

## 2007 Leadership in Low-Impact Development Recognition Program

*LID projects making a difference in EPA Region 3: The Mid-Atlantic Region*

By Michelle Alford and Neil Weinstein

**C**ongratulations to the winners of this year's Leadership in Low-Impact Development (LID) Recognition Program. The LID Center is proud to recognize innovative and sustainable stormwater management planning, design, and program management efforts throughout EPA Region 3, the Mid-Atlantic region. Thanks to our expert review panel members for their time and input on this initial effort. Also thank you to Nan Ides and Reggie Parrish of EPA Region 3 for their feedback and time throughout the project. Finally, thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to submit an application.

The purpose of this project was to encourage and promote the use of LID as a natural resource and water-quality-protection approach. Encouraging and recognizing LID approaches will publicize sustainable environmental control strategies and highlight the need for new strategies for improving and protecting water quality. LID is currently being used in projects in EPA Region 3 and across the country, but, to many, this environmental strategy is relatively unknown. The goal of this project was to enhance public awareness and help establish criteria by which stormwater control projects can be evaluated and judged on performance.

### What Is LID?

LID is a stormwater management strategy concerned with maintaining or restoring the natural hydrologic functions of a site to achieve natural resource protection objectives. LID addresses stormwater through small, cost-effective site design and landscape features distributed throughout the site. LID projects and programs promote public awareness,



Applying geotextile fabric to floor of rain garden

WVDEP

education, and participation in environmental protection.

This article provides a list of winners, a brief description of the program, a summary of each project, and the list of LID expert panel members. For more detailed information about the program development process, application materials (including images), advertising, lessons learned, and suggestions for future recognition programs, visit [www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/recognition](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org/recognition).



Office building with green roof

WSSI

### Winners

**Category:** Built projects—Large-scale Implementation

*Project Title:* Low Impact Development at Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.

Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc. (WSSI), Virginia

**Category:** Codes and Ordinances—New Regulations and Systems at the Local Government Level

*Project Title:* Lower Makefield Low Impact Development Ordinance Revisions

Lower Makefield Township, Pennsylvania

**Category:** Educational Programs—Outreach and Jobs

*Project Title:* MOT Senior Center

Rain Garden Retrofit

Appoquinimink River Association, Delaware

**Category:** Leadership—Government Initiatives

*Project Title:* Rain Garden Retrofit in an Urban Landscape  
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, West Virginia

**Category:** Leadership—NGO initiatives

*Project Title:* Aikido Club Dojo

Aikido in Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Category:** Technology—Innovative Non-proprietary Approaches and Uses

*Project Title:* Demonstrating Innovation: A Stormwater Retrofit at the Providence Supervisor's Office  
Fairfax County Government, Virginia

### About the Program

*Recognition Program:* Through a cooperative agreement between the EPA's Mid-Atlantic Region and the Low Impact Development Center Inc., a new program was developed to serve as a leadership model for LID recognition programs across the country by creating an expert review panel to review and recognize LID projects/programs and installations. This model will be useful to stakeholders in EPA regions across the country, including local and state governments,



universities, private industry, nonprofits, and individuals.

Submissions were accepted from individuals, watershed organizations, state and local government organizations, private contractors, universities, and colleges. The geographic scope of this new program was limited to projects/programs conducted in the EPA Mid-Atlantic Region (District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia).

Quantitative criteria were developed and used to assess candidate projects/programs in each project/program category. In total, 10 projects/programs were submitted for consideration. One project was conducted outside of EPA Region 3 and therefore not eligible for review under the current geographic scope of the 2007 LID Recognition Program. The submissions represent a small subset of the many outstanding LID projects and programs in EPA Region 3.

*Goal:* The primary goal of this effort was to establish a forum in which innovative and sustainable stormwater management planning, design, and program management efforts receive recognition. This model provides the opportunity for a diverse group of organizations to present and promote their programs to a variety of audiences.

### About the Winners

#### Built projects—Large-scale Implementation

*Project Title:* Low Impact Development at Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.

Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.

*Start Date:* April 2004, *Completion Date:* November 2005

WSSI is the leading natural and cultural resources consultant in Northern Virginia. In 2005, WSSI outgrew its previous office facility, leaving the company with the opportunity not only to build a new office/warehouse space but also to design and implement a fully integrated low-impact site, including a green roof, a rain garden, an underground cistern, three types of permeable pavements, underground gravel detention, and preservation of existing open space, wetlands, and streams. WSSI's new building is serviced by an existing regional pond; therefore, no onsite stormwater management was required. The project encompasses the entirety of a 5.1-acre site and includes eight types of low-impact techniques, from overall site design to proprietary pavement systems. The techniques are stitched together with a network of perforated underdrains, allowing the site to function much as it did before being built upon.

For more information please contact:  
Jennifer Brophy-Price, P.E., LEED AP  
Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.



Appoquinimink River Association outreach brochure