

Darwin Wright Park (Anderson, SC)

Rain Garden

Project Overview

Darwin Wright Park, located in Anderson, SC, is a 27-acre recreational area located on the shores of Lake Hartwell. The City of Anderson Stormwater Division installed a rain garden in October 2011 to protect and improve water quality in the park swimming area and Lake Hartwell as a whole. The rain garden intercepts and filters the runoff from the parking lot preventing it from discharging onto the public beach area in addition to preventing standing water in the parking lot. Anderson City Officials see this stormwater improvement project as an important step towards addressing the region's water quality issues.



Parking lot and beach area before installation of rain garden.



Darwin Wright Park rain garden after installation.

Benefits

The Darwin Wright Park was designed to capture runoff stormwater and allow it to naturally infiltrate into the soil rather than ponding in low laying areas and discharging into the swimming area. Water from about 12,689 ft² of impervious area will flow into the system. The rain garden is designed with a capture depth of 1 inch and a ponding depth of 6 inches. The overall size of the garden is roughly 1,000 ft². Capturing stormwater on-site not only allows water to infiltrate naturally but also reduces the amount of water entering the municipal stormwater system. Another major benefit of this rain garden is that it will be used to prevent stormwater pollutants from entering the swimming areas at Darwin Wright Park and the Lake Hartwell watershed. Harmful pollutants such as oils, greases, and metals, are captured and broken down by microorganisms in the system and thus kept out of the lake.



Installation of filter fabric and stone base layer in rain garden.

Costs & Maintenance

The total project cost was estimated at \$5,000. Regular maintenance will entail keeping the outlet pipe free of debris and the removal of undesirable vegetation. Rain garden plants will be replaced on an as needed basis. Also, the site will be monitored for any potential erosion issues and addressed.

For more information, visit www.upstateforever.org or call (864) 250-0500