

PUTTING DOWN ROOTS

Gardens along the Green Line help reduce pollution in the Mississippi River. Here's how—

It starts when polluted rainwater flows from streets into storm drains. Polluted rainwater usually drains right to the river. But not here. Curb openings let water flow into the garden's layers of mulch and soil. Plant roots guide water deeper to seep slowly into the ground. The roots absorb pollution and take up some of the water to nourish the plants.



Polluted rainwater enters the garden



Soil and plants filter pollution



Cleaner water in the Mississippi

Why?

Polluted rainwater carries dirt, oil and trash to the Mississippi River when it flows from streets into storm drains. Rain gardens, stormwater planters and rock trenches on side streets were built along the Green Line to clean polluted rainwater before it reaches the river. The Green Line on University Avenue also has the longest stretch of tree trench in Minnesota — five miles!



More information and multilingual signs at capitolregionwd.org.

