

For more information, visit the following websites:

Pervious concrete slide show of arboretum parking lot:
www.auburn.edu/cosam/arboretum-paving
Building Raingardens:
www.groundwater.org/action/home/raingardens.html
Rainbarrels:
www.harvestingrainwater.com/rainwater-harvesting-inforesources/
Plants for Raingardens:
www.bae.ncsu.edu/topic/raingarden/
Water Quality:
www.aces.edu/waterquality/mg.htm
Alabama Smart Yards:
www.smartyards.org

Arboretum Stormwater Tour

Use the map to follow the 11 stops that illustrate many aspects of water movement. For example, on stop three you will see how storm drains affect the arboretum creek. Stop nine shows how nature handles water with floodplains. Other stops will demonstrate manmade installations that mimic natural systems.

The manmade installations are designed using methods for dealing with stormwater that occur in nature. Oftentimes, the natural processes for handling stormwater are eliminated from landscapes due to development. The manmade designs on the tour represent concepts that most people can incorporate into their own landscapes, thus reducing the negative impact stormwater has on our environment.

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rain that runs off impervious surfaces such as roofs and roads, and does not percolate into the ground. Instead it runs off these surfaces, over the ground, and into water bodies.

How Nature Does It

Natural systems allow water to slow down, spread out, and soak in slowly.

Our Challenge

The traditional method of dealing with stormwater is to collect, convey, and discharge. It's collected in roadways and ditches, conveyed to storm drains, and discharged into our streams and lakes.

What are the Effects?

- Erosion: stormwater coming out of storm drains hits creeks hard and fast causing detrimental bank erosion.
- Contamination: stormwater that flows over exposed soil carries sediment, trash, oil, and other waste products.
- Flooding: runoff that can't be taken up by soil will build up on the surface.



COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
AND MATHEMATICS

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at 181 Garden Drive.

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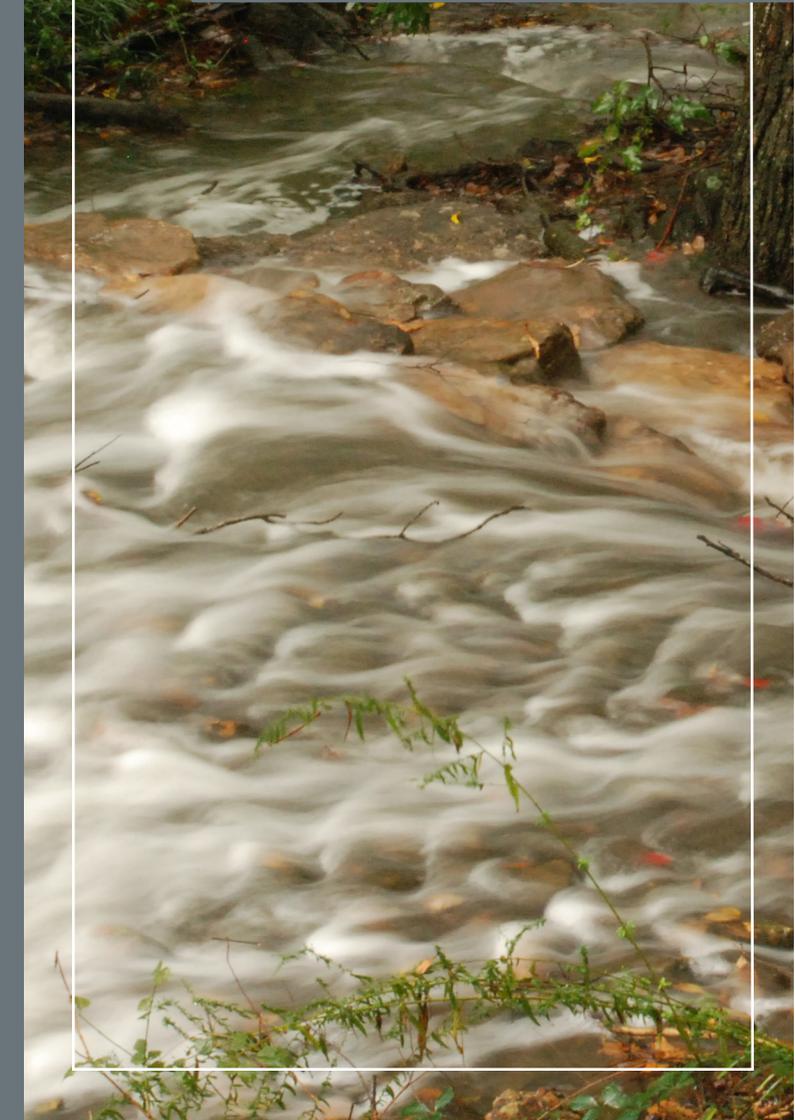
www.auburn.edu/arboretum

