

Reducing Stormwater Runoff Volume on the UNC-Wilmington Campus

FUNDING SOURCE & AMOUNT

EPA 319 Grant Program \$195,388 funded, including match

TIMEFRAME

Awarded 2019 January 2019 – December 2020

GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

NC Coastal Federation

IN-KIND PARTNERS

City of Wilmington, NC North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality University of North Carolina, Wilmington New Hanover Soil and Water Conservation District

SUMMARY / DESCRIPTION

The North Carolina Coastal Federation is partnering with the City of Wilmington and University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) to reduce stormwater entering Bradley Creek by installing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on campus.

Bradley Creek is one of two watersheds targeted by the City of Wilmington's voluntary Bradley and Hewletts Creeks Watershed Restoration plan. The plan focuses on reducing stormwater runoff and subsequent bacterial pollution to eventually remove the creeks from the 303(d) list. UNCW is the largest landowner within the Bradley Creek Watershed.

Specific sites have already been identified for stormwater management and volume reduction projects. A licensed engineer will design a linear rain garden and several pervious pavement retrofits within parking lots on campus. After identifying more grant match funds from the City, there are additional opportunities for downspout retrofits, tree plantings, and educational signage around campus. Education will also be a large component of this grant by incorporating volunteers whenever possible, student monitoring of implemented BMPs, and showcasing the sites to community members.

The EPA 319 Grant Program provided funding of \$117,131 for design, engineering, and construction of the installations. That was matched with \$78,257 of in-kind support from the NC Coastal Federation. The City of Wilmington's in-kind support will include staff time, outreach materials, and supplemental mini-projects around campus.

GRANT GOAL(S)

- Decrease the amount of stormwater entering Bradley Creek by installing a number of projects at various locations (rain gardens, pervious pavement, curb cuts, and downspout reroutes) on the UNCW campus.
- Foster community buy-in for Bradley and Hewletts Creeks Watershed Restoration Plan by providing educational opportunities to students and campus staff.
- Foster partnerships between community groups and watershed stakeholders.
- Demonstrate simple, cost-effective stormwater solutions to campus staff, surrounding neighborhoods, local businesses and interested community members.



