



# GETTING TO KNOW YOUR STORMWATER POND

1. Rain falls on neighbourhood

2. Run-off from neighbourhood enters pond through stormwater inlets

3. Stormwater runs into pond where plants help to slow, filter and clean the water

4. Wetlands provide a habitat for many living things that are vital to its functioning

5. Water filters through wetland where it is cleaned, filtering into the aquifer below

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stormwater outlet

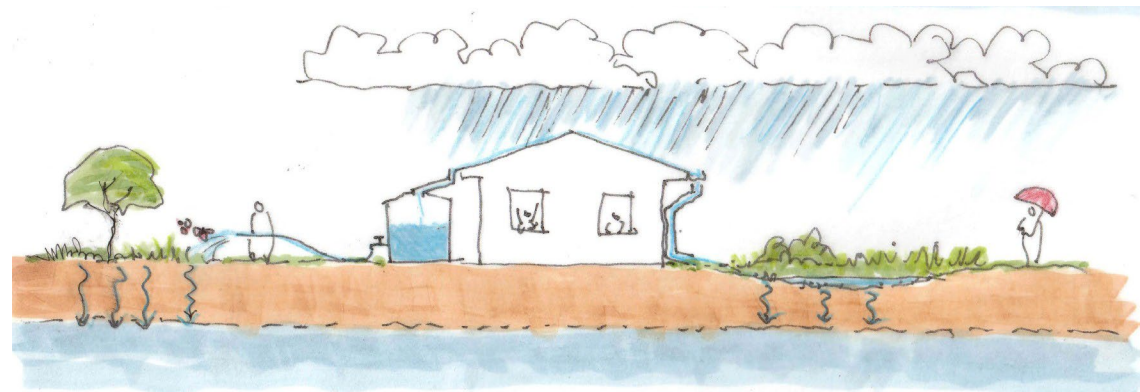


## What can you do.....

### Create a rain garden

Rainwater can be directed from your roof downpipe & channelled into a rain garden. A rain garden is a small basin-like depression you can dig in your garden. Rainwater run-off from your roof or paved surfaces can be channelled into this. Stormwater filters through the rain garden & down into the aquifer below. Rain gardens can be planted with local indigenous plants. An indigenous rain garden absorbs the rainwater from the roof, allowing passive irrigation in the drier months.

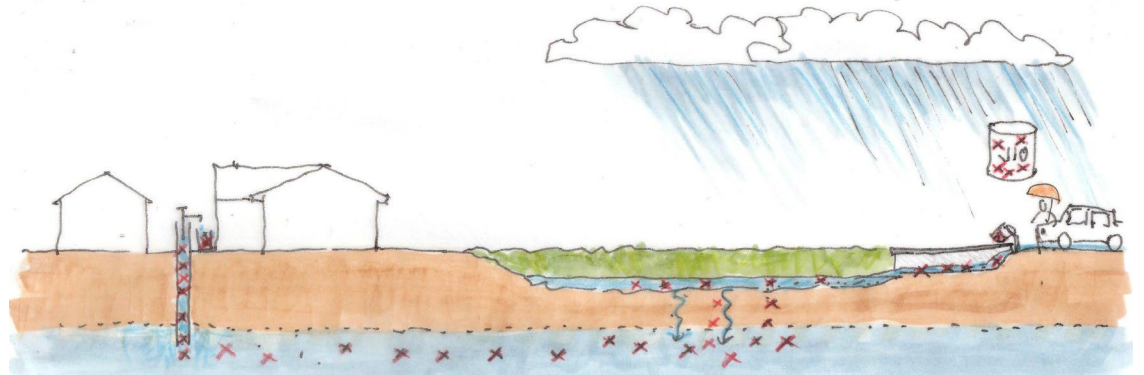
### Recharge the groundwater below-



### Prevent oil, diesel etc. from entering the pond

Oil, diesel, chemicals, etc. are harmful to human life. These toxic substances can enter the groundwater and contaminate it. This has implications for borehole and well-users who access this contaminated ground water. Contaminated water can also kill indigenous plants and wildlife, leading to biodiversity loss and a city less resilient to dealing with flooding, water security, climate change etc. To solve this, engine oils for instance, could be recycled.