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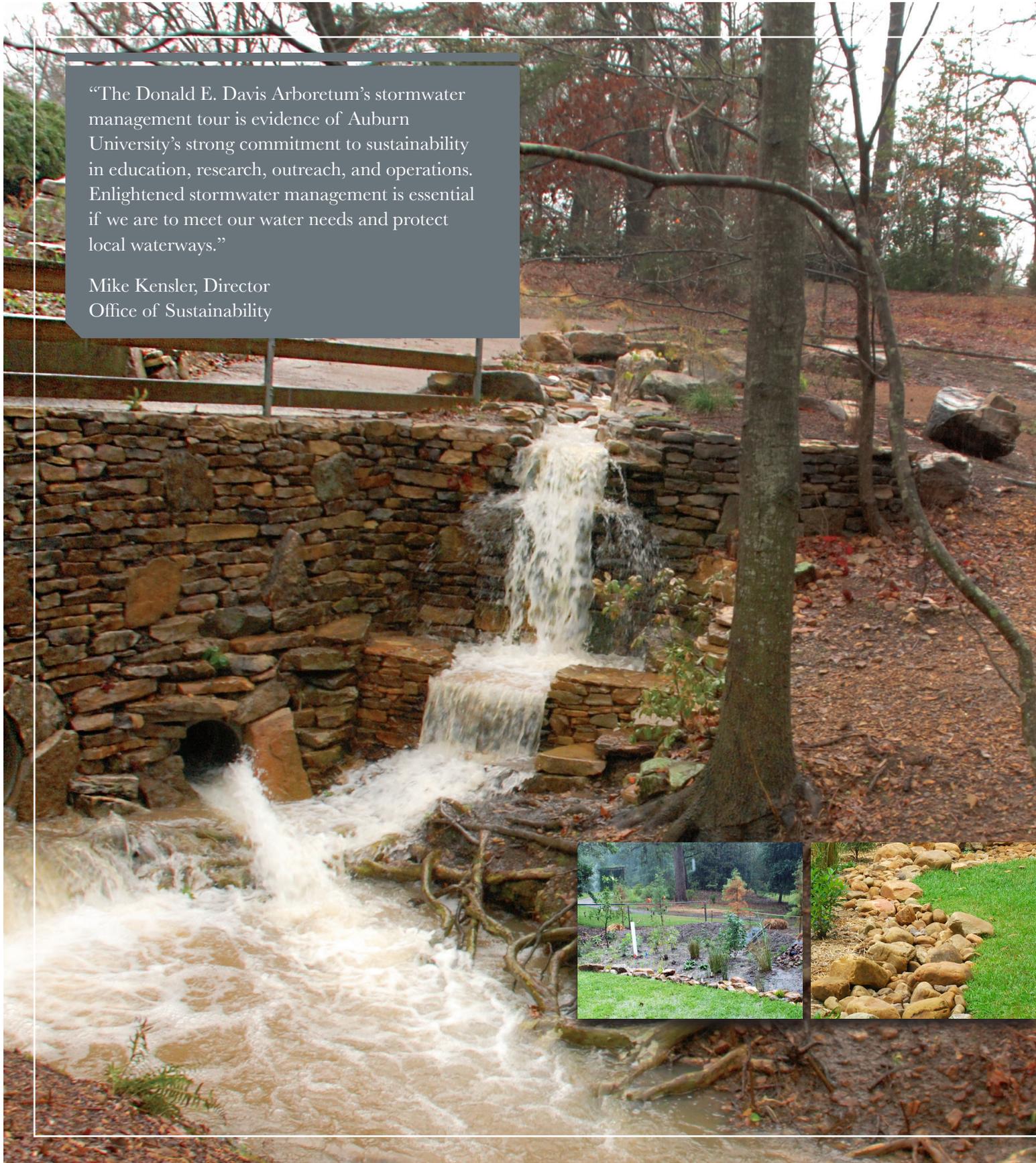
Managing Stormwater The Way Nature Does

Donald E. Davis Arboretum



“The Donald E. Davis Arboretum’s stormwater management tour is evidence of Auburn University’s strong commitment to sustainability in education, research, outreach, and operations. Enlightened stormwater management is essential if we are to meet our water needs and protect local waterways.”

Mike Kensler, Director
Office of Sustainability



Stormwater Tour Stops

1. Save it for Later	W = Water fountains
2. Stormwater Drains	R = Restrooms
3. Let it Sink In	P = Parking
4. Consider Saving ON a Rainy Day	H = Handicap Parking
5. Don't let it go with the Flow	
6. What's Down Below?	
7. Water has a Destination	
8. Nature's Sponge	
9. Slow: Curves Ahead	
10. Percolate and Infiltrate the Natural Way	
11. Keep it on Site	