CRWA

BLUE CITIES INITATIVE

Restoring urban greenscapes and natural hydrologic function is at the heart of Charles River Watershed Association's Blue Cities Initiative. Using historic maps as a starting point to understand how rainwater once moved through the landscape before urbanization, Blue Cities analyses evaluates opportunities for restoration that work with, rather than against, natural hydrology. CRWA's Blue Cities Initiative incorporates the design of natural green corridors and infrastructure to treat polluted stormwater runoff before it enters the Charles and its tributaries, through plant filtration and infiltration into the ground - all while enhancing neighborhoods, connecting existing open spaces and creating parks.

Blue Cities Spotlight *Everett Street Greening Pilot, Allston MA*

Focused on filtering polluted stormwater as well as cooling the neighborhood and improving air quality, CRWA designed and implemented green infrastructure while engaging the community at the German International School of Boston. Tree canopy cover was maximized and rain gardens, permeable pavement, and stormwater tree pits were installed. A great illustration of the connection between green infrastructure, stormwater management, and water quality, the Everett Street project integrates science and education while engaging the community.

Waltham Watch Factory Retrofit, Waltham MA

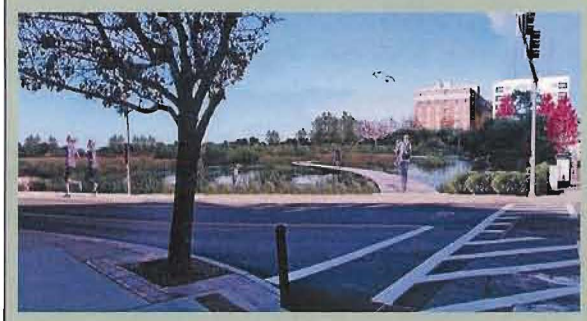
CRWA
Saving the Charles River since 1965

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION

We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change such as flooding, extreme storms, and short term or "flash" droughts which are all predicted to become more severe as we approach mid-century. Charles River Watershed Association's Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation program explores opportunities to use green infrustrature and other nature based solutions to build flood storage, carbon sequestration and urban cooling into our landscapes.

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Spotlight

Water Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future



At CRWA we are working toward a resilient and equitable future for humans and nature. We are designing and promoting infrastructure that will replicate natural systems and integrate management of drinking water, wastewater, surface water, ground water, and stormwater. For the past 10 years CRWA has been researching a revolutionary new approach to managing water in urban areas. In our recently published book, *Transformation: Water Infrastructure for a Sustainable Future*, we discuss the value of Community Water and Energy Resource Centers (CWERCs) and how they can be used to recycle "waste" products into renewable energy, non-potable water, and fertilizers. CRWA's approach combines CWERCs with green infrastrature, to transition to sustainable and resilient infrastructure. *Transformation* is available on amazon.com