



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A SUSTAINABLE SAN MATEO COUNTY

Mitigating flood risk, protecting our Bay and waterways, creating safer communities— these are just a few ways green infrastructure (also known as nature-based infrastructure) can lessen the impacts of climate change and heavy storms. Green infrastructure means a stronger, safer, and more prepared San Mateo County.

HOW DOES GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE WORK?

There are various types of green infrastructure (GI) that range in size, scale, and function. The vast majority are built to be multi-beneficial which can provide habitat, flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water. GI that uses vegetation, soils, and natural processes, manage water and create healthier urban environments by mimicking nature that both captures and soaks up water. The natural filtration that occurs through most GI also works to remove pollutants and improve water quality.



IMAGE COURTESY OF SCVURPPP



SAN MATEO COUNTYWIDE WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM
Clean Water. Healthy Community.



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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AT WORK



01

REDUCE POLLUTION

Green infrastructure that employs natural filtering processes which reduces water pollutants such as PCBs, mercury, and trash from entering the Bay and ocean and while it works above ground to filter air pollutants and particulates.



02

MANAGE FLOOD RISK

Green infrastructure can mitigate flood risk by slowing and reducing stormwater runoff during storms.



03

PROMOTES SAFER COMMUNITIES

Promotes traffic calming and increases bike and pedestrian safety through planned community designs.



04

KEEPS WATER LOCAL

Captures and increases stormwater infiltration into the ground to help recharge local groundwater supply.



05

INCREASE NATURAL HABITAT

Increases wildlife habitat in urban areas with added vegetation.