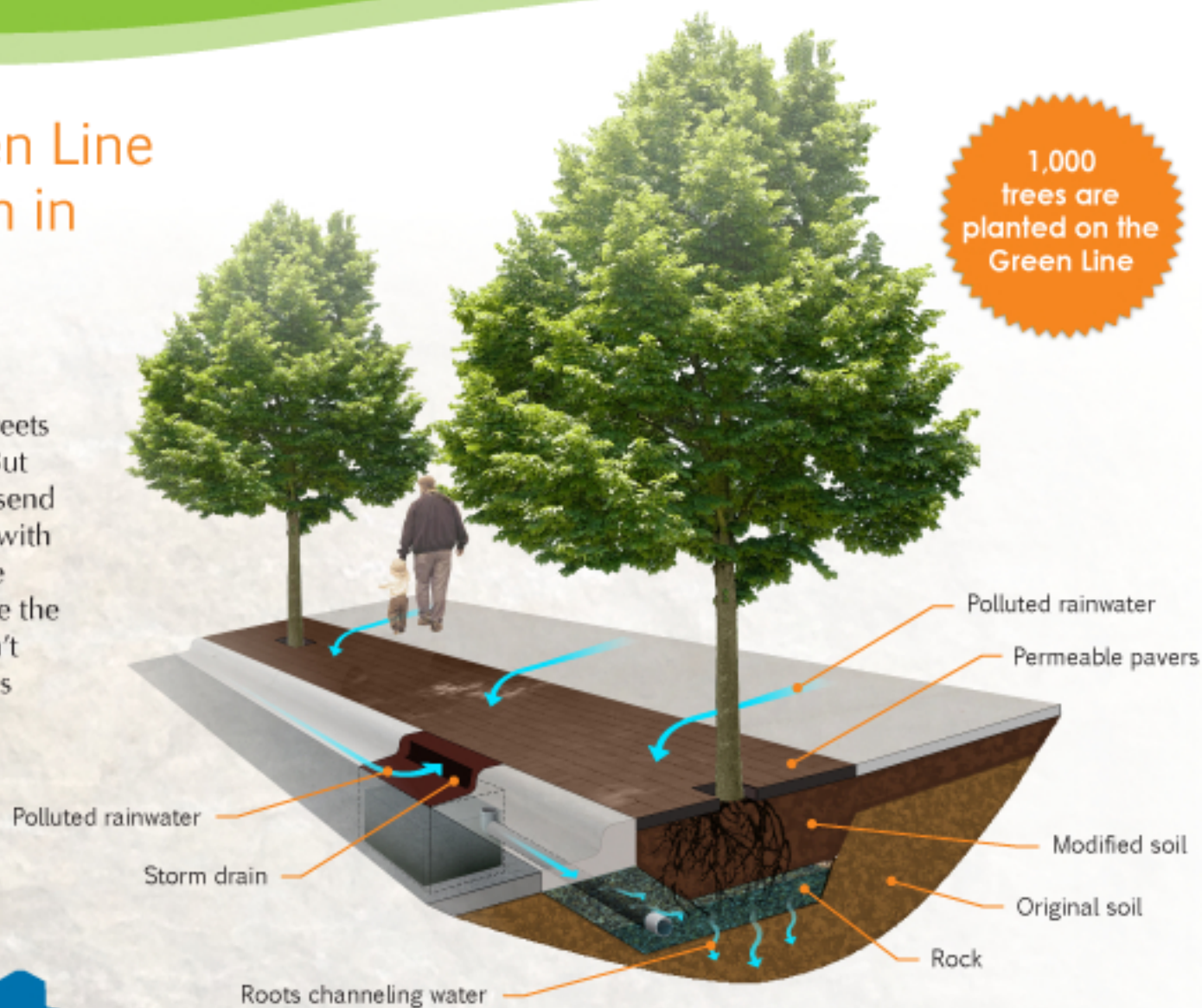


ROOTING OUT POLLUTION

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

Polluted rainwater usually flows from streets into storm drains and right to the river. But here, storm drains take up the flow and send it into long underground trenches filled with soil and rock and planted with trees. The trees sink their roots into the rocks where the water is stored. Extra water the trees don't need seeps deeper into the ground and is filtered by the layers of rock and soil.



Polluted rainwater enters the trench



Soil and tree roots 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.

