**Design and Implementation of** 

## **BMP** Monitoring Programs

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# **Project Scope**

The Project employed various approaches to measure the performance of stormwater BMPs at three locations in Northeastern Illinois.

- Our Lady Gate of Heaven Church/Banner School
- St. Margaret Mary Parish and School
- Village of Bellwood Water Department

# Our Lady Gate of Heaven

- Located on the south side of Chicago
- ❖ 660 ft² bioswale
- 12,433 ft² tributary area (parking lot)
- Construction Design
  - ❖12" Gravel
  - ❖ 12" Engineered Soil
  - Native Plantings



# St. Margaret Mary

- Located on the north side of Chicago
- Three BMPs
  - Bioswale
    - ❖ 933 ft² in size
    - 8,325 ft² tributary area (parking lot)
  - Two rain gardens
    - ❖ 96 ft² in size
    - ❖ 755 ft² tributary area (roof)
- Construction Design
  - ❖ 12-18" Engineered Soil
  - Native Plantings





# **Bellwood Water Department**





- Two Rain Gardens
  - Native
    - ❖ 230 ft² in size
    - 1,540 ft² tributary area (roof)
  - Turf Grass
    - ❖ 220 ft² in size
    - 1,340 ft² tributary area (roof)
- Construction Design
  - Elevated Planter Box
  - ❖ 24" Engineered Soil
  - Weir

# Monitoring Plan: Equipment

- Our monitoring plan focused on water quantity and volume control.
- Measurements included:
  - Tributary Area
  - Rainfall
  - Water Level
  - Soil Moisture

- Rain Gauge
  - Hobo Weather Station Tipping Bucket Gauge
  - Hobo MircoStation Data Logger
- Recorded 5 minute rainfall



- Water Level Meters
  - Hobo 30-foot depth data logger
  - Recorded on a 5-minute interval
  - Requires independent barometric pressure reading





- Monitoring Well
  - Metal well covers
  - ❖ PVC well slotted for:
    - Surface
    - Engineered soil/aggregate
    - Subsoil
  - Bentonite seal
  - Uniform-grade sand for well pack





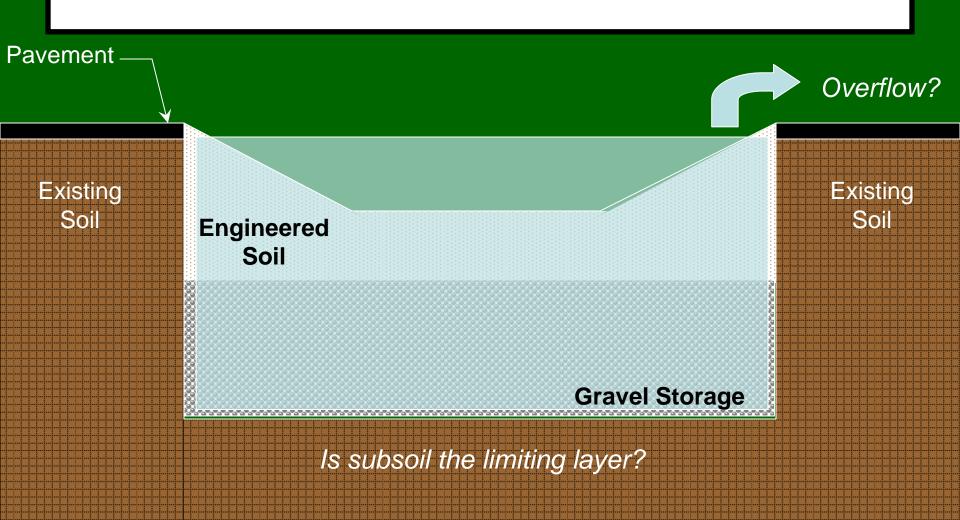
- Soil Moisture Meters
  - ECH 2 O Soil Moisture Sensor (dielectric)
  - Hobo Microstation Data Logger
- Recorded 5-min soil moisture data
- In-laboratory soil specific meter calibration
- Used to determine soil saturation and soil porosity by volume

# **Monitoring Plan**

### Research questions:

- **❖BMP** Performance
  - Rate and volume capacity
- Design/environmental factors:
  - Vegetation type
  - Soil type
  - High groundwater
  - Initial soil moisture conditions
  - Rate of infiltration through various layers

## **BMP Performance**



## **BMP Performance**

Pavement

Is engineered soil the limiting layer?

