BASEBALL FIELD

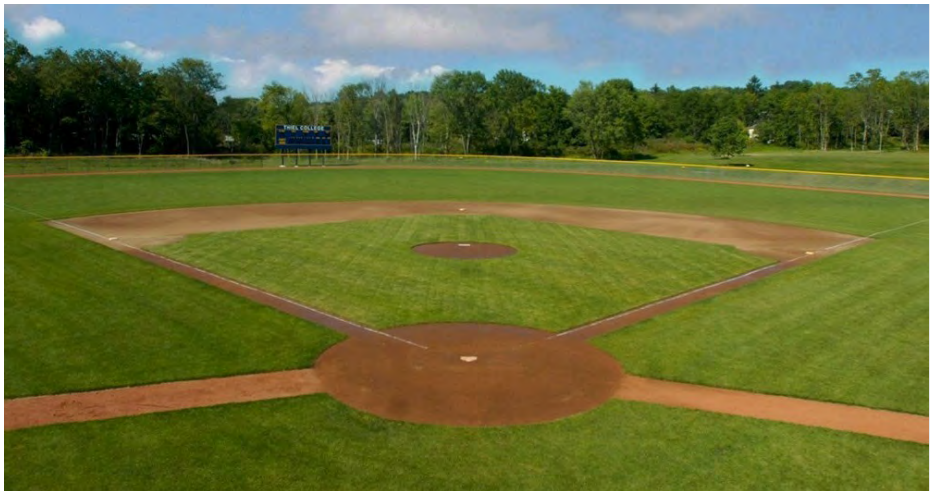


Image: Thiel Athletics

Benefits

Cost

BASKETBALL COURT

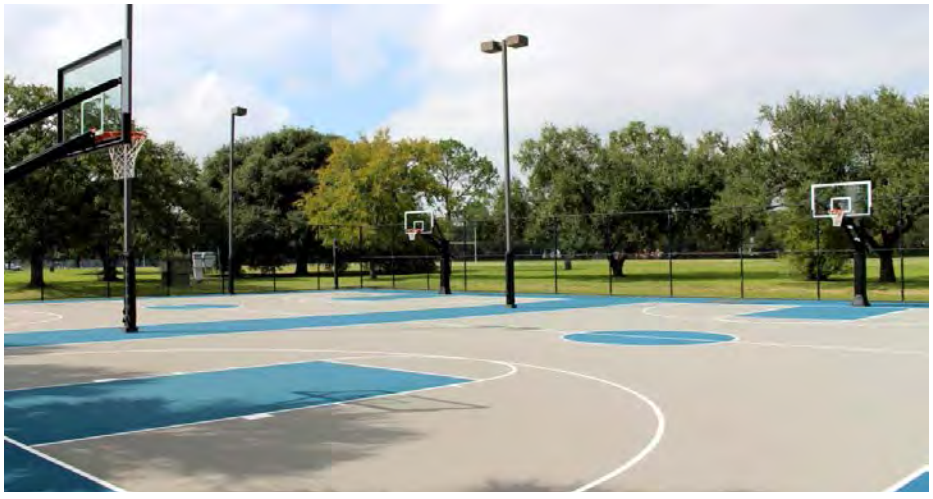


Image: Rice Recreation

Benefits

Cost

BAT HOUSE

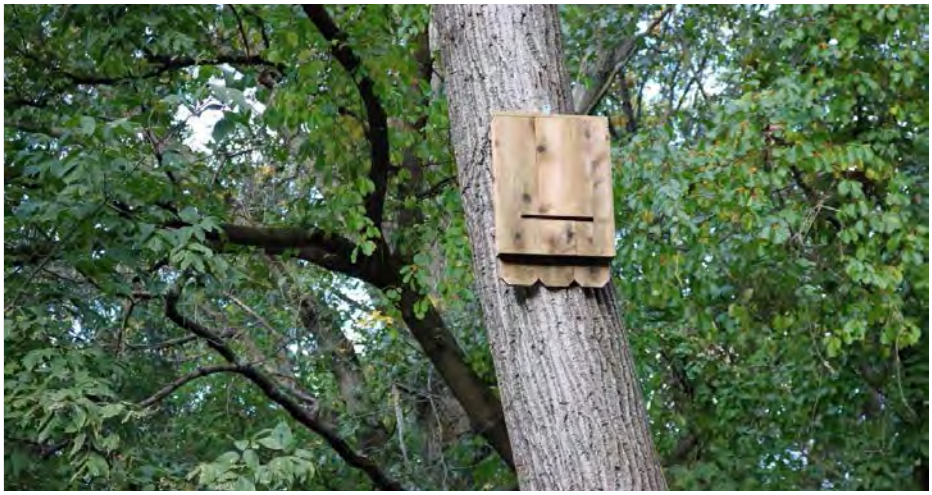


Image: Emily Fazio

Benefits

Cost

A **bat house** is a human-made habitat for bats, often shaped like a box and hung in trees or other high areas.

Tips

Some people are afraid of bats, but they are not dangerous to humans and rarely interact with us. Bats are nocturnal, which means they sleep during the day and are awake at night.

Environmental Benefits

Bats eat flying insects, including mosquitoes. According to Bat Conservation International, a single bat can eat 1,000 mosquitoes in just one hour! Bat droppings, called guano, are also an important source of nutrients for local plants and can help spread seeds.

BEEHIVE

Image: Sam Schipani

Benefits

Cost

A **beehive** is a human-made home for a colony of bees, often shaped like boxes that can be stacked together.

Tips

Honeybees are usually not aggressive, but some people are allergic to bees, so the beehives should not be placed near crowded areas. Since bees help flowers, meadows, and other plants thrive, a beehive should be placed near areas with lots of vegetation.

Environmental Benefits

Honeybees play an important role in the ecosystem by carrying pollen between the flowers of plants. By pollinating the plants, the bees help them reproduce and grow.

