

CAPITAL REGION WATER - GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMMATIC FINANCING

STATE PROGRAM: Pennsylvania Infrastructure
Investment Authority

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: Capital Region Water

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$13M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Capital Region Water (CRW) has been tasked with reducing excessive inflow to a combined sewer system. This will protect system capacity, increase capacity available to handle more extreme weather events, and reduce sewer overflows. CRW developed a capital improvement plan to manage stormwater flows by constructing a series of green stormwater infrastructure source control practices throughout the City of Harrisburg over the next 4 years. The projects may include porous pavement in parking lots, paths, alleys, and streets; infiltration and bioretention systems; green roofs; rain gardens; and cisterns.

The projects will capture urban stormwater runoff prior to entering the CRW's combined sewer system, reducing the volume and frequency of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to the Susquehanna River and Paxton Creek. To implement the capital improvement plan, CRW turned to the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) for an innovative financing vehicle capable of meeting multi-year cash flow needs. A programmatic CWSRF loan of \$13 million was executed to cover the projects on the capital improvement plan as opposed to a traditional project-specific lending strategy. This created efficiencies and achieved improvements to CSO control by capturing approximately 20 to 40 million gallons per year.

To read more about this case study, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/cwsrf-pisces-2023-recognition-program.pdf>.