

Village of Streamwood
Green Infrastructure Policy
Adopted: February 4, 2021

Section 1: Green Infrastructure Policy

The Green Infrastructure Policy shall direct the Village of Streamwood to continue to look to reduce runoff flow rates and minimizing pollutant loads entering the storm water system and waterways.

Section 2: Purpose

The policy is intended to ensure that the applicable planning, scoping, programming, design, right-of-way acquisition, construction, construction engineering, reconstruction, operation and maintenance activities for projects take into consideration green infrastructure practices. It is important to note that this policy is not intended to mandate that green infrastructure be incorporated into every project; rather, that green infrastructure improvements are considered, as part of projects where the Village determines incorporation of the improvements is permissible, practical, feasible, financially viable, and consistent with other Village policies and plans.

The policy is also intended to offer the additional valuable community benefits not provided by conventional infrastructure, such as groundwater recharge, runoff volume reduction, and runoff quality improvement.

Section 3: Projects

The Village of Streamwood will approach projects and developments as a potential opportunity to implement green infrastructure. It is understood that maintenance activities do not necessarily trigger requirements for major improvements that would be considered to incorporate green infrastructure construction and should not be expected to do so. However, maintenance activities may present opportunities that can improve the environment.

Section 4: Exceptions

As noted in Section 2, the intent of the Policy is not to mandate the incorporation of green infrastructure with facilities such as bio infiltration systems, separating/settling devices, and other green infrastructure improvements provided within all projects. However, the Village shall consider the incorporation of the aforementioned types of improvements within projects. As part of its consideration, the following are some, but not all, of the exceptions to incorporating green infrastructure within a given project:

1. The costs of constructing the green infrastructure is excessively disproportionate to the standard infrastructure costs.
2. Where the construction is not practically feasible or cost effective because of unreasonable adverse impacts on the environment or on neighboring land uses including impact from right-of-way acquisition.

3. The project scope precludes the practical and cost-effective incorporation of green infrastructure.

Section 5: Design Guidelines

The Village of Streamwood shall follow accepted or adopted design standards, including but not limited to design guidance from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Cook County, Northwest Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District, and other stormwater regulatory agencies.

Section 6: Performance Measures

The Village of Streamwood shall measure the success of this Green Infrastructure policy using, but not limited to, the following criteria:

1. Number of bio infiltration systems and/or native plantings installed.
2. Number of separating/settling devices.
3. Locations and number of detention pond/ retention pond / streambank construction / stabilization /retrofit for stormwater.
4. Square yards of permeable pavement (including private parking lots).
5. Number of parkway trees.

Section 7: Implementation and Next Steps

To implement this Green Infrastructure Policy, the Village of Streamwood will:

1. Continue to review all projects, public and private developments and other opportunities to ensure Green Infrastructure is incorporated into projects as applicable.
2. Continue to ensure that the Village's Capital Plan supports implementation of the Green Infrastructure Policy with applicable Capital Projects.
3. Encourage staff professional development and training in areas that related to Green Infrastructure.
4. Continue to implement and monitor the effectiveness of this policy and make adjustments as necessary to ensure the Village's objectives for supporting Green Infrastructure is met.