



RED LION RAIN GARDEN PROJECT

Stormwater Pond to Rain Garden

PROJECT GOALS

Improve stream and community health.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Saved \$4,000 in mowing costs.
- Increased adjacent property values by an average of \$37,000.
- Increased local property tax revenue.
- Provided educational tours to 350 adults and 4H youth.
- Provided access to green space to local residents.
- Planted trees provide shade, lower temperatures and reduced energy costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Reduced runoff from installation of detention basin.
- Protected local drinking water source.
- Increased wildlife habitat.
- Slows water infiltration rate, protecting downstream areas from flooding and erosion.

CONSERVATION PROJECTS INSTALLED

- Detention basin converted to rain garden/ bio-retention basin
- Rain gardens
- Urban forestry
- Pollinator gardens
- Bird habitat



Photo: Tom Smith

“Owning, maintaining and improving a stormwater BMP (Best Management Practice) required a lot of personal research which included contacting government agencies, attending a variety of education programs and many trips to the library. Anyone who owns a home or property has stormwater issues, and I enjoy sharing the knowledge I have gained and helping people in the community.

- Thomas Smith

PROJECT SUMMARY

A resident of a suburban, residential development in Red Lion, Pa. decided to use green infrastructure to transform their property. The front lawn now contains a rain garden and bioswale, while an accompanying stormwater basin for the entire development filters nutrients and sediment from 27 surrounding acres. The entire project took five years to complete. The property is now used as a positive example of a green infrastructure project and over 350 visitors have toured the site since its completion.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Always consult with your local municipality before beginning any type of green infrastructure project.
- Discuss the goals and benefits of the project with your neighbors to help ease their concerns.
- Build in time to research native trees and vegetation.

CONTACT

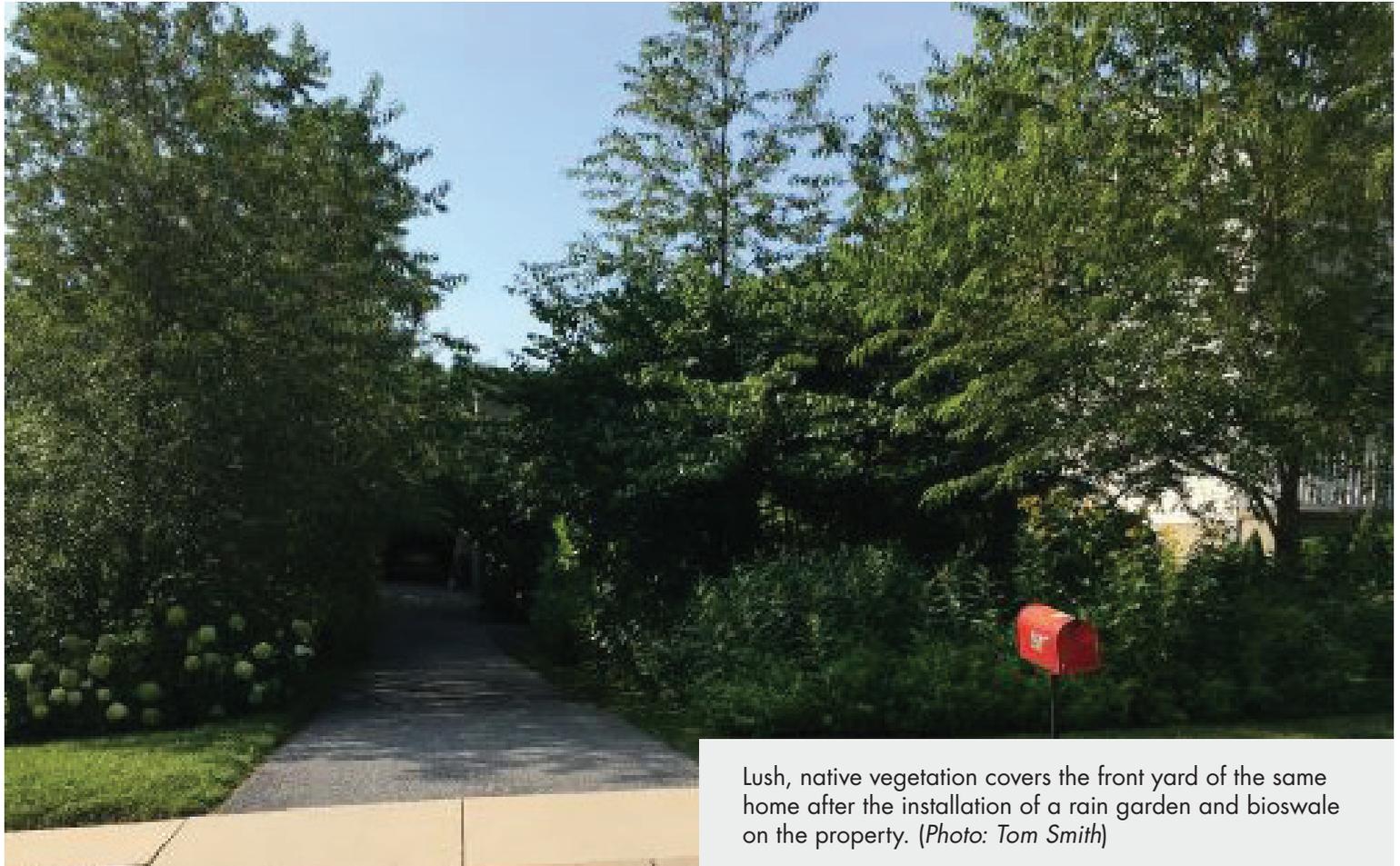
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The front yard of a home in a residential development in Red Lion, Pa. with minimal landscaping. (Photo: Tom Smith)



Lush, native vegetation covers the front yard of the same home after the installation of a rain garden and bioswale on the property. (Photo: Tom Smith)