

# Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Green Infrastructure Policy

We actively pursue opportunities across our program areas to advocate for strategic and cost-effective implementation and maintenance of green infrastructure technologies and innovations that protect, preserve, enhance and restore the natural hydrologic function of our region's watersheds. In addition, we seek to maximize the co-benefits provided by green infrastructure projects including opportunities to expand urban natural areas, enhance air quality, and improve quality of life in Northeast Ohio.

## Our definitions of Green Infrastructure:

### Project Clean Lake GI Definition

The range of stormwater control measures that use plant/soil systems, permeable pavement, or stormwater harvest and reuse, to store, infiltrate, or evapotranspire stormwater and reduce flows to the combined sewer system.

### NEORSD Wet-Weather Programs GI Definition

Stormwater source control measures that store, filter, infiltrate, harvest and reuse, or evapotranspire stormwater to increase resiliency of infrastructure by reducing stress on wet-weather drainage and collection systems which increase co-benefits in support of healthy environments and strong communities.

## We implement green infrastructure through the following program areas:



### Capital Improvement and Operation & Maintenance Program

Implement combined sewer overflow control green infrastructure projects and seek additional opportunities to invest in green infrastructure that enhances sewer infrastructure capacity as District projects advance.



### Green Infrastructure Grants Program

Partner with communities to promote, implement, and maintain water resource projects through the construction of green infrastructure to remove or detain stormwater from separate or combined sewer systems as such opportunities arise through development activities, neighborhood planning efforts, and other partner-driven projects to expand green infrastructure.



### Member Community Infrastructure Program

Assess and fund local sewer system improvements in the District's service area that effectively employ and maintain green infrastructure where appropriate to resolve water quality and quantity issues that impact human health and the environment.



### Water Resources Restoration Sponsorship Program (WRRSP)

Work with District partners to sponsor projects that protect and improve water quality through preservation and restoration of ecosystem functions in the region's watersheds, such as floodplain storage, habitat restoration, and streambank erosion control through participation in the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund program.



### NEORSD Code of Regulations Titles III & IV Community Discharge Permit Program

Seek opportunities to use green infrastructure where appropriate to reduce stress on separate and combined sewer infrastructure and support permit compliance through the effective implementation of the Community Discharge Permit Program.



### NEORSD Code of Regulations Title V Regional Stormwater Management Program

Advance the comprehensive management of the regional stormwater system to strategically implement and maintain green infrastructure to help achieve a minimum level of service across the District service area to protect public safety, infrastructure and the environment from flooding, erosion, and water quality concerns.