Existing Soil

Engineered Soil

Existing
Soil

**Gravel Storage** 

# **Monitoring Data/Computations**

Runoff computed from Rainfall and tributary area

Outflow unmeasurable in 4 of 6 BMPs

Existing Soil



Engineered Soil

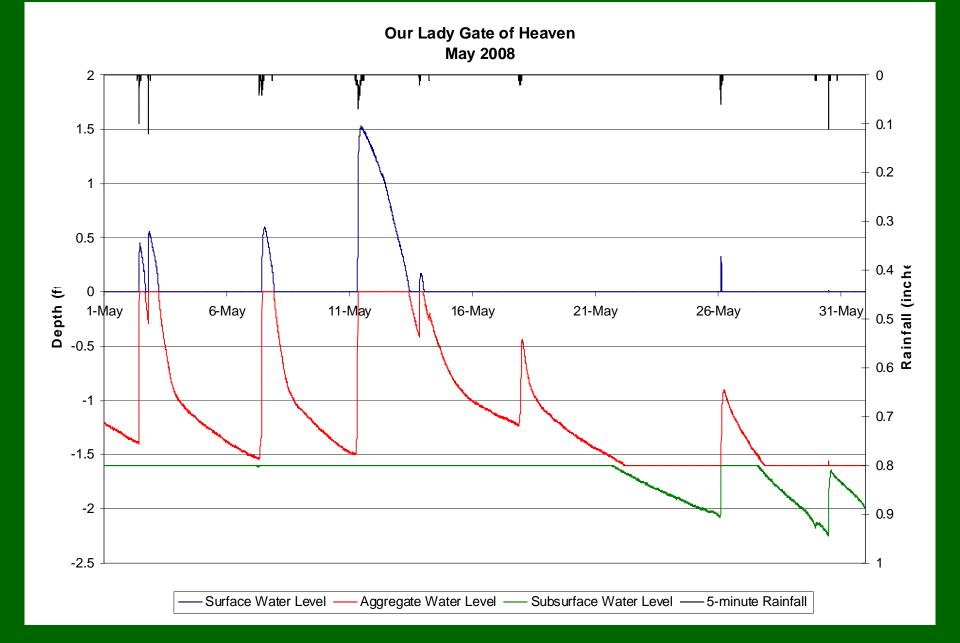


**Gravel Storage** 

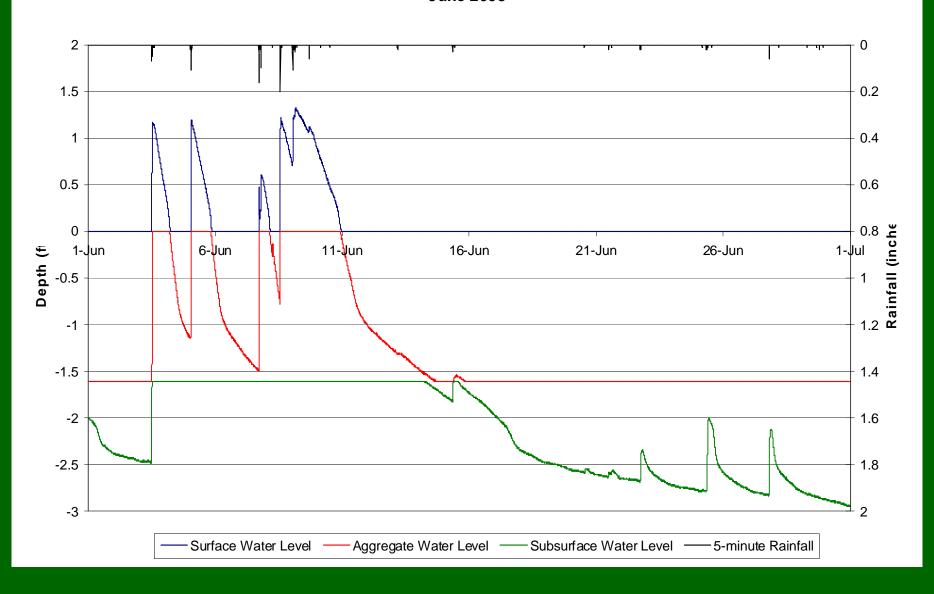


