



DON'T LET WATER RUN  
OFF YOUR PROPERTY

# Soak It Up!

## OUR TASK?

Reshape La Crosse area landscapes to soak up water. Keep yard trimmings, trash and chemicals out of streets where rain and snowmelt carry them directly to storm drains, creeks and the Black, La Crosse and Mississippi Rivers.

[lacsseareawaters.org](http://lacsseareawaters.org)

## La Crosse Urban Stormwater Group

CITY OF LA CROSSE  
CITY OF ONALASKA  
LA CROSSE COUNTY  
TOWN OF CAMPBELL  
TOWN OF HOLLAND  
TOWN OF ONALASKA  
TOWN OF SHELBY  
VILLAGE OF HOLMEN  
VILLAGE OF WE



## VISIT!

Habitat For Humanity  
La Crosse Area ReStore  
Stormwater Learning Center

3181 BERLIN DRIVE  
LA CROSSE, WI 54601  
608-785-2375

*The ReStore became a community learning site for stormwater management thanks to local governments and passionate local partners including Habitat For Humanity La Crosse Area, La Crosse Community Foundation, Paragon Associates, Coulee Region EcoScapes, Viterbo University, Western Technical College, generous materials suppliers, and project lead, NewGround.*

*Paddling the La Crosse River / Photo courtesy Ellistone Canoe Rentals*

VISIT HABITAT  
FOR HUMANITY  
LA CROSSE AREA  
RESTORE TO  
SEE HOW YOU  
CAN BE PART  
OF OUR LOCAL  
CLEAN WATER  
SOLUTION



# Become part of the solution.

8 WAYS YOU, FRIENDS & LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS CAN REDUCE POLLUTED RUNOFF TO LOCAL RIVERS

## YES, YOU!

### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

*Polluted surface runoff is the largest remaining source of water pollution.*

### WHY DO ORDINARY CITIZENS NEED TO DO SOMETHING?

*Our communities are working as hard as they can to protect streams and groundwater, but the challenge is so big that local and mandated federal goals can only be met with private investment.*

### WHAT CAN YOU LEARN ABOUT PROTECTING WATER AT THE RESTORE PROPERTY?

*Landscaping and teaching signs show how to hold water where it falls, so rain soaks in and doesn't carry pollution to the river. Learn to prevent erosion, locate and build rain gardens, use native plants, locate a rain barrel, and integrate food and places for people in the landscape. See infiltration basins, hugelkultur, and porous pavement options.*

### WHERE DO I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

[lacrosseareawaters.org](http://lacrosseareawaters.org)  
& your local government website



01

*Point downspouts to basins where earth & native plants soak up water.*



02

*Use less turf grass and more diverse native plants, especially on shorelines.*



03

*Use deicer instead of salt, and apply carefully.*



04

*Wash your car at a car wash where water is treated, not in the driveway.*



05

*When you build, plan ahead. Use silt fences. Keep soil in place and out of streets.*



06

*Drain hard surfaced areas to low basins, not storm drains.*



07

*Clean up after your pet. Do not put waste in street drains.*



08

*Minimize pavement! When you need it, choose material with openings so water soaks through and doesn't run off.*