  
Sandy FRRS calculator  
supporting  
Interagency Sandy  
Sea Level Rise Tool

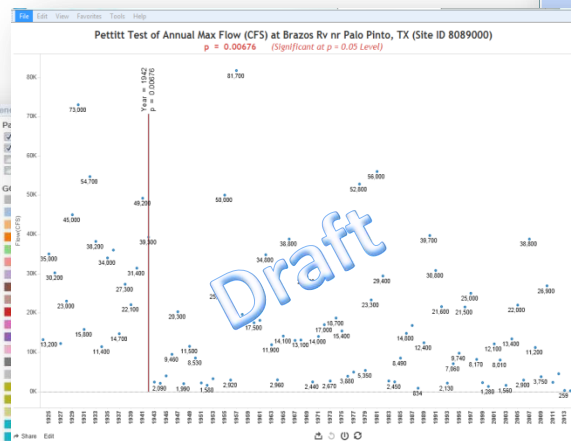


# Adaptation for New Infrastructure – USACE Tools 2/2

Interagency archive of downscaled climate information and hydrology

Visualization tools based on archive in preparation:

- Hydrologic trends supporting ECB 2014-10
- Detection of nonstationarity supporting draft ETL in preparation
- Assessment of projected changes in frequency using HEC SSP



# Adaptation for Existing Infrastructure – Phased Coastal Vulnerability Assessments

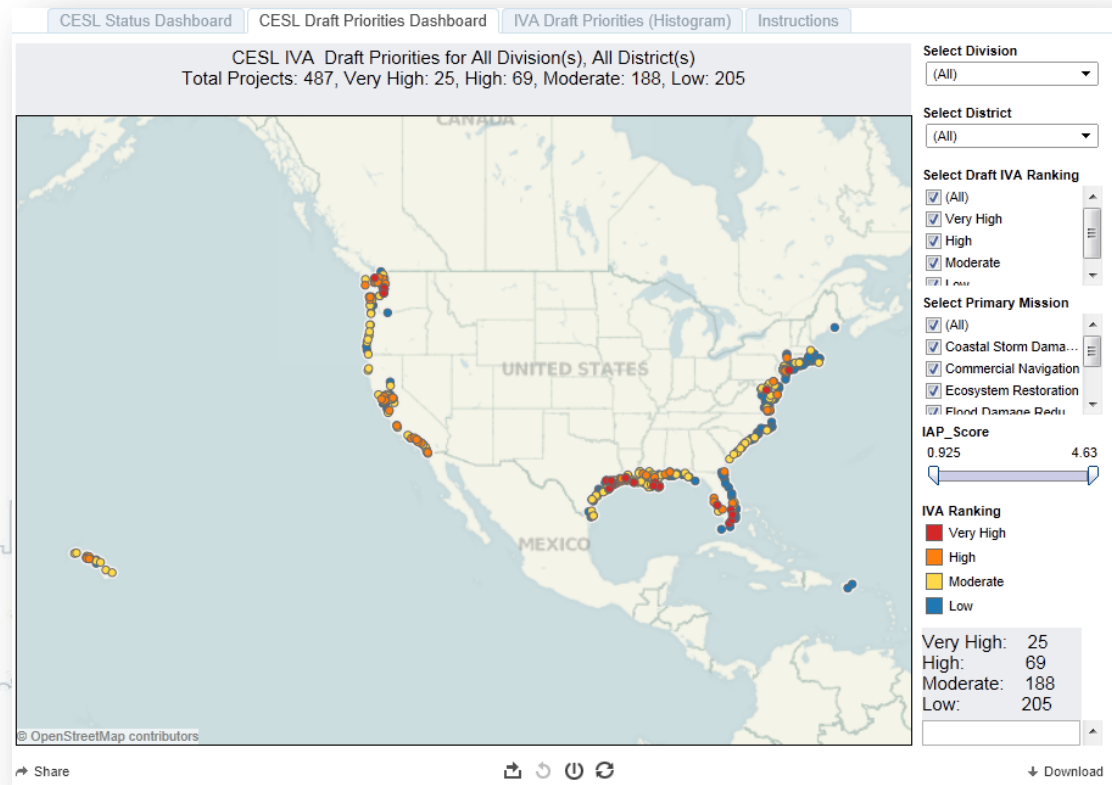
USACE completed Initial Vulnerability Assessment (IVA) of Coastal Projects

