



WCMER Deep Dive – Urban Green Infrastructure and Sustainability

The Landscape

The WCMER launched the Urban Green Infrastructure Deep Dive with a summit in 2018 (<http://metroextension.wsu.edu/gisummit>). One goal from the summit was to develop a research network to enhance cooperation among researchers, state agencies, and stormwater practitioners.

A regional network has the potential to:

- Increase knowledge and generate solutions
- Target research and avoid duplication
- Identify regional differences
- Provide certified training and continuing education
- Connect to Community Colleges / Tech Schools

Other potential partners for a regional network are:

- NUE -NE-C Hatch (??)
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- State Environmental Protection Agencies
- NIWR Water Resources Institutes
- USDA-NRCS
- Water Environment Federation (WEF)
- Connect eXtension
- Sierra Club
- National Wildlife Federation
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Water Education Teacher (WET)
- Greening America's Cities
- Watershed Associations

Task 1. Reach Out to Potential National Partners

- **EPA Region 1.** This region is the only one actively involved with NPDES stormwater permits. Others delegate NPDES responsibilities to the states. They have already expressed an interest to participate.
- **WEF.** This national organization has a Stormwater Institute with a National GSI Certification Program and a program for Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices.
- **State and National Extension Programs.** Connect to state Extension programs through professional societies like ANREP, the National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL) network as they build out national and regional priorities, and other professional gatherings like the National Sustainability Summit + National Extension Energy Summit
- **Other partners** from the list above

Task 2. Seek Funding to Promote GI Partnership

- **NSF Research Coordination Network.** A draft proposal has been prepared and will need to be modified for new ideas and approaches. A number of NSF program directors should be consulted ahead of this effort. It is important to have champion at NSF.
- **Seek funding from SESYNC** (www.sesync.org/opportunities). Grants are available for collaboration on specific topics. The Center in Annapolis has well-equipped meeting rooms to host large groups for collaborative research.

- *Seek funding from regional and national foundations.* Examples are WRF, Barr, Bullitt, Mott, Mead, Johnson, Moore, Robert Wood.

Task 3: Create durable products from the 2018 Summit

- *Reach out to Summit presenters* on willingness to write blog style posts of their presentations and / or topics.
- *Working with the WCMER Director*, determine interest in MSRC in co-publishing or distributing the posts.

Timeline: July through December 2020