# Our Lady Gate of Heaven

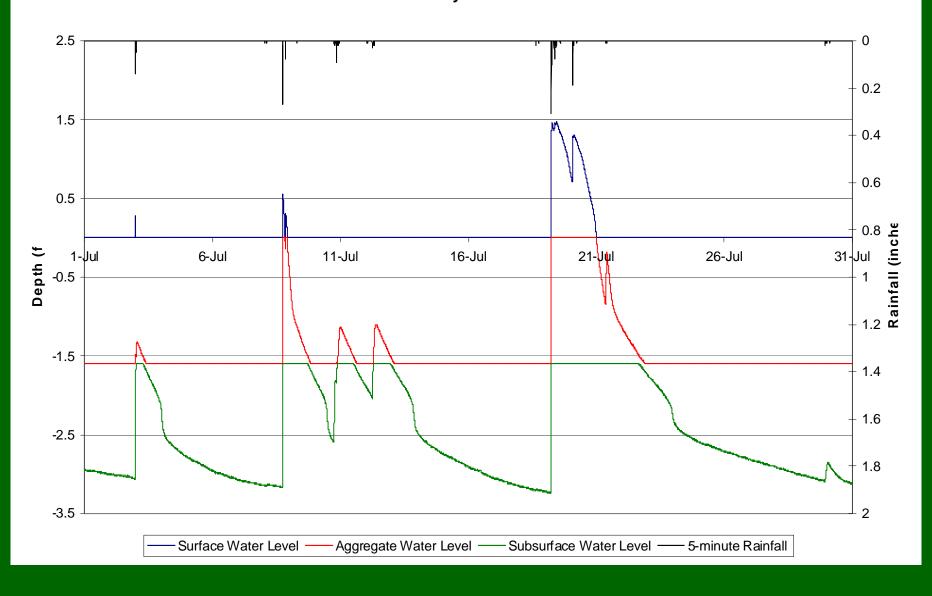
- Monitoring Data Summary and Results
  - Data collected between April 2008 and October 2008
  - Infiltration rates of 0.2 to 0.8 inches per hour
  - Effective for events up to 0.5 inches
  - Unknown performance for events over 0.5 inches