BENCH

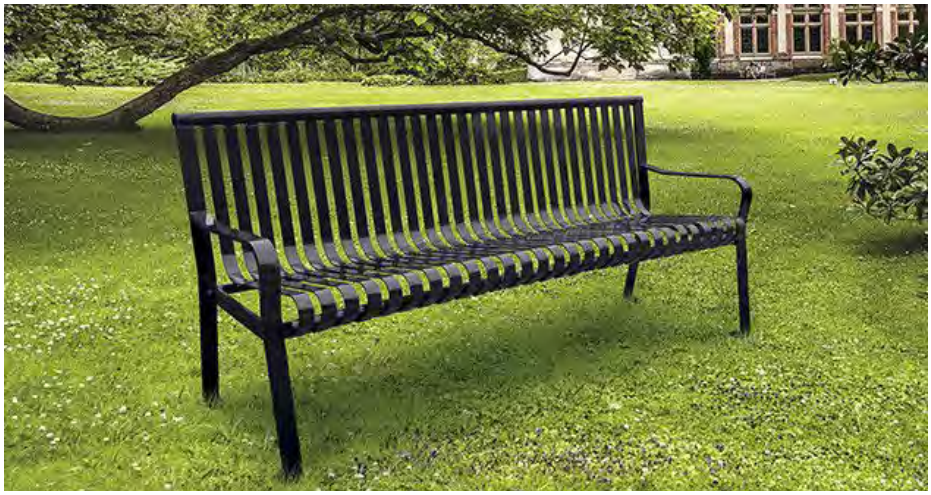


Image: Bench Factory

Benefits

Cost

BIKE RACK

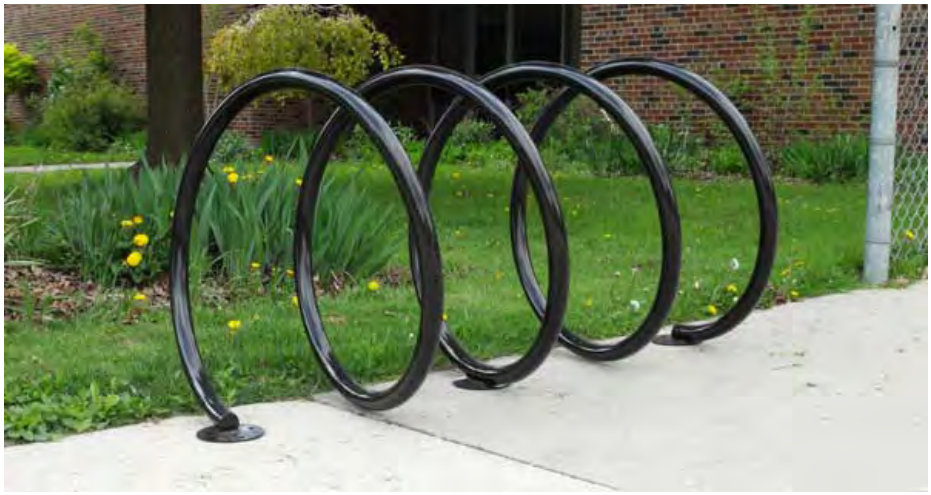


Image: Belson

Benefits

Cost

Tips

Place bicycle racks near destinations where people would want to get off their bike.

BIKE PATH

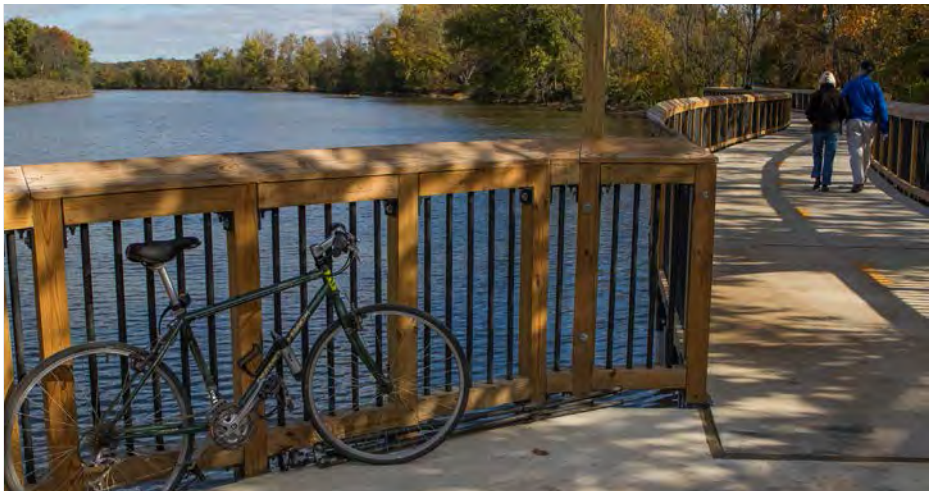


Image: Krista Schlyer

Benefits

Cost

A **bike path** is a paved or unpaved trail designed for bicycles.

Tips

Some bicycle paths are narrow and require people to move around each other to pass, but some bike paths include wide lanes in each direction to prevent collisions. Paved bike trails can also include separated walking lanes so that bicyclists don't need to move around pedestrians.

Environmental Benefits

Bike paths are great because they create a safe space for people to walk or bicycle instead of drive. Less driving means fewer exhaust emissions, which are harmful for air quality and contribute to climate change.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Image: Roxie Hammill

Benefits

Cost

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Image: Wayne Grant

Benefits

Cost

Tips

Place the community garden in a space that has plenty of sunlight and can be easily watered. Rain barrels can be a great source of water for gardens.

COMPOSTING TOILET

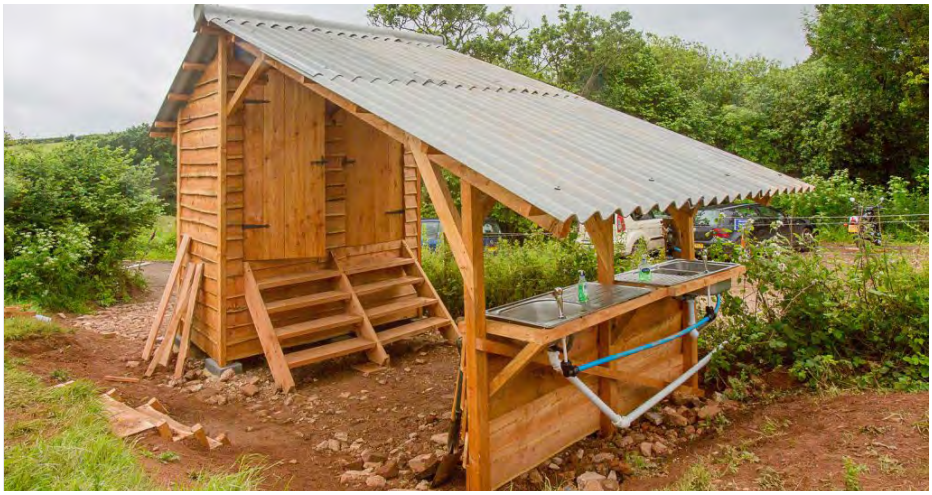


Image: Green Building Alliance

Benefits

Cost

Through the process of decomposition, **composting toilets** turn human waste into rich fertilizer. Composting toilets do not use water; instead, waste is composted with carbon-rich sources like wood shavings, bark mulch, and leaves. The end product is a soil-like material that can be used in gardens.

Tips

Make sure to place the composting toilet in an easily accessible area and include educational signs about how they work.

Environmental Benefits

Composting toilets save water and decrease the need for chemical-based fertilizers. Not using water to flush a toilet can save more than 6,600 gallons of water per person a year! The compost that is created can be used to improve poor soil by increasing the production of micro-organisms, helping the soil to retain moisture, reducing pest and plant diseases, increasing productivity, and eliminating the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides, which are bad for the environment.

