Benefits of Using Sub-Surface Infiltration Basins

Recharges groundwater supply
Reduces speed and amount of stormwater runoff to streams and storm sewer systems
Lessens flooding and erosion downstream
Reduces space required for stormwater detention/retention basins
Moderate cost to install and maintain
Space above infiltration bed is usable as lawn, landscaped area, courtyard, etc.
Applicable to all types of sites (residential/commercial/industrial)
Small tank units are easily adapted to most existing individual home sites
Decreases export of pollutants such as phosphorus and solids

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For more information, please call 651-266-7100

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What is the purpose of an infiltration basin?
Sub-surface infiltration areas reduce the volume of runoff leaving a site by capturing runoff for storage underground. Over a period of time, the stored runoff will seep through the soil to recharge the groundwater supply. (See Figure 1 below.) Infiltration trenches are ideal in tight locations where space is limited.

Project Summary:
A sub-surface infiltration trench was installed in your area in conjunction with the Maryland and White Bear Avenue reconstruction project in 2007.

Figure 1. Infiltration trench installation conceptual detail

Figure 2. Site location
The infiltration trench is located at the southeast corner of White Bear Avenue and Hawthorne Avenues in St. Paul.

This particular trench basin is composed of a simple plastic pipe tank surrounded by gravel rock and vegetated surface cover. (See Figure 1 at left.) Infiltration rates will vary.

For more information on storm water runoff, please visit www.co.ramsey.mn.us/pw/stormwater.htm or Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed http://www.rwmwd.org/

How Can You Help?
Don’t dump waste oil—recycle it properly for disposal.

Pick up after your pets—bag their waste.

Use lawn chemicals carefully—follow manufacturer’s directions.

Help keep storm drains clear of debris—sweep driveways and sidewalks.