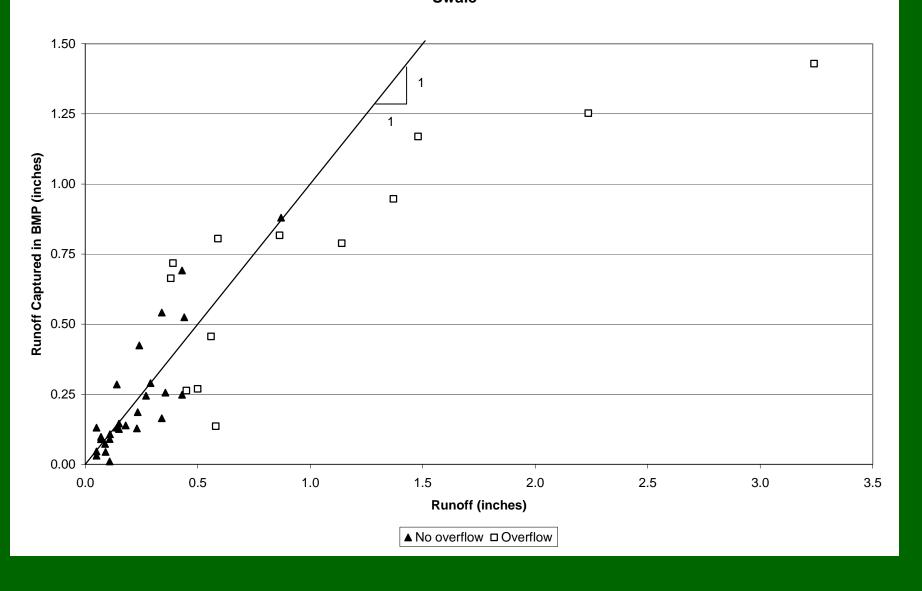
#### Our Lady Gate of Heaven June 2008



## Our Lade Gate of Heaven July 2008



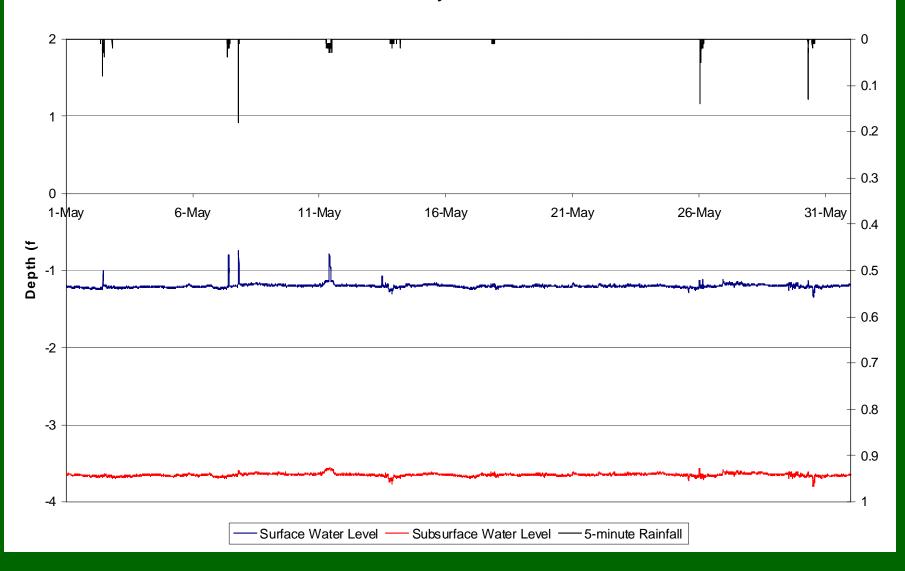
### Our Lady Gate of Heaven Swale



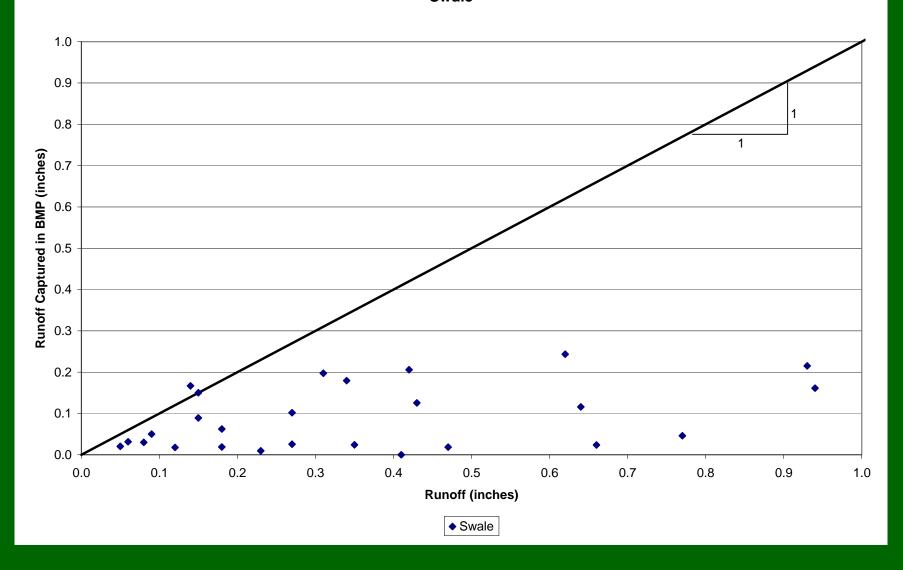
# St. Margaret Mary

- Monitoring Data Summary and Results
  - Data collected between May 2008 and October 2008
  - BMPs worked exceedingly well and no surface water storage was ever observed
  - Since the monitoring protocol was designed to measure free water surface, the protocol was not as successful at this site as at OLGH

#### St Margaret Mary Swale May 2008



St. Margaret Mary Swale



# Bellwood Water Department

- Monitoring Data Summary and Results
  - Data collected between May 2008 and October 2008
  - One well was insufficient to represent water captured in the gardens, even though they are only 230 square feet
  - The turf rain garden is performing better thus far in the project
  - The 5-minute recording period may have been too long to catch the near immediate response time of above ground storage in these small gardens
  - A water level recording interval was reduced to one minute in July and V-notch weirs were added