CONCESSION STAND

Image: Rural Studio

Benefits

Cost

COVERED PICNIC AREA

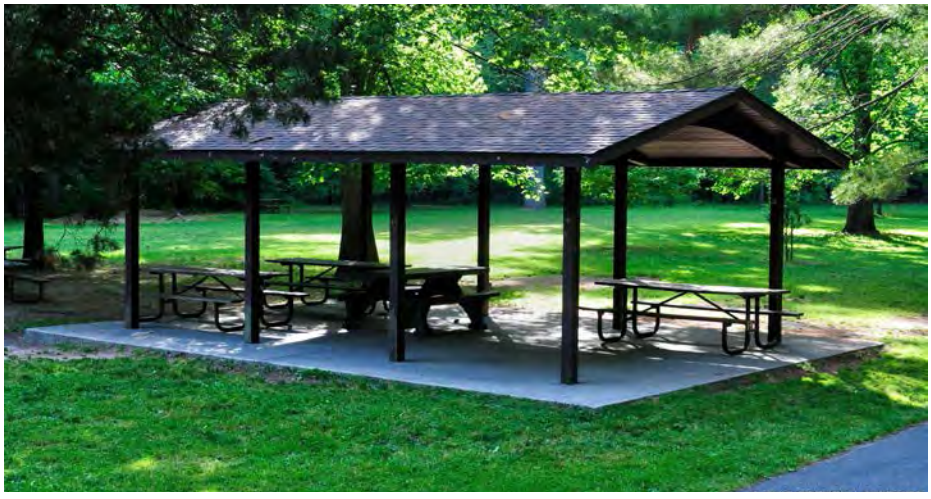


Image:Steven Markos

Benefits

Cost

DOG WASTE STATION

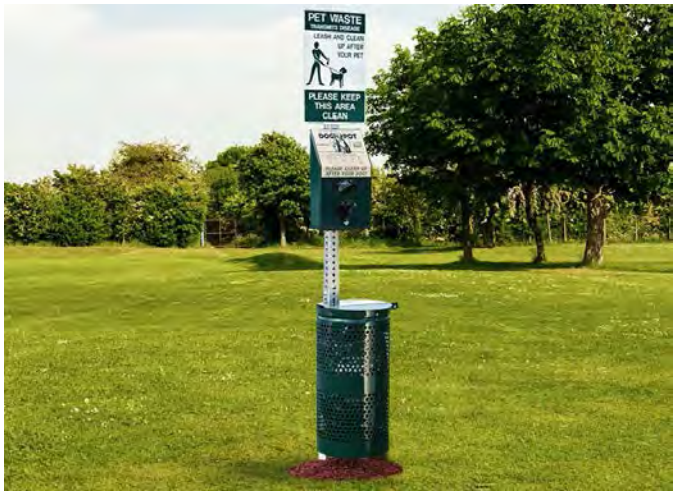


Image: ProPet Distributors

Benefits

Cost

DRINKING FOUNTAINS

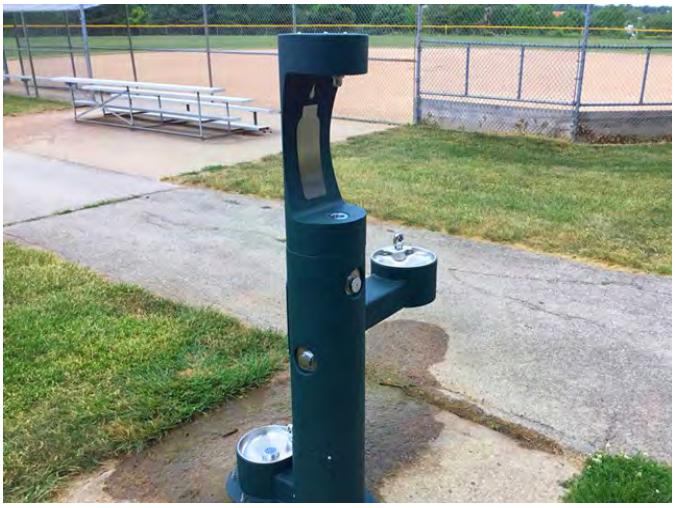


Image: Leah Wankum

Benefits

Cost

FISHING DOCK

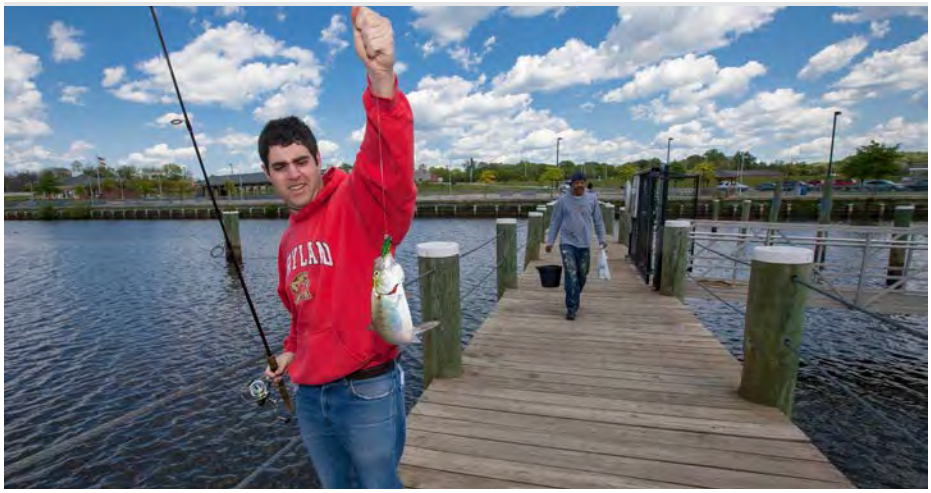


Image: Krista Schlyer

Benefits

Cost

FLOATING WETLAND

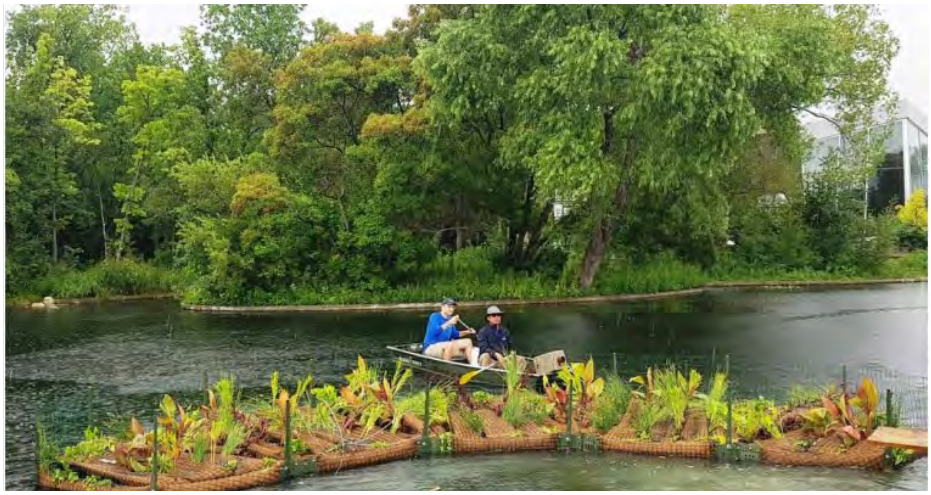


Image: Assiniboine Park Conservancy

Benefits

Cost

Floating wetlands are gardens of marsh plants that float on water, held together by a plastic grid and the plant roots that grow together.

Tips

Floating wetlands should be anchored in shallow areas near shore where they can provide habitat to creatures and also be accessible for maintenance by humans.

Environmental Benefits

Floating wetlands help to break down and absorb pollutants in water, and they provide habitat for insects, fish and other wildlife.