- 1431 projects assessed
- ~1/3 (487) potentially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change
- ~ 7% (94) assessed as having high or very high vulnerability

Next steps:

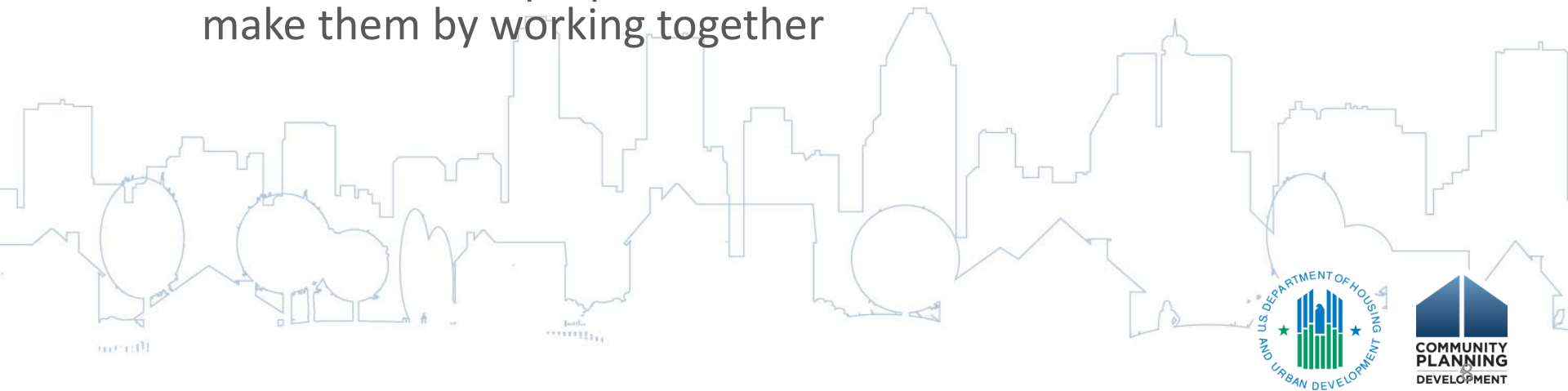
- Conduct next phase assessment for high and very high projects
- Complete pilot detailed assessment of Stamford Barrier – FY15
- Begin pilots for other projects

Working to modify for Army



# Summary

- Effective climate preparedness and resilience incorporates a systems approach to long-term planning that recognizes differences in adaptive capacity and performance ranges of risk reduction measures
- Innovative and integrated approaches using the full portfolio of measures hold promise for long-term risk reduction
- Tough choices will have to be made to improve our national climate preparedness and resilience – we can make them by working together





