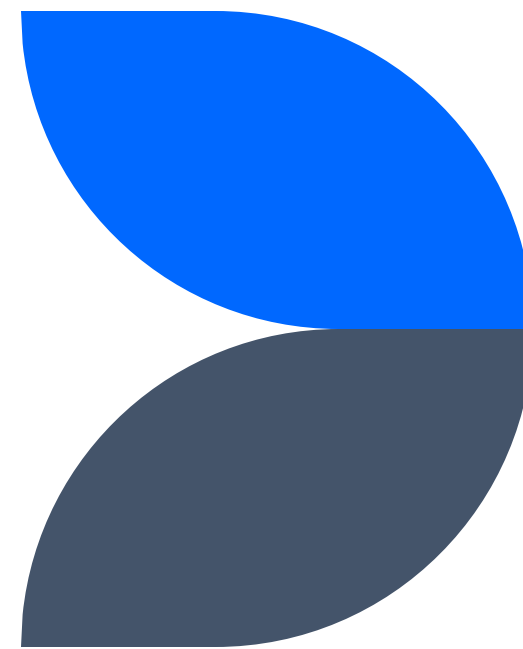


**Session 1
Community
Science Meeting**



Agenda – Blue Island

- Welcome/Check-in
- Introductions
- Calumet Region Flooding Issues
- Break
- Green vs. Grey Infrastructure
- Where is flooding happening in Blue Island?
- Community Science
- Research Question
- Check Out

Agenda - Robbins

- Welcome/Check-in
- Context
- Community Benefits of Stormwater Infrastructure
- Break
- Hopes for Robbins
- Youth Involvement
- Community Science
- Research Question
- Next steps
- Check-out

Welcome/Check-in

- What do you love about Blue Island?





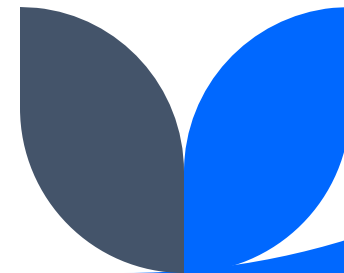
Welcome/Check-in

- How long have you been in Robbins?
- What brought you to Robbins? What keeps you staying?