GRILLING STATION

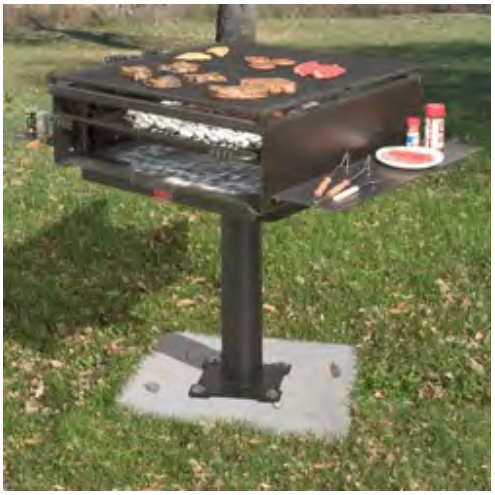


Image: Pilot Rock

Benefits

Cost

$ $

HAMMOCK

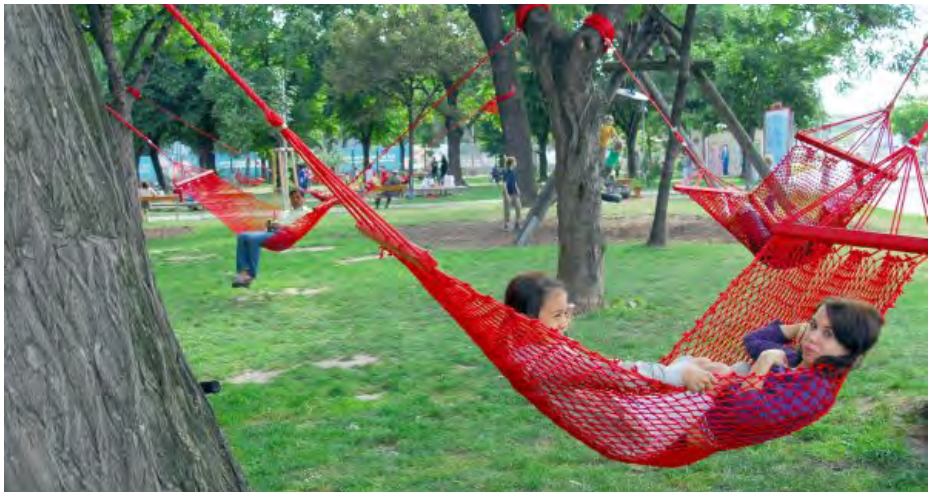


Image: BV Margareten

Benefits

Cost

$

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE REMOVAL

Image: U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Requavious Barnes, 20th Civil Engineer Squardron

Benefits

Cost

$ $ $

Common **impervious surfaces** are parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, basketball courts, tennis courts, and skateparks. Removing these surfaces allows water to soak into the ground.

Tips

Spaces that require hard surfaces, like parking lots and sidewalks, can be replaced with permeable pavers.

Environmental Benefits

Removing impervious surfaces can reduce flooding and stormwater runoff and create a habitat for pollinators and wildlife.

KAYAK RENTAL

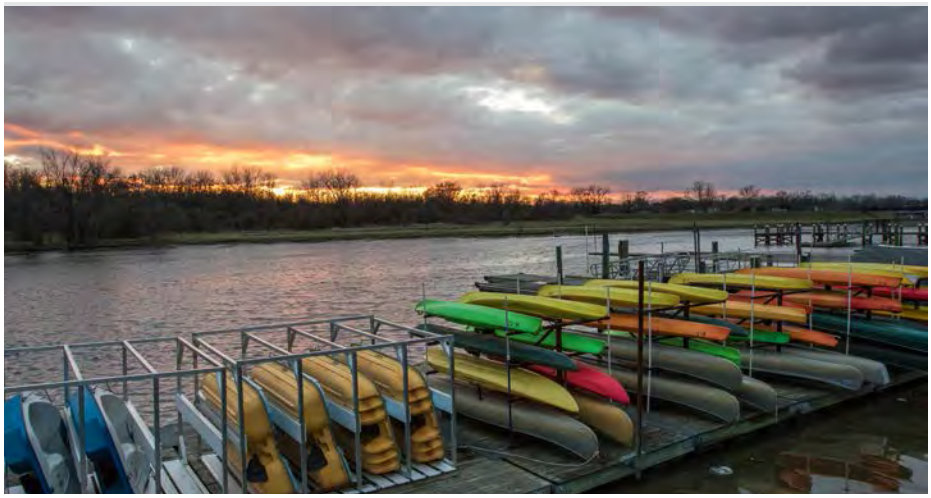


Image: Krista Schlyer

Benefits

Cost

LIGHTING

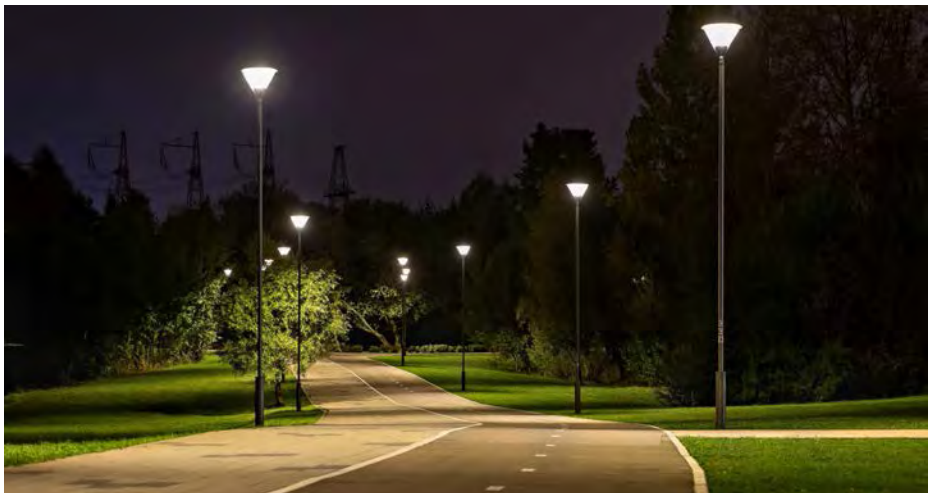


Image: Lumega

Benefits

Cost

LIVING SHORELINE

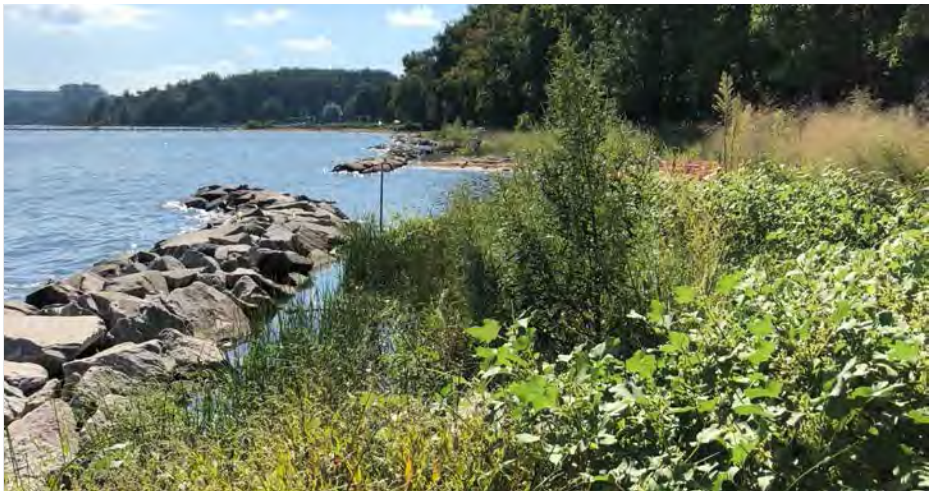


Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

In a **living shoreline,** plants and other organic materials such as rocks and sand, are stationed along the shoreline and serve as a barrier between the land and water.

Tips

Living shorelines can be placed anywhere along the river's edge.

Environmental Benefits

Living shorelines reduce erosion at the edge of the water, which can help protect land areas from flooding. Living shorelines also reduce the amount of dirt and debris that flows into the water from the land, and they provide crucial habitat for fish and wildlife.

NATIVE PLANTS

Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

Native plants are trees, shrubs, and flowers that naturally exist in a region. Native plants in Washington D.C. include Sugar Maple trees, American Honeysuckle vines, and much more.

Tips

Remember that plants need plenty of sunshine, water, and space. Certain plants can also be sensitive to foot traffic and deer grazing. Consider putting a wire fencing around the perimeter of your area to protect your new plants from herbivores and human interaction.

Environmental Benefits

Native plants provide habitat for critical pollinators like the Monarch butterfly. Native gardening and landscaping in your area will add beauty to our community and encourage native pollinators to help grow our food.