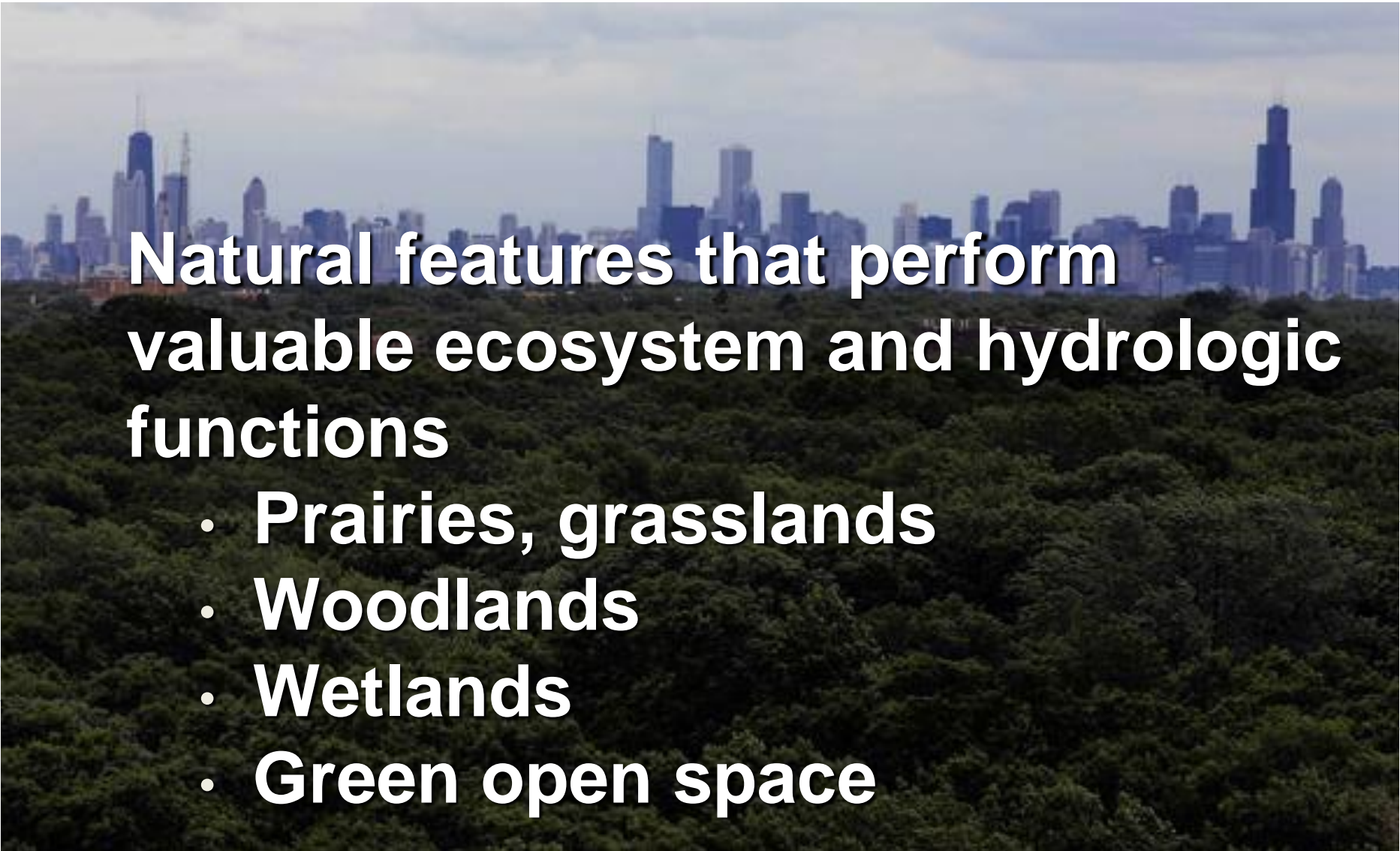
# Green Infrastructure

*Harnessing Ecosystem Services for Water Management*





# Natural Green Infrastructure

A photograph showing a dense green forest in the foreground, with the Chicago skyline visible in the background under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the forest.

**Natural features that perform  
valuable ecosystem and hydrologic  
functions**

- **Prairies, grasslands**
- **Woodlands**
- **Wetlands**
- **Green open space**

# Natural Green Infrastructure

## Protect and Restore

- Partnerships, Acquisitions
- Conservation Easements
- Zoning, Comprehensive Plans
- Restoration, Stewardship



