



## Water Street Gateway - Green Street Retrofit Onondaga County CSO Project *Save the Rain*

**Having come under a 1998 Federal Court Amended Consent Judgment (ACJ), Onondaga County was required to reduce and/or eliminate combined sewer overflow (CSO) into area lakes and streams.**

The County first used gray infrastructure to manage CSO's, but by 2008, County officials recognized the need for alternative green interventions to minimize the cost of CSO reduction and provide additional benefits.

In 2010 Viridian Landscape Studio joined the green infrastructure design team bringing our familiarity with green infrastructure work and dedication to managing rain water at its source rather than in end of pipe solutions to the engineering team. Save the Rain's goal is to divert 250 million gallons of rainwater from the combined sewer system by 2018. Viridian made that goal a reality through the development of design, construction and maintenance plans for a myriad projects including:

rain gardens, bioswales, wetland and meadow restorations, green roofs, street tree plantings and re-vegetation efforts. These projects not only 'Save the Rain,' but make beautiful places for people and animals alike. The Water Street Gateway project is the first comprehensive Green Street application of the Save the Rain gateway projects. Using alternative stormwater design technologies such as street tree bioinfiltration trenches, porous pavers in parking lanes and native vegetation, the 300 block of Water Street not only captures almost 1 million gallons of runoff per year, but is a major urban streetscape enhancement and the pilot project for the Water Street Green Corridor's long term strategic vision.

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**Location:** Syracuse, New York  
**Client:** Onondaga Executive Office  
**Size:** Onondaga County  
**Cost:** \$837,000  
**Status:** Completed 2011