

## Rhode Island Green Infrastructure Coalition—Small Green Infrastructure Project



**Grant Donor:** Van Beuren Charitable Foundation

**Grantee:** Environmental Council of Rhode Island

**Grant Partners:** Rhode Island Green Infrastructure Coalition members including Clean Ocean Access, Clean Water Fund, Aquidneck Land Trust, and Eastern RI Conservation District

**Year:** September 2017 through June 2019

**Grant Value:** \$80,000

### Grant Overview:

The Rhode Island Green Infrastructure Coalition (RIGIC) sought and received funding from the Van Beuren Charitable Foundation (VBCF) to implement a plan on Aquidneck Island that included Small Green Infrastructure (SGI) project development, as well as outreach and education efforts. This initiative complements the effort of the Island Waters Project, which is a multi-year project that builds partnerships between local municipalities and nonprofits to work together on large best management practice projects to improve and sustain long-lasting water quality on Aquidneck Island. The purpose of these smaller scale projects is to reduce stormwater runoff and demonstrate the effectiveness of small or residential scale green infrastructure.

The efforts of the SGI project include:

1. Developing and implementing residential stormwater management workshops at various locations on Aquidneck Island, including the Point Neighborhood, the Fifth Ward neighborhood, the Off-Broadway neighborhood, the Bailey's Brook neighborhood, and the Melville School neighborhood.
2. Presenting at Melville Elementary School to educate the students about rain gardens.
3. Developing and distributing a residential grantee survey to ask owners about their stormwater management knowledge and needs.
4. Creating and maintaining an Aquidneck Island Green Infrastructure Coalition Facebook page.
5. Distribute over 50 rain barrels with RIGIC stickers.
6. Coordinated design and installation of the Common Fence Point Community Center 800 sq. foot rain garden.

### Expected Impact:

Future impact of the project includes installing ten residential rain gardens and two pervious driveways at residences in March of 2019. These locations were chosen through the residential grantee survey previously sent out. This was followed up by the RIGIC visiting the potential locations to evaluate where best to install the residential rain gardens and pervious driveways. This work will be completed by Ground RI, a member of the RIGIC.