# Stormwater Green Infrastructure

Constructed features that mimic natural systems

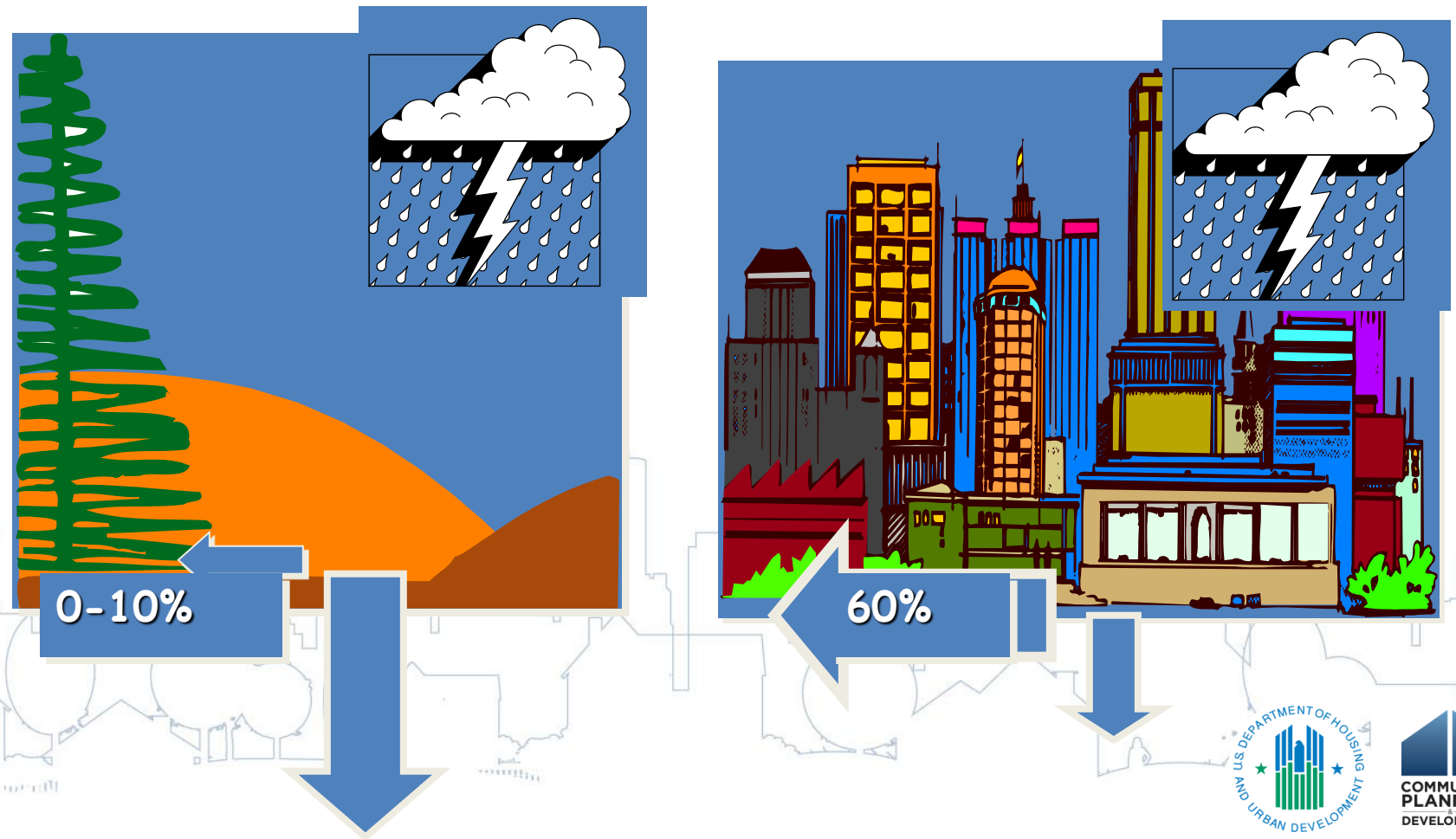
- Rain Gardens
- Bioswales
- Permeable Pavement
- Green Roofs





# Why Do We Need Stormwater Green Infrastructure Features?

## *Development Increases Run-off*





# Increased Run-off due to Impervious Surfaces





An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood, likely in a developed area. The image shows a dense arrangement of residential buildings, streets, and parking lots. A thick black line is drawn around a large portion of the central and upper parts of the image, highlighting a specific area. The text '~ 75% Impervious Surfaces' is overlaid in yellow on this highlighted area.

