SPOTLIGHT ON

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

FEATURED COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

First community in the state of Maryland to become a "zero-runoff municipality"

Partnered with the Potomac Job Corp and recruited within the watershed to provide hands on training for 8-10 young adults

Awarded 3 G3 Grants totaling $293,000

The Town of Forest Heights, Maryland has been selected as a Featured Community for the Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns Partnership. Forest Heights has been a leader in the G3 approach since 2008. Jacqueline Goodall, mayor of Forest Heights, set the standard high early on by adopting the resolution to strive towards zero run-off within the municipalities. Forest Heights has been awarded three separate G3 Grants over the years, totaling approximately 293,000. Phase 3 of the project is expected to be constructed in the summer of 2016.

Forest Heights, Maryland is a small town of approximately 2,500 residents and within commuting distance of Washington DC. It is located in the Oxon Run Watershed. Oxon Run is a tributary of the Potomac River, which is a tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. The Oxon Creek Watershed has had TMDL permits since 2003 for bacteria, nutrients and sediment. The physical habitat score of Forest Heights was deemed "non-supporting" and has a Benthic Index of Biological Integrity score of very poor. It is a highly urbanized watershed with 72% of the land being developed, and 33% of that being impervious.

Despite obstacles such as urbanization and low water quality, The Town of Forest Heights have accomplished a series of impressive goals that have set them apart from other communities. The town's goal was to improve and mitigate stormwater management infrastructure and restore green infrastructure through a series of practice. With the help of the G3 grant program, the Town of Forest Heights has become a distinguished example of how small towns can impact water quality through innovative stormwater management.

G3 PROJECTS AND THEIR OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES

➢ Phase 1: Demonstration site on the municipal property to show local property owners ways they can implement green infrastructure on their property (*Completed 6/2013*)

➢ Phase 2: A conceptual plan and cost estimate to implement a green street on Araphoe Drive (*Completed 4/2014*)

➢ Phase 3: A Green Street constructed on Rolph Drive that aims to:
  ➢ Alleviate flooding
  ➢ Increase pedestrian safety
  ➢ Infiltrate stormwater
  ➢ Promote a walkable community

A map showing the Town of Forest Heights, MD

Rain Garden in Forest Heights, Maryland

A green roof on a Municipal Building in Forest Heights, Maryland

Educational signage explaining stormwater runoff management practices

Permeable pavement in Forest Heights, Maryland