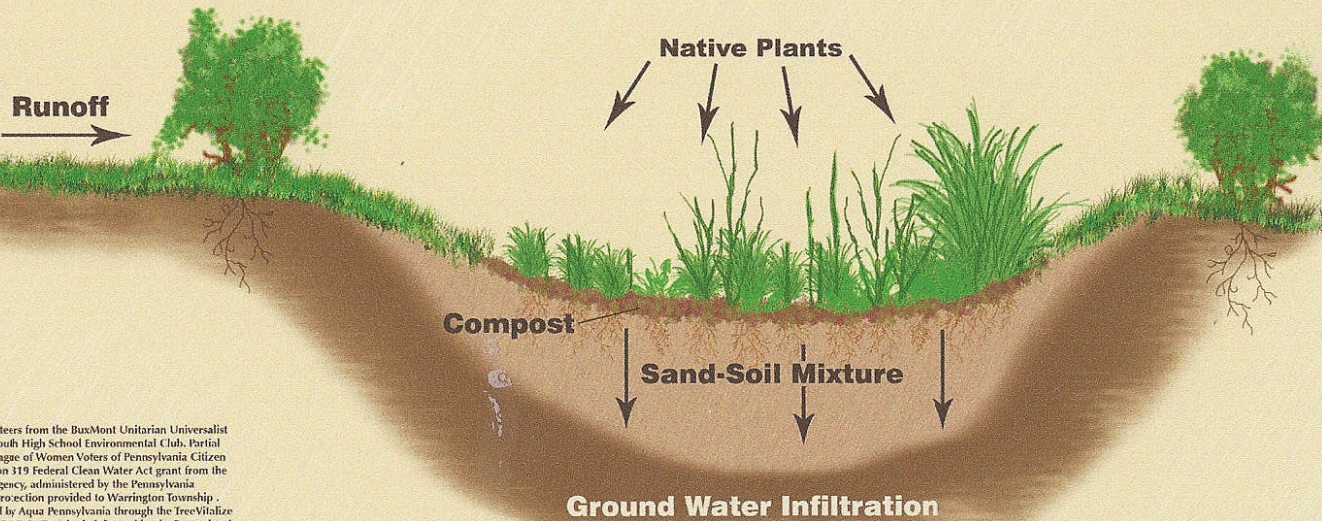
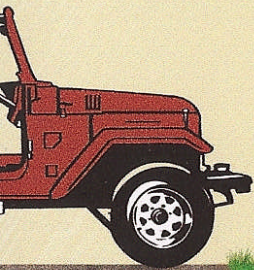


Detention Basin

A detention basin is a dry pond built to collect storm water runoff. The basin works by allowing runoff to enter quickly and release it slowly. This helps prevent flooding. Runoff from roads or sidewalks can collect pesticides, oils, fertilizers, trace metals and pet wastes. This polluted runoff can then enter the Little Neshaminy Creek. Typical basins do not clean polluted runoff. Native plants were added to this detention basin because they can live in very dry or wet conditions. Their extensive root systems help make the creek healthier by absorbing many pollutants from stormwater before they reach the Little Neshaminy Creek. Do your part, and plant natives!



BEFORE: The traditionally designed detention basin had many shortcomings. The mowed grass did little to cool polluted runoff from the parking lot, and its shallow roots allowed minimal water to be absorbed into the soil. Sediment and pollutants quickly flowed through the basin and into the creek.



The benefits of naturalizing a traditional detention basin include:

- Remove pollutants from stormwater runoff
- Improves wildlife habitat
- Increases recharge of surface water to replenish ground water
- Dense native plants slow speed of polluted stormwater runoff through basin, cooling water temperature, reducing flooding impacts downstream.

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