



# Smart Growth for Clean Water

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# About the Alliance



- Committed to changing the way America views, values, and manages water
- Building consensus for managing “One Water” establishing a national water policy framework
- Membership
  - Municipal, state, academia, private sector, environmental and non-profit organizations

# Current Realities, Future Choices

- Communities nationwide need to repair, rehabilitate, or replace failing pipes and aging treatment plants, control stormwater, manage growth and climate change, and reduce energy costs while meeting TMDLs and other regulatory requirements
- A growing movement for sustainable green infrastructure, and resource recovery





# Urban Water Sustainability Council



- Forum for urban leaders in the fields of water, sustainability, infrastructure, planning, politics and science to meet and share ideas and strategies for creating green, sustainable cities
- Help usher in the paradigm shift toward green infrastructure and resource recovery for water sustainability
- National survey on barriers to green infrastructure

# Green Infrastructure



■ The goal of Green Infrastructure:

■ *Slow it down*

■ *Spread it out*

■ *Soak it in*

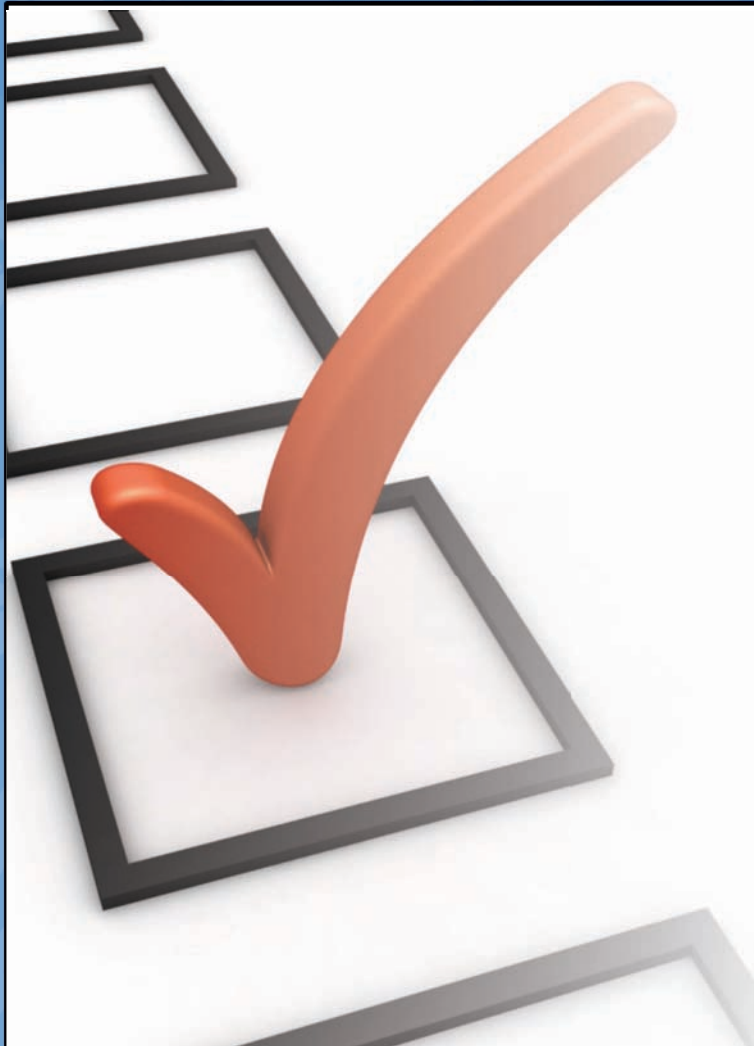
■ Benefits:

■ Environmental

■ Economic

■ Social

# Identify Barriers, Propose Solutions



- Developed online survey with partners
- 250 Respondents across the nation
- Analyzed results
- Download full report
  - <http://www.cwaalliance.org/2012/01/23/identify-barriers-propose-solutions/>





# Survey Findings

## Barriers

-  Technical & Physical
-  Legal & Regulatory
-  Financial
-  Community & Institutional

## Summary of Findings

-  Uncertainty & Risk – about outcomes, standards, techniques, and procedures
-  Need education, coordination, and collaboration to reduce uncertainty, mitigate risk, adapt to changing conditions



# Recommendations

## ■ Local

- “Green Infrastructure Coordinator”
- Green street initiatives

## ■ State

- Regional forums to increase certainty and consistency
- Explore funding options – such as dedicated revenues, user fees, etc.

## ■ Federal

- Fully measure and account for economic and environmental benefits
- Focus increased federal funding for green infrastructure initiatives
- Coordination among Federal agencies (USDA, US Interior, USDOT, HUD)





# Example: Los Angeles, CA



- 2011 U.S. Water Prize Winner
- Water Integrated Resource Plan
- Stakeholder Engagement



■ [www.growingblue.com](http://www.growingblue.com)

■ To be sustainable, smart growth requires smart management of water resources

## ■ Objectives of Growing Blue

- Increase awareness of water
- Provide reliable data about water
- Share best practices that foster sustainability
- Inspire thought dialogue and leadership





## Learn More

**WEB:** [www.CWAA.US](http://www.CWAA.US)

**COUNCIL:** <http://bit.ly/2012UWSC>

**EMAIL:** [info@CWAA.US](mailto:info@CWAA.US)

**REPORT:** <http://bit.ly/gireport>