### Protect the groundwater-



### Protect the stormwater system from litter

Litter accumulates and blocks stormwater pipes causing flooding of streets and homes. Littering and dumping also destroys natural habitats and can lead to biodiversity loss. When litter enters a stormwater pond, birds, frogs, toads and insects as well as local plants, some of which occur nowhere else in the world, can be poisoned or choked by it. Litter could instead be recycled or collected by the city.

### Prevent flooding & protect biodiversity -





# Blue Green Infrastructure (BGI) includes Stormwater Ponds

## What is Blue-Green Infrastructure (BGI)?

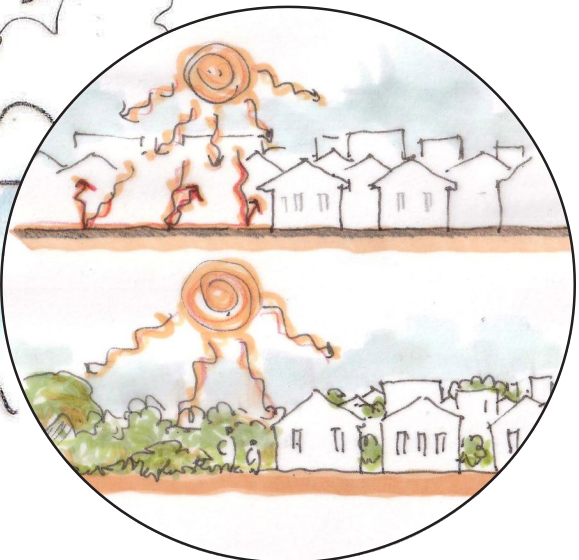
Blue-Green Infrastructure or BGI refers to inter-connected natural and designed open planted spaces (green) and water bodies (blue) that perform many functions in the city.

**BGI reduces flooding**  
Blue-green permeable spaces allow stormwater to infiltrate the ground & reduce flooding events



**BGI helps reduce the build-up of urban heat**

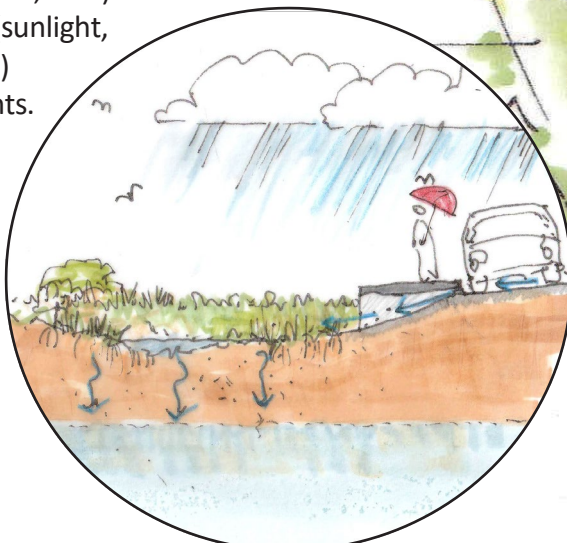
BGI is made up of plants that help to lower urban surface & air temperatures by providing shade & cooling effects.



## What does BGI do for us?

### BGI cleans storm-water run-off

BGI slows, filters and cleans stormwater through the interactions of living (plants, microbes, etc.) and non-living (sunlight, oxygen) elements.



### BGI is vital to our well-being

We rely on BGI for many things in our daily lives. This includes the growing of food, providing clean air, providing for our physical and mental well-being



### BGI helps recharge groundwater

BGI allows water to filter into the ground and down into the aquifer below