NATIVE SHADE TREES

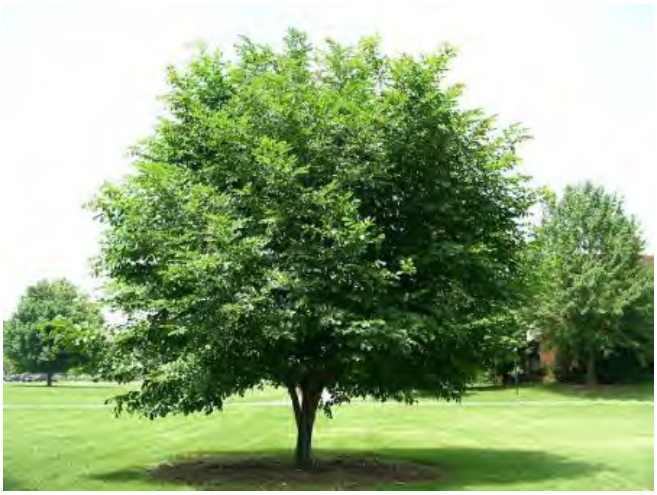


Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

Shade trees are large trees with widespread, dense canopies. A shade tree is taller than 25 feet at maturity. Commonly planted shade trees in the District include oaks, maples, ashes and elms.

Tips

There are a few things to consider when looking to planting a shade tree. For instance, the location of utility wires (both above and buried) and the distance from objects such as buildings, sidewalk, fence and other trees, must be taken into account. It is also important to consider sun exposure when planting a tree.

Environmental Benefits

Trees are an important method for controlling stormwater runoff. The leaves of trees are like cups and can hold up to one-tenth of an inch of stormwater. This captured rain water is critical as a rainfall of only half an inch can cause sewer overflows. Trees also improve air quality by removing small pollutant particulates (i.e., sulfur dioxide, ozone, etc.), reduce greenhouse gas emissions by taking up carbon dioxide, provide habitat for beneficial plants and animals, and mitigate the urban heat-island effect by shading our homes and streets.

NATIVE BIRD NESTING

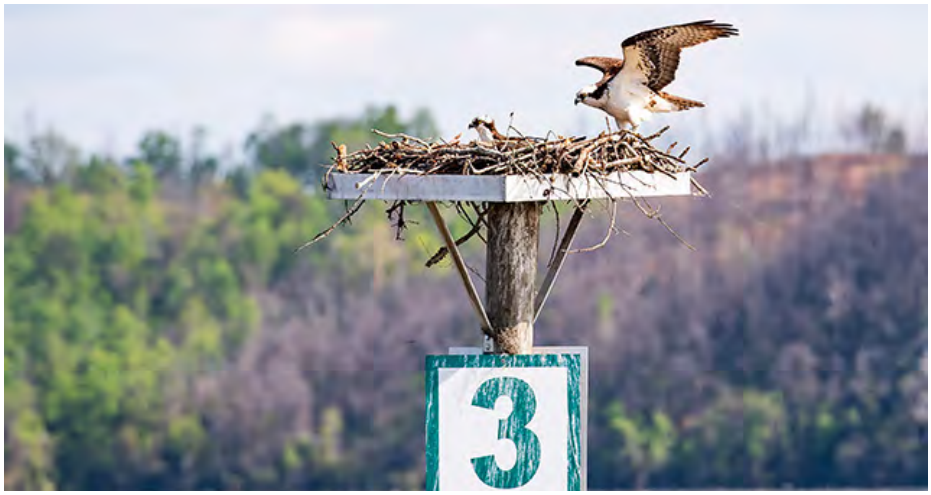


Image: Justin Averette

Benefits

Cost

Tips

Native birds, like ospreys, prefer high vantage points near bodies of water from which they hunt for fish. Ospreys usually build their nests in trees, but they will also build nests on artificial structures, especially if other options are limited.

Nature Trail

Image: Krista Schlyer

Benefits

Cost

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

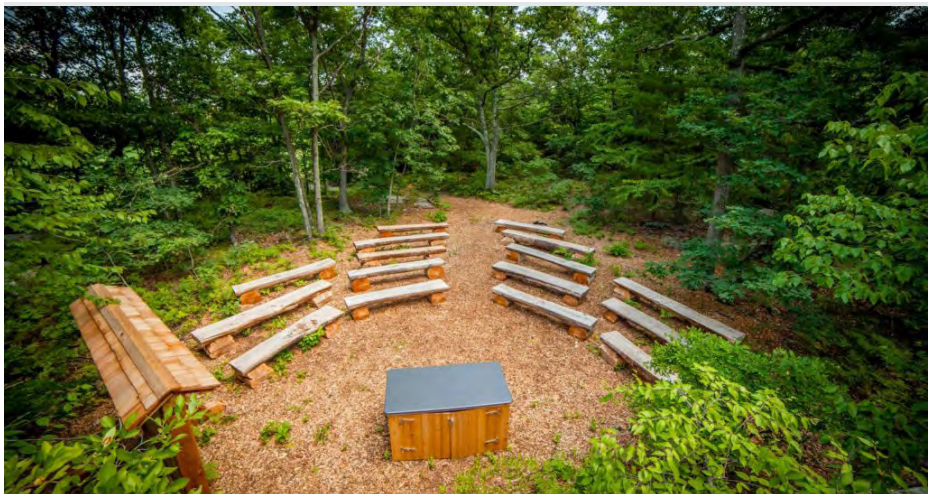


Image: Roxbury Latin

Benefits

Cost

$

Tips

Outdoor classrooms can be small or large and can be designed to focus on a specific environmental topic, or simply be a space where students and teachers can explore any topic.

OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Image: American Parks Company

Benefits

Cost

$ $

PERMEABLE PAVERS

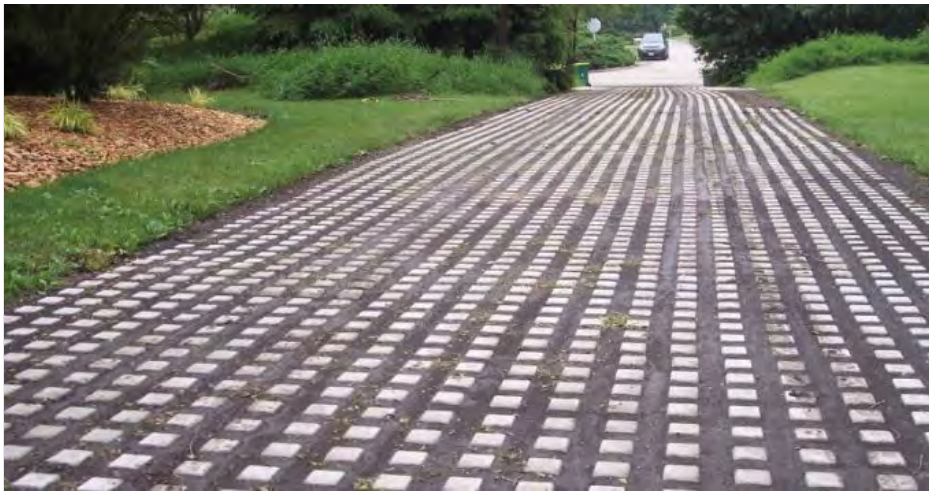


Image: Reading Rock

Benefits

Cost

Permeable pavers are made from porous materials, which means there are small holes or openings that allow water to pass through the pavement and drain into the ground. These paving materials can be as strong and durable as traditional paving materials such as concrete, asphalt, or compact gravel.

Tips

Impervious surfaces, like parkings lots and sidewalks, can be removed and replaced with permeable pavers.