~ 75% Impervious Surfaces

# Effects of Impervious Surfaces and Large Runoff Volumes

## Combined Sewer Areas: CSOs

## Separate Sewer Areas:

### Stream channel damage

- Stream widening and erosion
- Decreased channel stability
- Loss of riparian tree canopy

Degraded habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates





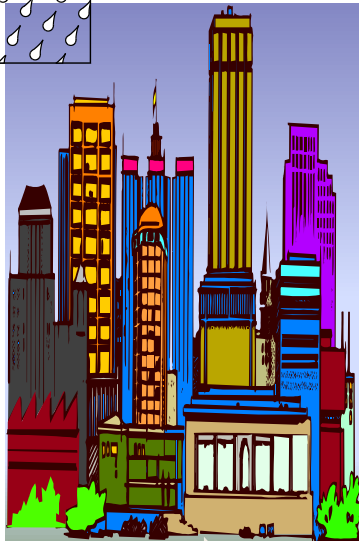
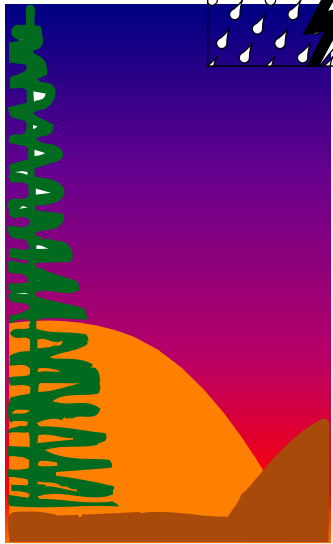
# Pollutants in Stormwater Discharges



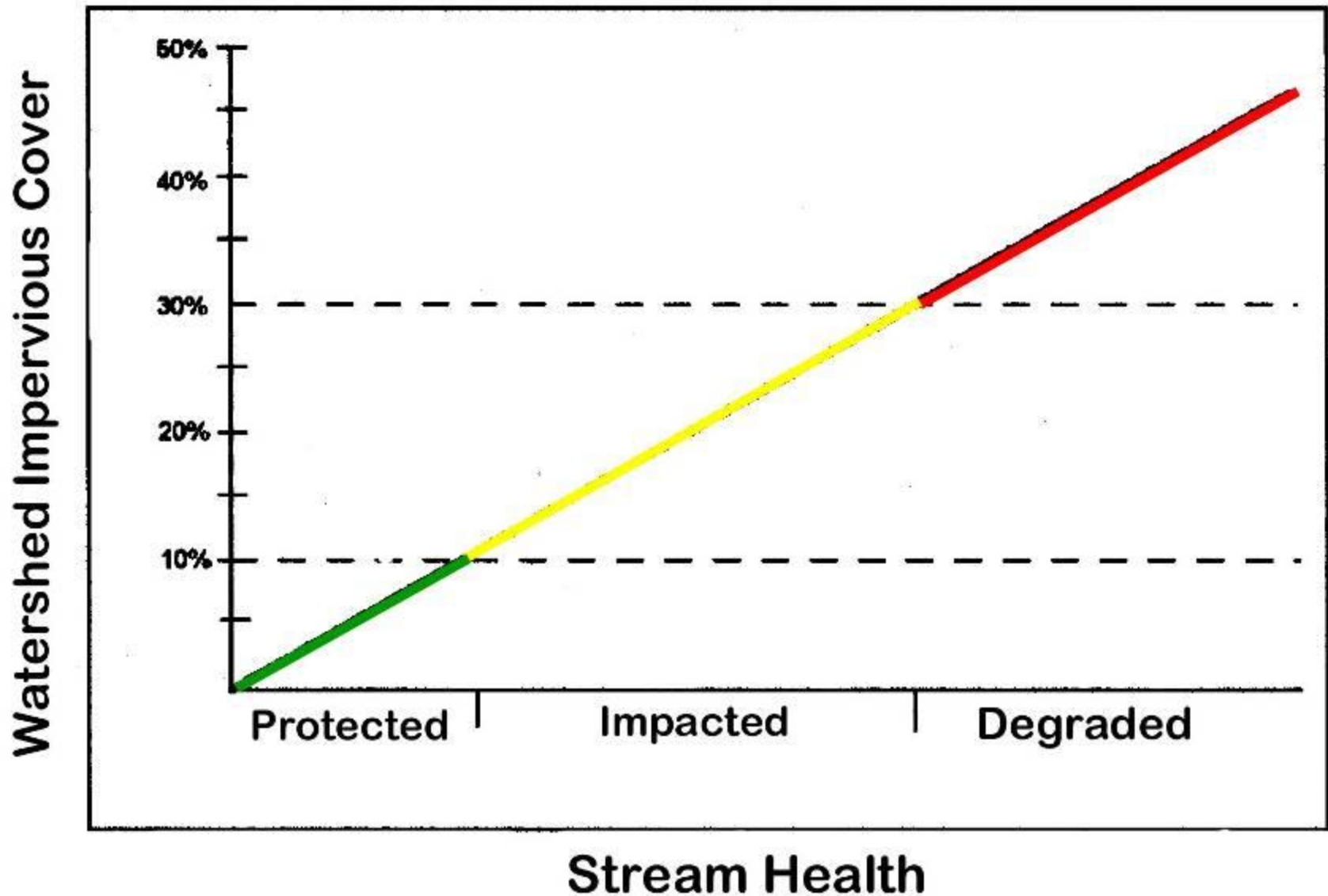
Nutrients  
Pathogens  
Sediment  
Toxic Contaminants  
Oil and Grease  
Thermal Stress



