

# RAIN GARDENS AND CISTERNS IN PUBLIC SPACES

Staryn Wagner

City of Austin's Watershed Protection Department

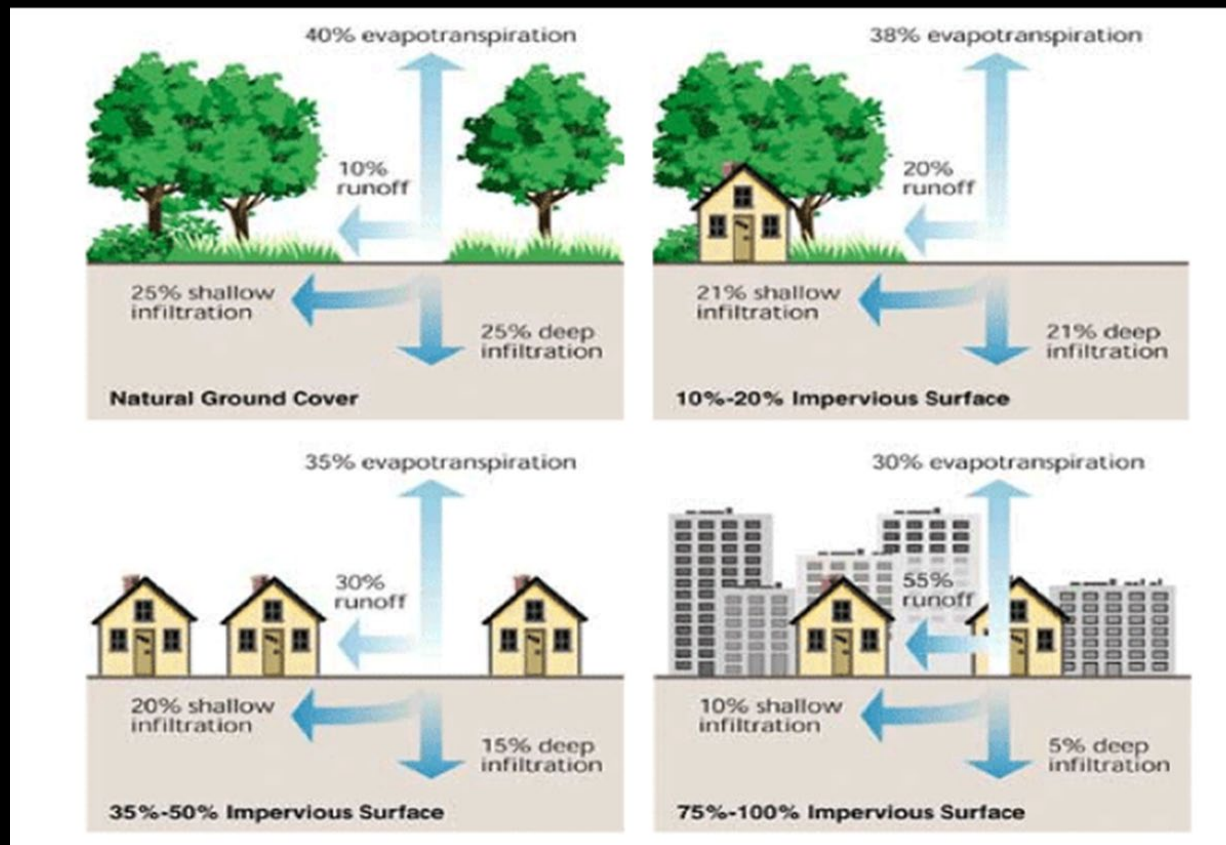
[Staryn.wagner@austintexas.gov](mailto:Staryn.wagner@austintexas.gov)

