

The Benefits Of Green Infrastructure

Bristol Town Beach Tree Planting, Bristol, RI

Over 125 trees were planted in Bristol to interrupt the flyway path of Canadian geese and reduce bacterial contamination to the town beach. They have certainly succeeded with beach closures and are continuing to do so much more. Trees are natural stormwater managers. Trees reduce stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in their canopy and releasing water into the atmosphere. Tree roots and leaf litter create soil conditions that promote the infiltration of rainwater into the soil. Trees also help slow down, temporarily store runoff, and reduce pollutants by taking up nutrients and other pollutants from soils and water through their roots. —*Water.epa.gov*

Benefits of 125 Trees Planted at Bristol Town Beach

- 243,174 Gallons of Stormwater Intercepted per Year
- \$2,123 in Projected Property Value Increases for the Beach/Park
- 9,540 Kilowatts per Hour of Electricity Conserved from the Cooling Effects
- 2,932 Therms of Natural Gas Consumption Reduced
- 58,772 pounds of atmospheric carbon reduced



Did You Know...



“In laboratory research, visual exposure to settings with trees has produced **significant recovery from stress within five minutes**, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension.” —*Dr. Roger S. Ulrich Texas A&M University*



“The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to **ten room-sized air conditioners operating 20 hours per day.**” —
U.S. Department of Agriculture



“According to a 2012 study from the University of Vermont, a **10% increase in trees roughly equaled a 12% decrease in crime.**” —*Austin Troy, Journal of Landscape and Urban Planning*

Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Coalition: A project of the Environment Council of Rhode Island with funding from the RI Foundation

Design: 2014 Amie Parris