



Clean Water. Healthy Life.

BEST PRACTICES *for* STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN METROPOLITAN KANSAS CITY

BIORETENTION | GREEN ROOF

Johnson County Government Sunset Office Building, 119th and Ridgeview Road, Olathe, Kansas

Goals

To design an office building to be LEED certified through the use of innovative stormwater treatment to contain and treat building and parking lot runoff, including integration of native plants into the stormwater management strategy which reduces the need for a permanent irrigation system. An additional goal is to provide an opportunity to educate Johnson County citizens about stormwater management and native plants.

Description

The Johnson County Sunset Office Building is a new government office building that houses multiple governmental agencies including the Kansas State University Horticulture Extension Office is located here. The new facility provides unique educational opportunities, as well as demonstration gardens and a walking trail through a natural woodland area.

The main stormwater control features are parking lot medians designed to collect runoff in a series of stepped bioretention cells. Also, the roof has been designed to direct runoff inside the building to an interior water garden (a biofilter) containing wetland plants, which filter and clean the water prior to discharge to the exterior of the building.

Community Benefits & Lessons Learned

The centralization of government agencies in a state of the art, green building is an asset to the community. The facility demonstrates ways to mitigate stormwater runoff in an aesthetic way, as well as demonstrate the environmental benefits of using native plant materials.

Funding Sources and Partnerships

Johnson County, Kansas

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Central front view of the building.



Interior water garden filters runoff from the building's roof.



Stepped bioretention cells for filtering runoff from the parking lot.