KC GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

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BLUE RIVER TRAILHEAD GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green infrastructure helps our community manage stormwater the way nature intended by capturing and utilizing rainwater where it falls. The Blue River Trailhead green infrastructure site collects excess stormwater runoff from nearby streets and rooftops in the surrounding neighborhood. It also replenishes groundwater and sustains plants, trees, and natural habitats while working with gray infrastructure to increase the capacity of our underground pipes.

Project Area

Project Snapshot

- **Details:** This project is located at the Blue River Trailhead near Blue Parkway and Blue Banks Avenue. The site features a permeable paver parking lot which filters, absorbs and stores stormwater away from the combined sewer system. It also features two bioretention basins which help manage stormwater while adding green space to the neighborhood.
- **Cost:** Construction was completed in 2018 for approximately $324,000.

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WHAT DOES THIS SITE DO?

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decreases the amount of water getting into our pipes, improves water quality, and reduces flooding, pollution, and trash in our streams, rivers, and lakes. The Blue River Trailhead green infrastructure project includes:

- **Permeable pavers** cover the parking spaces in the parking lot to capture stormwater runoff by collecting water through the joints between pavers. The water moves through layers of gravel below the pavers and then soaks into the ground. Excess water is carried away through a perforated pipe and slowly released to the adjacent bioretention basins.
- **Bioretention basins** downstream of the permeable pavers are filled with plants to help absorb excess stormwater from rooftops, sidewalks, and streets. Layers of rock and soil store the water. A buried underdrain system drains the excess water, controlling the slow release of water back to the adjacent bioretention basins.
- Before this was constructed, the intersection in this area regularly experienced ponding water when it rained. Stormwater runoff is now carried away and collected in the permeable pavers and stored in the bioretention basins.

Permeable Pavers

Bioretention Basins