Environmental Benefits

Traditional pavers that use hard surfaces like concrete, asphalt, or compact gravel are impervious and can cause stormwater runoff and flooding. Instead, permeable pavers are designed to allow water to pass through the hard surface to reduce flooding and erosion caused by stormwater runoff.

PICNIC TABLE

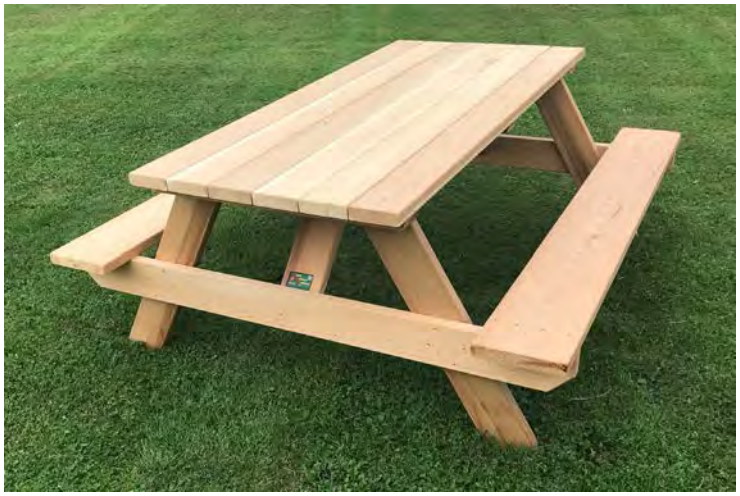


Image: HomeDepot

Benefits

Cost

$ $

PLAYGROUND

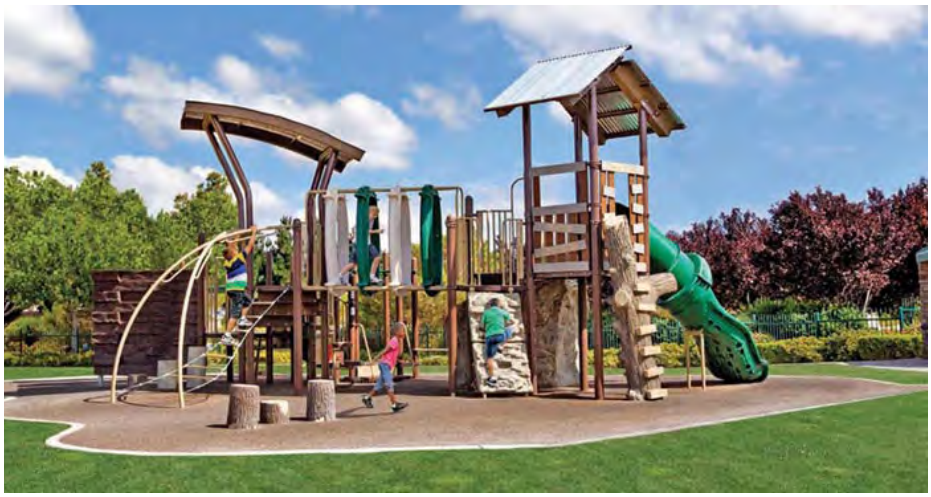


Image: Lea Park and Play

Benefits

Cost

$ $ $

POLLINATOR GARDEN

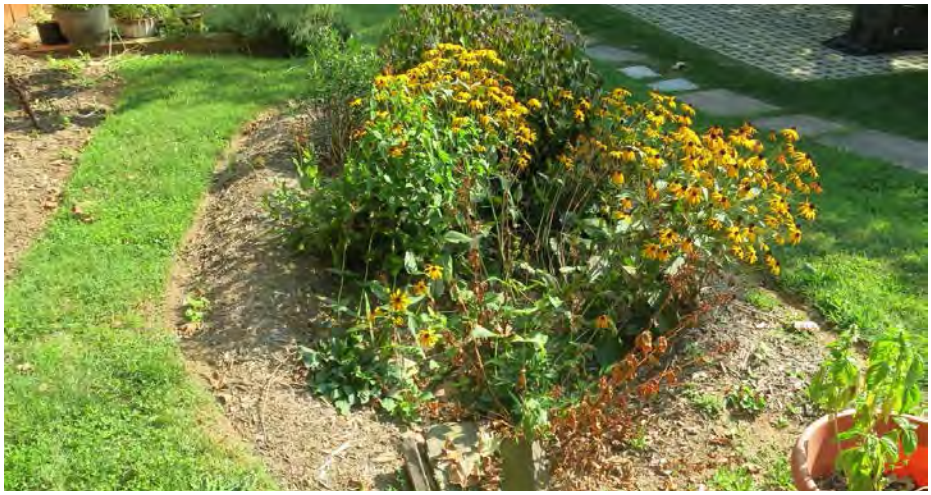


Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

Pollinator gardens are made up of special flowers like milkweeds, dandelions, and daisies. These flowers attract pollinator insects by providing food and shelter.

Tips

Depending upon the plants you use, your pollinator garden can also serve as a rain garden.

Environmental Benefits

Pollinator gardens help pollinator animals survive. Without them, it would be hard for us to produce foods like apples, avocados, bananas, and more.

