**Green Infrastructure implementation narrative:**

In the spring of 2018, two water catchment systems were installed in partnership with Rutgers Water Resources and Isles, Inc. as part of a NJ DEP 319H grant. These projects were some of the first of many green infrastructure projects to be done in conjunction with the Municipal Action Team/Green Team work. A 1500 gallon tank was installed adjacent to Isles Institute to collect water for the Tucker Street demonstration garden on City of Trenton property. This catchment system provides a significantly larger roof area to collect water than the existing 12x12 shade structure roof within the garden that supplies a 300 gallon tank. A second water catchment system was installed at Rivera Community Middle School to provide water for the new school garden. The 500 gallon tank features the option to use an old-fashioned hand pump to deliver water. The students were present during the installation, and learned about the principles of water catchment and storage from the contractor. Both installations were done with support and permission of the City of Trenton and the Trenton Board of Education.

In 2013, a rain garden was installed as part of a larger community garden project on municipal property adjacent to The Crisis Ministry, a food pantry and social services organization in Trenton. Prior to development of the garden, the location was occupied by a vacant building which was destroyed by fire. The City of Trenton was instrumental in demolishing the remains of the building and in granting permission for a community garden to be developed. A local landscape designer offered their services pro-bono, and a 120 square foot rain garden was included in the design to capture roof runoff from the adjacent building. A grant of native plants was secured through the Mercer County Soil Conservation District and preparation and installation of the garden was done by volunteers. The project was completed through the partnership of multiple organizations, and education about the rain garden and water resources is targeted towards community members, clients of the food pantry, and children who participate in gardening activities at the site.

Principles of rain garden design and plant selection are utilized regularly when developing community and school gardens. Rutgers Water Resources curriculum is also used during “Build a Rain Barrel” workshops offered by Isles to community members as a way to encourage water conservation. Students from Rivera Middle School utilize the harvested rainwater for their garden and can calculate how much water is collected after rainfall. Visitors to the Tucker Street demonstration garden, including summer camp participants, community gardeners, volunteers, and members of the public can see the two different types of rainwater catchments systems when visiting the garden. Signage on the larger system explains that “Irrigation is by Harvested Rainwater”. Both systems are winterized by Isles staff.