Increased quantity  
Decreased quality



# Relationship of Impervious Cover to Stream Health



# Excessive Runoff from Impervious Surfaces also Contributes to Localized Flooding and Basement Back-ups







**How to make  
this...**

**function like  
this?**





# What Measures Can Be Implemented to More Sustainably Manage Stormwater Discharges?

## Stormwater Green Infrastructure

- Increase Infiltration
- Increase Evapotranspiration
- Harvest and Re-use Stormwater

These Practices Reduce the Volume of Runoff



# Infiltration Practices

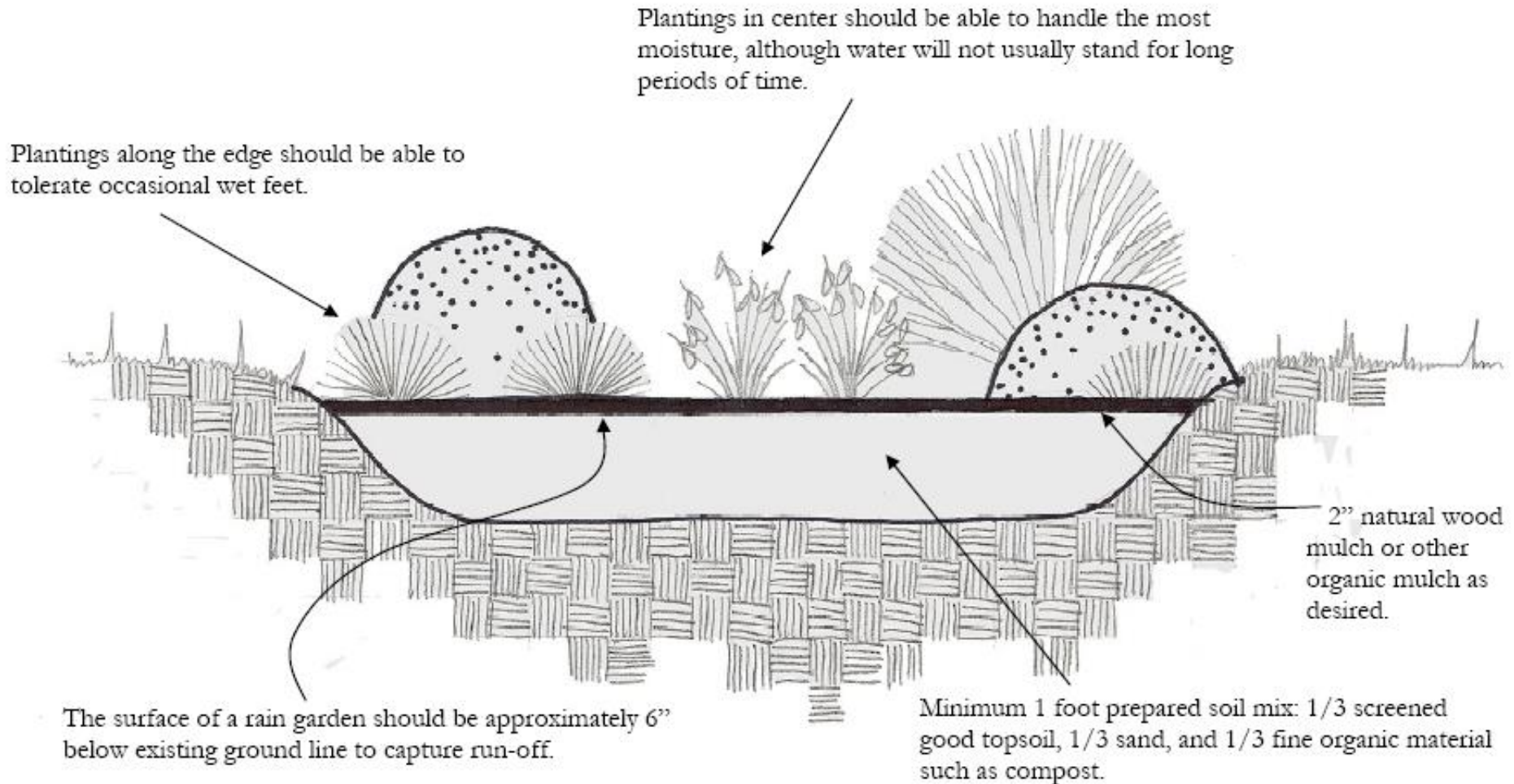
## Rain Gardens



Maplewood, MN



# Rain Garden Design



*Try to use native plants, as they will tend to do the best job for you.*



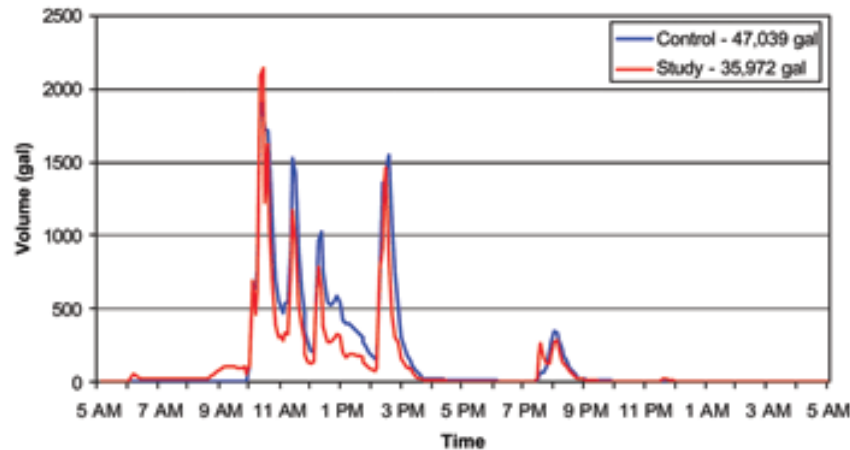
## Burnsville, MN

Rain Gardens Throughout a  
Neighborhood



# Do Rain Gardens Really Work?

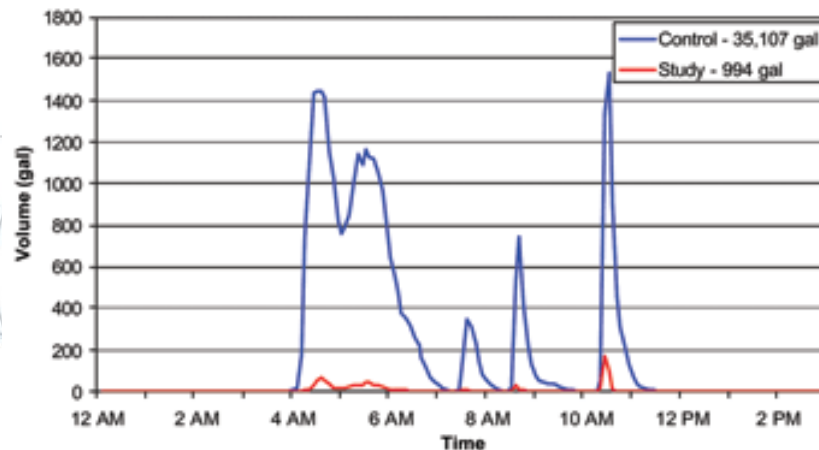
**Pre-Construction Runoff Data**  
June 6, 2003  
0.50" Rainfall



**Blue:** Runoff from control neighborhood

**Red:** Runoff from neighborhood retrofitted with rain gardens

**Post-Construction Runoff Data**  
May 29, 2004  
