

# CITY OF FAIRVIEW PARK

*A Great Place to Grow*



## CITY HALL PARKING LOT RETROFIT PROJECT

In 2014, the City of Fairview Park was awarded a grant by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and United States Environmental Protection Agency to implement a stormwater management demonstration project in the parking lot of City Hall. The project transformed the rear entryway of City Hall and provides a functional, educational demonstration of multiple “green infrastructure” best management practices (BMPs).

**What is green infrastructure?** It is an approach to water management that harnesses natural processes and engineered solutions to control and clean stormwater. In developed areas like Fairview Park, impervious surfaces (think: parking lots and roofs) prevent stormwater from soaking into the ground. Infiltration into the ground allows water to be cleaned naturally of pollutants before it reaches the nearest body of water.

### THE PROBLEM

The parking lot at Fairview Park City Hall is approximately 83,000 square feet and previously included no means of treating stormwater. Untreated stormwater would either be captured by a catch basin and deposited into a storm sewer, or it would runoff directly into Coe Creek, which flows into the Rocky River and eventually into Lake Erie.

Why is this a problem? Stormwater runoff is a major cause of water pollution in urban areas. When water cannot soak into the ground, it travels across the land and collects and carries trash, bacteria, heavy metals, and other pollutants from the urban landscape. If left untreated, this stormwater is discharged directly into nearby water bodies, pollutants in tow.

### RESULTS

The results of the project were as follows:

1. Installed 1,952 square feet of permeable pavers
2. Installed a 158 square foot bioretention cell
3. Fabricated and installed an **interpretative signage explaining how these tools treat stormwater**
4. Produced a visible demonstration of stormwater management for community residents and visitors
5. Resolved a standing water issue at the main door of City Hall (right)

With the addition of permeable pavers and a bioretention cell, two examples of green infrastructure, stormwater running off a rear section of City Hall’s roof and a section of the parking lot is now captured and held until it can naturally infiltrate into the ground.

### PROJECT PARTNERS

This project was funded in part by an \$84,000 Section 319(h) Grant awarded by **Ohio EPA** and **US EPA**, under the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act. The grant covered 60% of the total project cost. All additional costs were the responsibility of the City of Fairview Park as a local match to the project.

Design, engineering, and construction services were provided through a contract with a design-build team led by **F. Buddie Contracting** that also included **NTH Consultants** and **Behnke Landscape Architecture**.



Standing water would accumulate at the City Hall main entrance during rain events.



#### BEFORE

Parking lot paved with traditional asphalt meant all stormwater runoff was untreated.



#### AFTER

Gaps between the bricks will allow rainwater to flow into the ground, where the stones will filter out nutrients before the water flows into the soil below.