

# ROBERTS ACADEMY "FRONT YARD" STORMWATER DEMONSTRATION

## FAST FACTS

Location: Roberts Academy  
1702 Grand Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

### Project Partners:

Mill Creek Watershed  
Council of Communities  
Cincinnati Public Schools  
Metropolitan Sewer District  
of Greater Cincinnati  
Allison Landscaping  
McGill Smith Punshon

Project Area: 13 acres

Project Cost: \$357,833

Amenities: walking trail,  
viewing platform, bird and  
butterfly habitat, and  
educational signage

Completed: June 2015

## PROJECT FEATURES

Rain garden and bioretention  
swales to capture and treat  
parking lot runoff

Enhanced wetland of native  
plants and grasses to detain  
stormwater entering the  
combined sewer system

Walking trail with  
educational signage which  
aligns with the Roberts  
Academy Master Plan

## CONTACT US

1223 Jefferson Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45215  
Phone: (513) 563-8800

[info@millcreekwatershed.org](mailto:info@millcreekwatershed.org)  
[millcreekwatershed.org](http://millcreekwatershed.org)



Bioswales remove pollutants from stormwater that runs off the parking lots at Roberts Academy. Combined sewer overflows are also reduced, since the bioswales slow the flow of stormwater and infiltrate some of it into the soil.

Stormwater captured from the Roberts Academy campus is used as a resource to feed rain gardens and bioswales filled with eye-catching flowers, shrubs and grasses. Stroll the walking trail to the viewing platform and enjoy butterflies, birds and wildflowers.

## What is the Roberts Academy "Front Yard" Stormwater Demonstration?

A series of connected rain gardens and bioswales collect stormwater runoff before discharging into an enhanced wetland at the Roberts Academy entrance on Grand Avenue. This stormwater improvement project manages both water quantity, annually diverting 1.25 million gallons of stormwater runoff that would otherwise enter the combined sewer system, and water quality, through reduced loads of nitrogen (40%), phosphorous (60%) and sediment loads (79%) to the Mill Creek.

This outdoor classroom meets the community's vision for a gathering space and provides an educational opportunity for Roberts Academy, demonstrating the value of the Mill Creek and the positive effects that green infrastructure can have on water quality.

### SECTION 319 GRANT

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The affectionately-named "pit" has been transformed into an urban oasis teeming with native flora and fauna.

## PROJECT GOALS

Improve water quality through natural filtration of stormwater

Reduce combined sewer overflows

Enhance wildlife habitat

Educate students and the community about sustainable practices

Provide a recreational amenity that meets neighborhood priorities

## LOCATION



1702 Grand Ave, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214



Before: Turfgrass lawn at Roberts Academy Front Door



After: Bioswale with rock features and native plantings



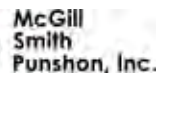
Parking lot runoff is filtered in the bioswales



Parking island rain gardens feature attractive landscaping



## Project Partners



## Project Funder