0.71" Rainfall



# Green Roofs

## Chicago City Hall

20,300 sf intensive green roof with 20,000 plants of more than 100 native species  
Installed in 2000

Decreases air and roof surface temperatures

Retains 75% of a one-inch rainfall event

Provides habitat



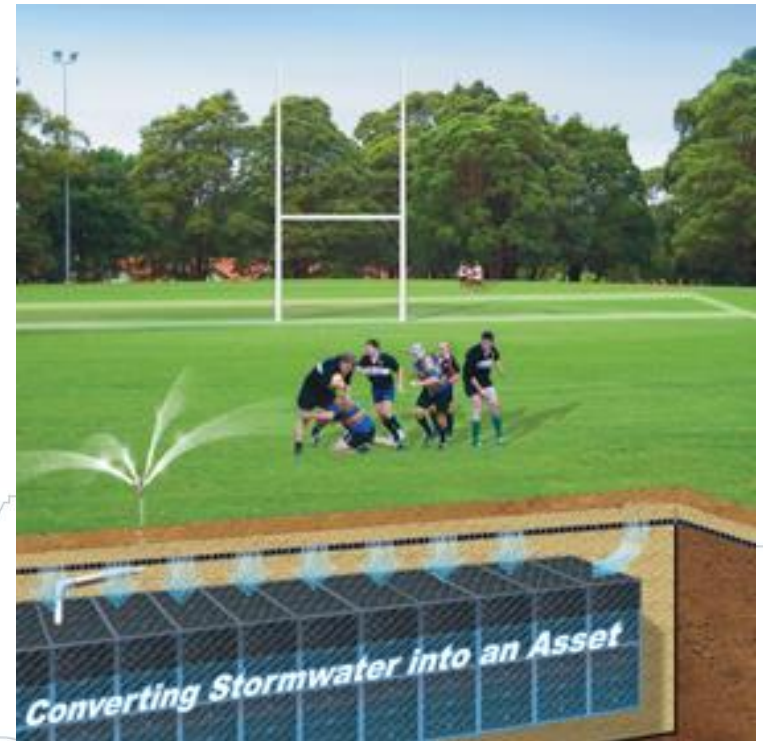


# Extensive Green Roof

## Light and Relatively Inexpensive



# Storing and Reusing Rainwater Cisterns





# Parking Lots



Not so good



Good – Run-off from the parking lot can be absorbed by the plants and soil

drain