

Seeing Is Believing:

A Showcase of Stormwater Best Management Practices in Montgomery County



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Montgomery County Conservation District
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Seeing Is Believing:

- **Self-Guided Tour**
- **Guided Bus Tour**
- **Virtual Tour**



Montgomery County Conservation District

Project Background

- **PA DEP Stormwater BMP Manual**
- **Engineers requested local examples**
- **MS4 requirements for municipalities**
- **Self-guided tour of Chester County**
- **Coastal Non-point Pollution Program**

Self-Guided Tour

Site 8: Temple University, Ambler College

BMPs:
Wetland Garden
Green Roof

Address: 580 Meetinghouse Road, Ambler, PA 19002
Property owner: Temple University
Website: www.temple.edu/ambler
Watershed: Wissahickon Creek

Temple Ambler originated in 1910 as The Pennsylvania School of Horticulture for Women. In 1958 it was transferred to Temple University and became Ambler College. Today, it is possible to obtain a degree in any undergraduate program on this campus. The stormwater BMPs on campus are integrated into the Landscape Architecture – Horticulture and Community and Regional Planning programs, both home departments at Ambler College.

The wetland garden was added to the campus in 1998. It originated as the “Green Machine” exhibit at the 1997 Philadelphia Flower Show to illustrate how wetlands can clean water. Parts of the exhibit were salvaged to become the foundation of the wetland garden. Both the exhibit and the garden were built by Temple students enrolled in Landscape Architecture and Horticulture classes.

Originating as a 2002 winning Flower Show exhibit, the green roof was installed in 2005 on the new Ambler Field House with funding from PECO Energy. It has become an integral element of the Temple University Ambler’s sustainable campus landscape. Research by Temple students and faculty will also examine the green roof’s impact on energy efficiency, water quality, water retention, and roof temperature.



Planning your visit: Visitors who wish to see the Green roof must be accompanied by a member of the Temple University staff or faculty, therefore advance notice is required. Guests are welcome to visit the wetland garden on their own, but can also schedule a guided tour if they wish.

Contact Info:
Linda Palmarozza
(267)468-8181
Linda.palmarozza@temple.edu

Hours:
Weekdays
9AM– 5PM

Directions: Directions to the Ambler College can be found at the Center for Sustainable Communities website listed above.

Parking: Visitor parking is available across Meetinghouse Road from the main entrance. For a campus map, please stop at the main office, once you cross the street.



Site 3: Perkiomen Valley High School

BMPs:
Vegetated swales
Wet-pond

Address: 509 Gravel Pike (Rt. 29) Collegeville, PA 19426
Property owner: Perkiomen Valley School District
Website: www.pvpsd.org
Watershed: Perkiomen Creek



Planning your visit:
Please contact Scott Clemmer to schedule an appointment prior to visit.

Contact Info:
Scott Clemmer,
Director of Operations
(610) 489-8516
sclemmer@pvpsd.org

Hours:
7:30 AM– 4:00 PM

Directions: The High School is approximately two miles north of Collegeville on Rt. 29

Parking:
Parking is available in the Visitors Parking Lot in front of the high school office.

During a recent expansion project, The Perkiomen School District demonstrated their value for water quality, outdoor education, and more pleasing aesthetics by building a wet-pond to manage the increased stormwater runoff. Teachers and students use the wet-pond as an outdoor classroom and laboratory to study the human impact on the aquatic ecosystem.



This vegetated swale collects and transports stormwater runoff from 28 acres of athletic field and impervious surfaces to the wetpond, allowing it to be absorbed naturally by a mix of meadow grasses.

Guided Bus Tour

- **October 25, 2006**
- **4 Stops:**
 - Temple University, Ambler College
 - Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals R&D
 - Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust
 - Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
- **42 participants:**
 - Mostly: Township Engineers and Officials
 - Others: Environmental agencies, watershed groups, and Developers
- **4 Speakers:**
 - **County Planning Commission:** Stormwater Ordinances
 - **PA DEP:** BMP Manual
 - **PEC:** Stormwater Retro-fits
 - **MCCD:** Operations & Maintenance and Grant Opportunities



Guided Bus Tour



Evaluation Responses

Most likely to implement/promote

- Porous pavement/infiltration
- Infiltration trenches
- Naturalized basins
- Wetlands
- Vegetated swales

Least likely

- Green roof
- Wetlands
- Porous pavement
- Rain gardens

Ranking of the following BMPs:

1.	Vegetated filter swales
2.	Naturalized basins
3.	Vegetated infiltration trenches
4.	Wet-ponds
5.	Rain gardens
6.	Wetlands
7.	Porous pavement
8.	Green roofs

Virtual Tour

The MCCD's Virtual Tour of Stormwater BMPs:
www.montgomeryconservation.org/bmptour.htm

- **Virtual Tour Intro**
- **Background on Stormwater, Non-point source pollution, and Best Management Practices**
- **A list and map of each tour stop**
- **Detailed fact sheet on each BMP site**
- **Links to other helpful web resources**



Questions?



Please feel free to contact me:

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