512-974-2956

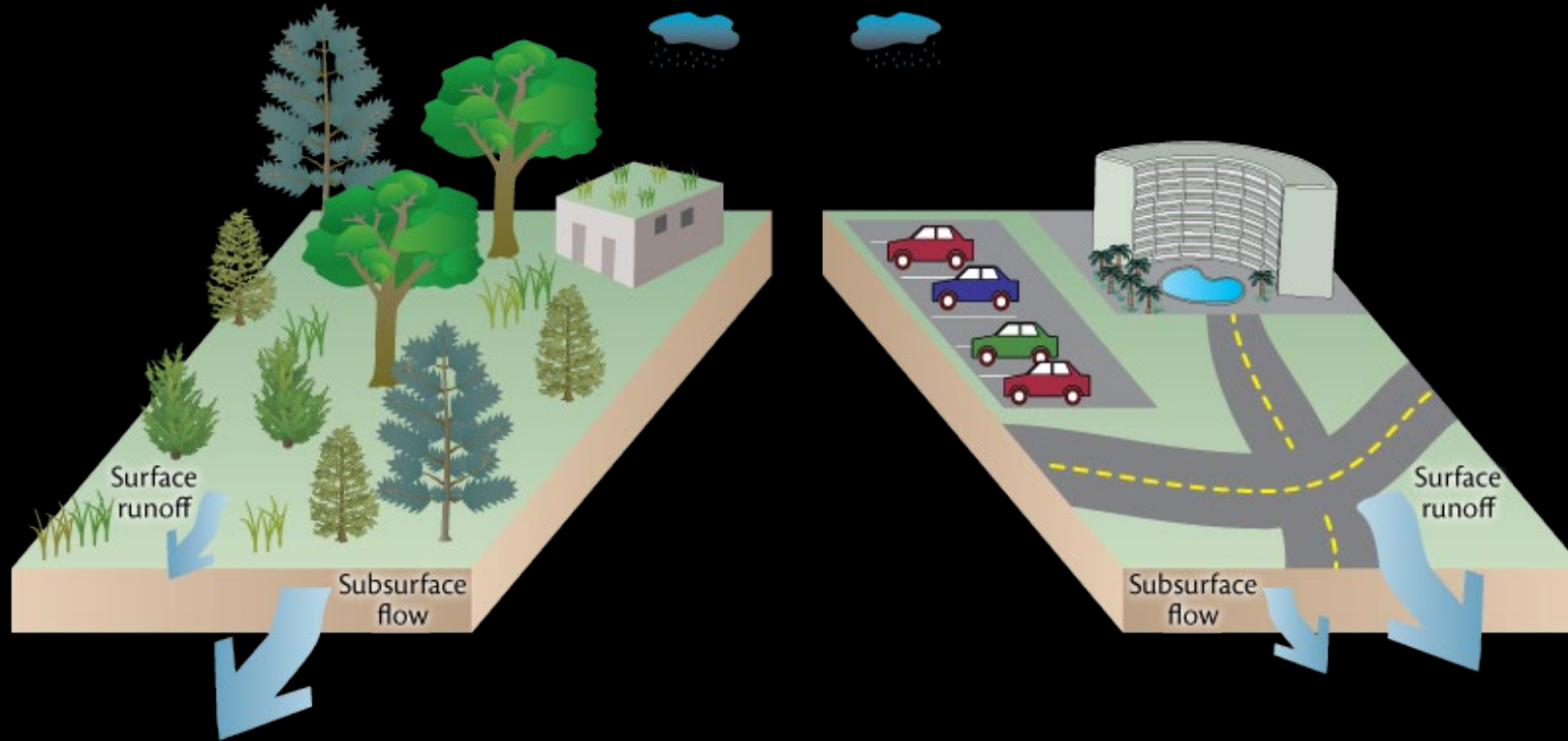
# WHAT DOES YOUR NEXT 20 MINUTES LOOK LIKE

- Quick green stormwater intro (yawn if you already know everything about GSI)
- Why would a city government want GSI
- Where can a local government actually install these systems
- What they look like
- What had to happen to get them in place
- Do they need maintenance to function? (Do you need oxygen to live?)
- Are there any challenges involved in installation? Spoiler alert: YES
- Let's talk about what you think could be better than what I presented or why you think GSI is actually BS.

# GSI IS ABOUT THE JOURNEY OF THE RAINDROP



# THE BEFORE AND AFTER STORY OR THE AFTER AND BEFORE STORY





# LESS OF THIS AND MORE OF THAT AND THE OTHER





BUT WHERE CAN WE PUT IT?





# PARK SPLASH PADS





# PARK PARKING RUNOFF





# PARK EROSION CONTROL





# CITY BUILDINGS





# LIBRARIES





# ALONG STREETS





# AND SIDEWALKS





# AT THE END OF STREETS





# BARRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





# ZILKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





# REILLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





# REILLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





# CISTERN MAINTENANCE

Clean gutters



Clean filters



Clean cistern





# RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Clean inlets



Clean outlets



Keep permeable





# CHALLENGES

- Not everybody likes GSI
- Not all engineers are experienced with GSI
- Not every construction crew knows how to construct green systems





# THANK YOU

Now let's tear up this landscaping and see what seeds are hidden beneath the surface.