PUBLIC ART

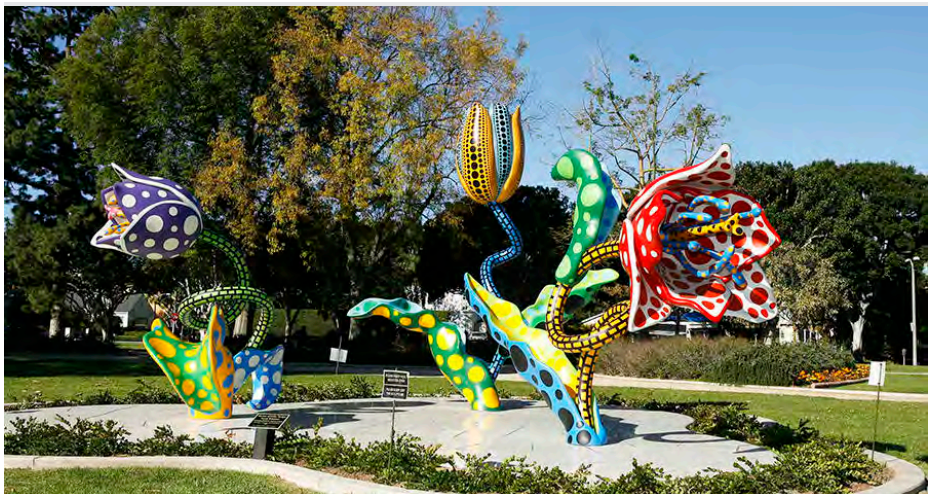


Image: Hymn of Life: Tulips by Yayoi Kasuma

Benefits

Cost

$ $

PUBLIC SIGNAGE

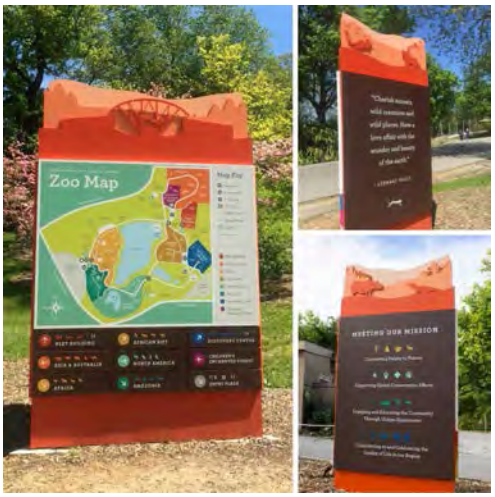


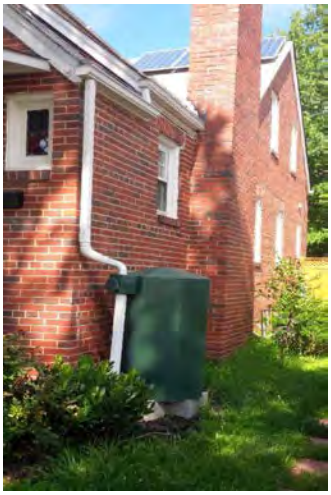
Image: Mesker Park

Benefits

Cost

$

RAIN BARREL



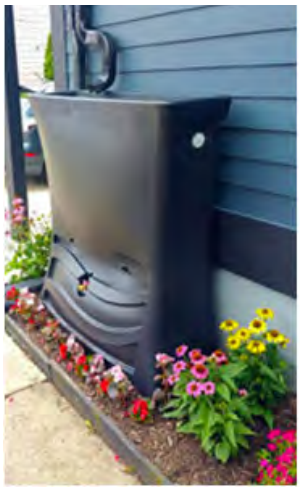


Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

Rain barrels capture and store the rainwater running off a rooftop. The harvested rainwater can be stored for later use, released slowly over time, or be used immediately for watering lawns and landscaped areas, or washing cars.

Tips

A hose can be hooked up to a rain barrel so that the water stored in the barrel can be used to water plants. Be sure to put your rain barrels close to gardens or trees that need to be watered!

Environmental Benefits

Rain water can carry fertilizer, pesticides, and other contaminants into our streams and rivers. Similar to rain gardens, rain barrels help hold rain water before it can harm wildlife in and around the river.

RAIN GARDEN

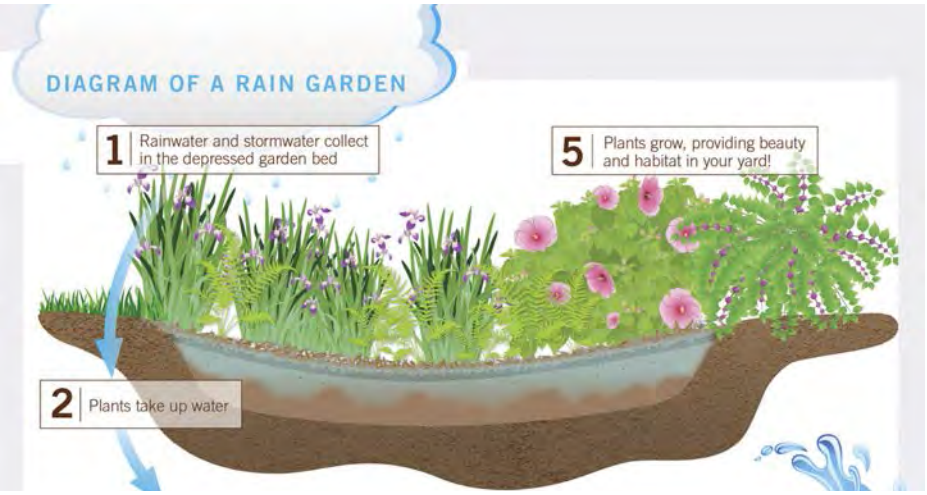


Image: Clemson Cooperative Extension

Benefits

Cost

A **rain garden** is a garden that is designed to slightly dip into the ground to trap and filter rainwater.

Tips

Rain gardens are most useful if situated downhill from impervious surfaces, such as rooftops and roads, and are designed to collect runoff from those surfaces.

Environmental Benefits

Rain gardens decrease stormwater runoff, flooding and erosion, create a beautiful environment for people, and a healthy habitat for animals.

RECYCLING CONTAINER

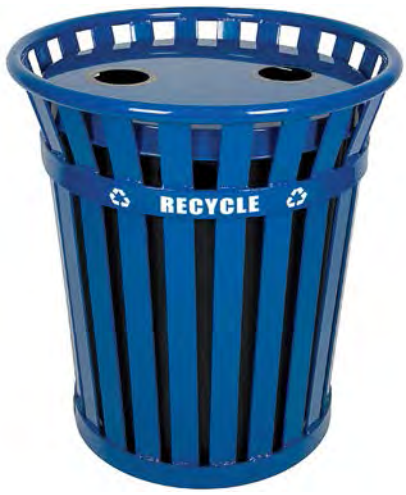


Image: Recycle Away

Benefits

Cost

Tips

Think carefully about the placement of your recycling can. For example, if it is placed far away from the entrance, visitors may be less likely to use it. Also, consider placing signs on your recycling can to help visitors determine which materials are recyclable.

SKATE PARK

Image: Roberts Skate Park

Benefits

Cost

SOCCER FIELD

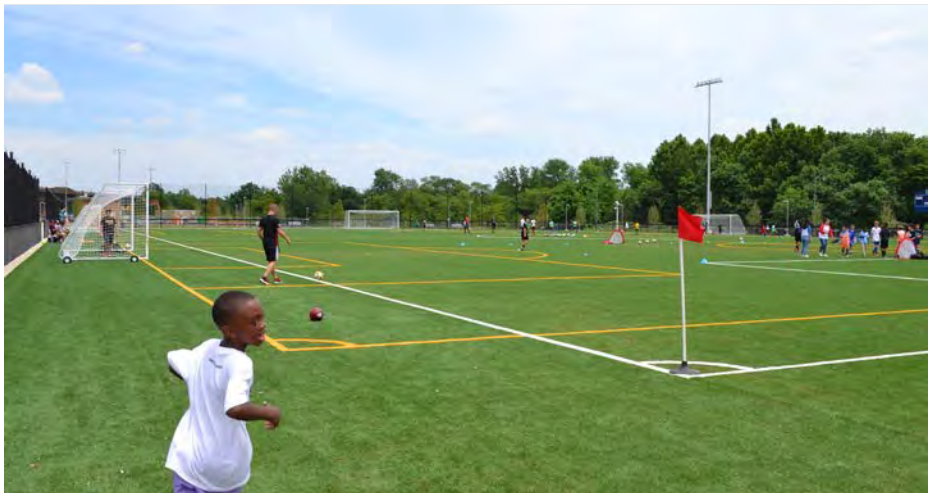


Image: Hill Rag, Washington DC

Benefits

Cost

$ $ $

SOLAR USB CHARGING STATION

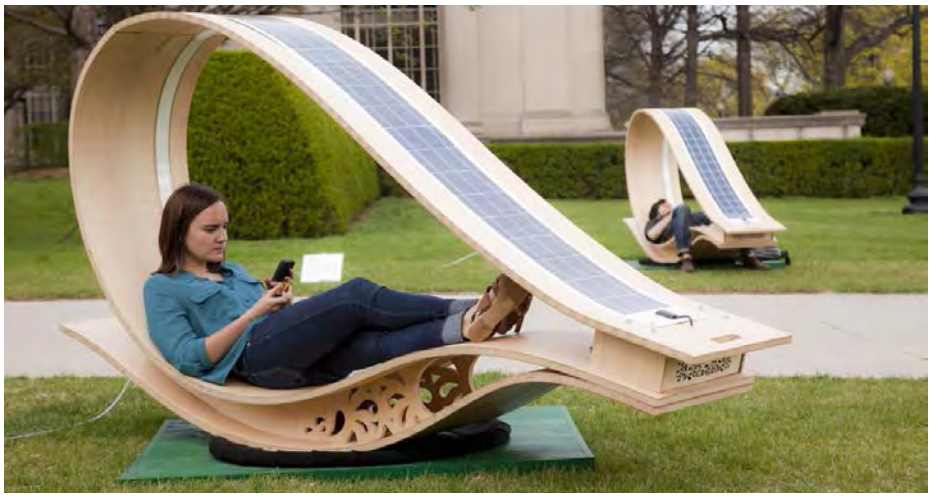


Image: Phil Seaton

Benefits

Cost

$ $

Tips

A USB charging station is a great perk for park visitors who have smartphones and other USB devices. Additionally, because the station is solar powered, it promotes the use of sustainable energy.

SPLASH PADS

Image: District Department of Parks and Recreation

Benefits

Cost

$ $ $

SWIMMING HOLE

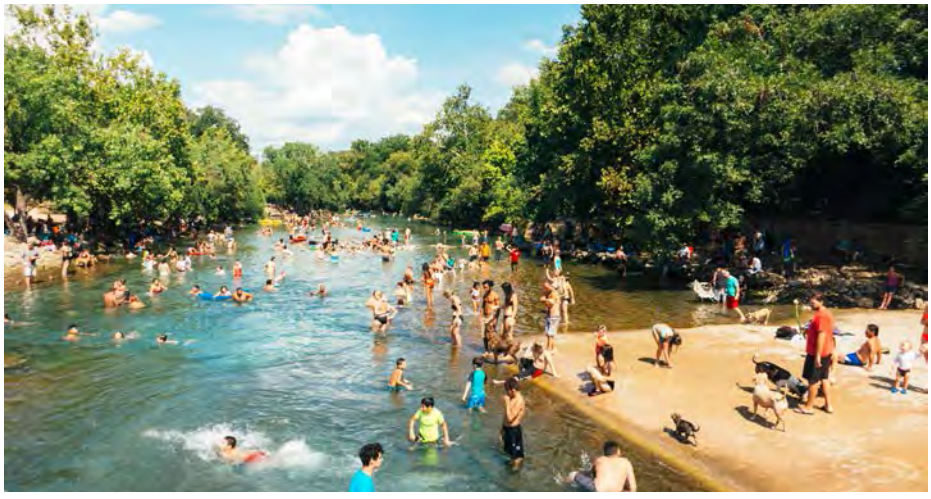


Image: Tomek Baginski

Benefits

Cost

$ $ $ $

TENNIS COURT

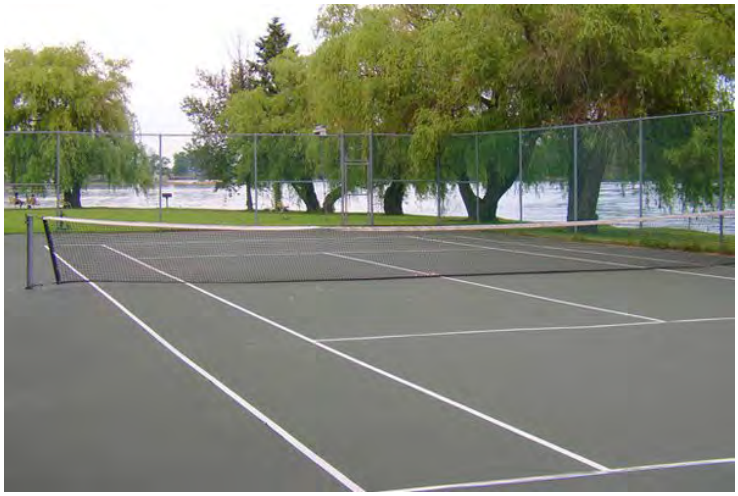
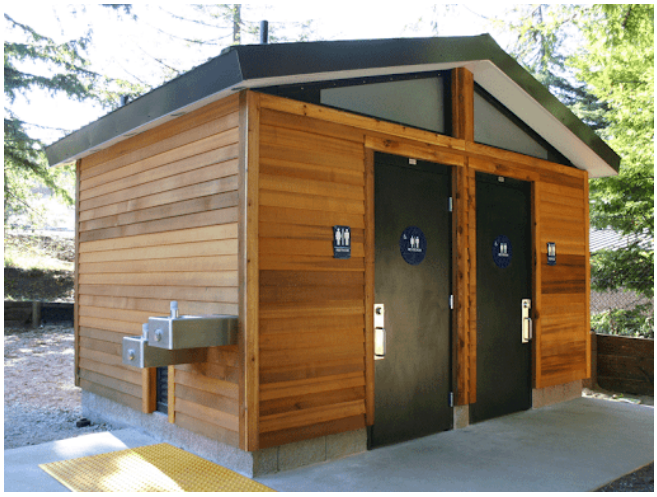


Image: Cragun

Benefits

Cost

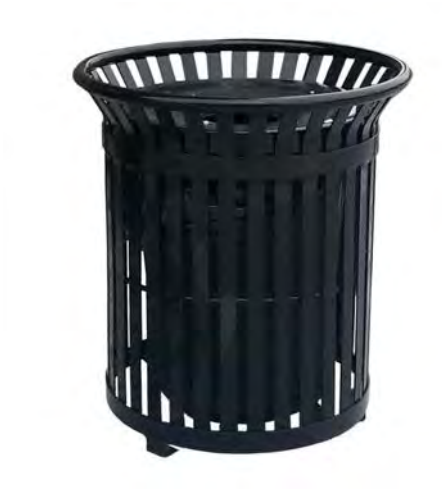
TRADITIONAL BATHROOMS



Benefits

Cost

TRASH CONTAINER



Benefits

Cost

Tips

Think critically about the placement of your trash cans. For example, if it is placed far away from the entrance, visitors may be less likely to use it.

TRASH TRAP

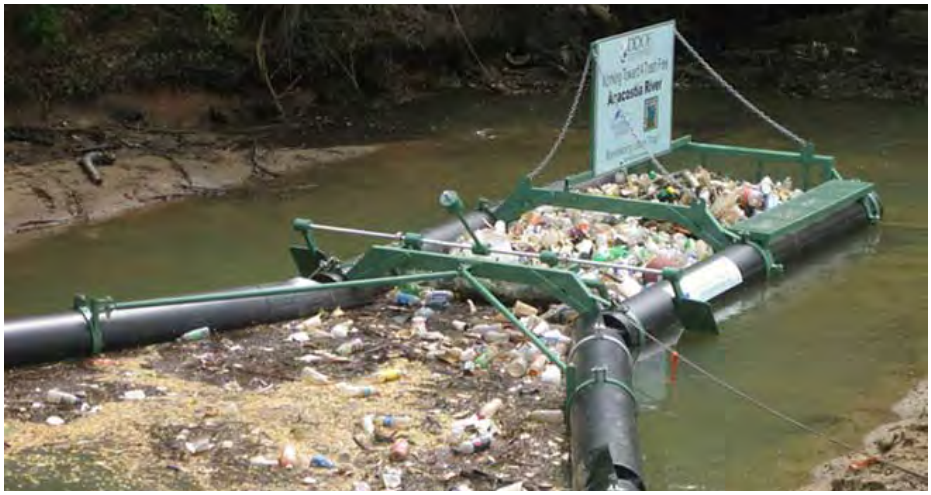


Image: District Department of Energy and Environment

Benefits

Cost

A **trash trap** is a floating cage that captures trash and debris like plastic bottles and plastic bags that float down a stream.

Tips

Trash traps should be placed upstream where they can capture trash before it flows downstream.

Environmental Benefits

Trash traps help clean rivers and streams by capturing trash that has been littered or dumped in the waterways.

Supporting Partners