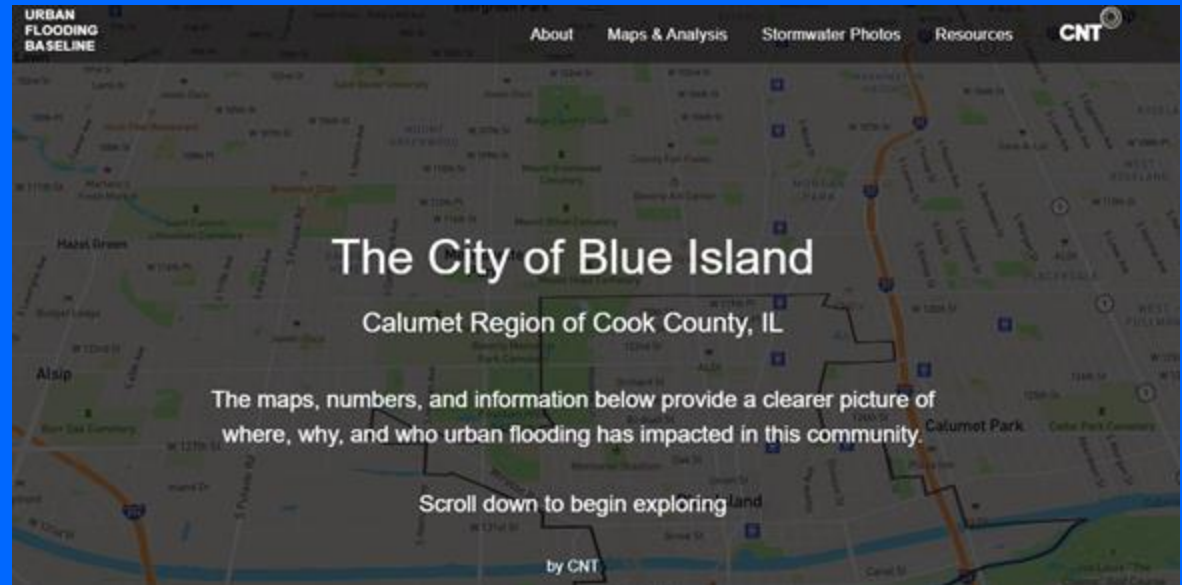
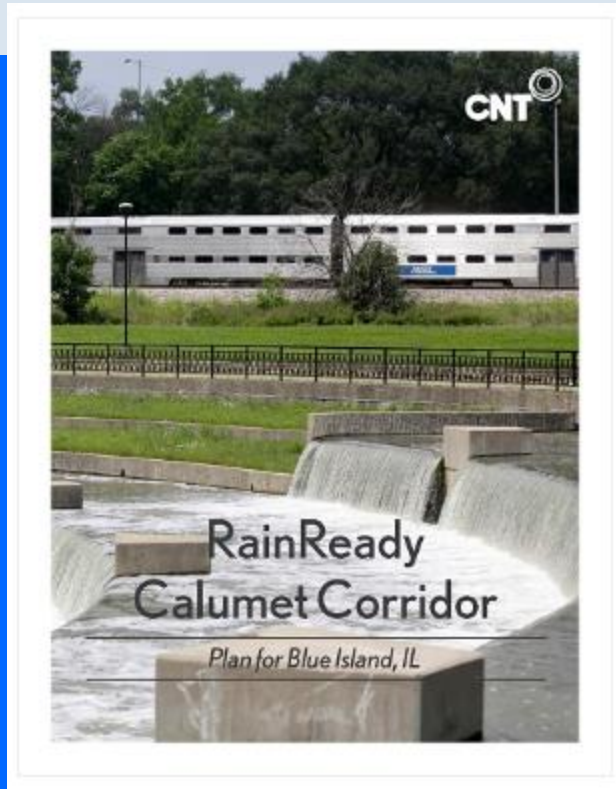


Flooding in your area

Where have you
noticed frequent flooding in
your area?



Introducing CNT

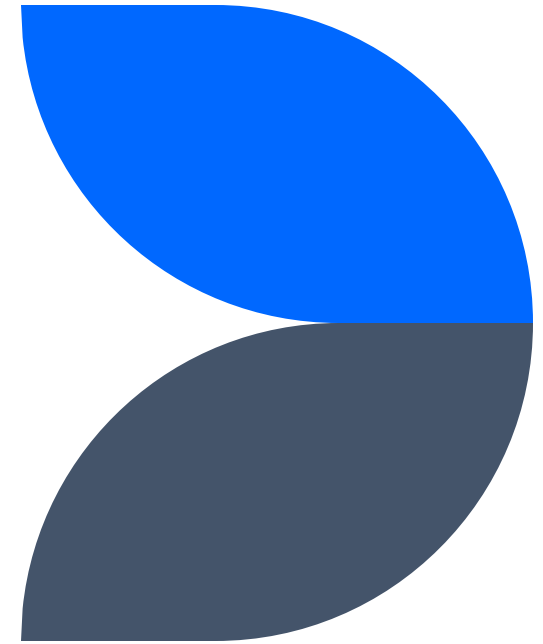


CNT's Mission



CNT delivers innovative analysis and solutions that support community-based organizations and local governments to create neighborhoods that are equitable, sustainable, and resilient.

Calumet Region Flooding Issues



A photograph of a flooded street with a bridge in the background, overlaid with a dark text box. The street is filled with water, and the bridge is visible in the distance. The text box is dark and contains the title and description of urban (pluvial) flooding. The background image shows a street with a bridge in the distance, surrounded by trees and a cloudy sky. The water is murky and reflects the surrounding environment. The bridge has a purple banner across it. The street is lined with trees, and the water is high enough to reach the bridge's base. The overall scene depicts a typical urban flooding scenario.

URBAN (PLUVIAL) FLOODING

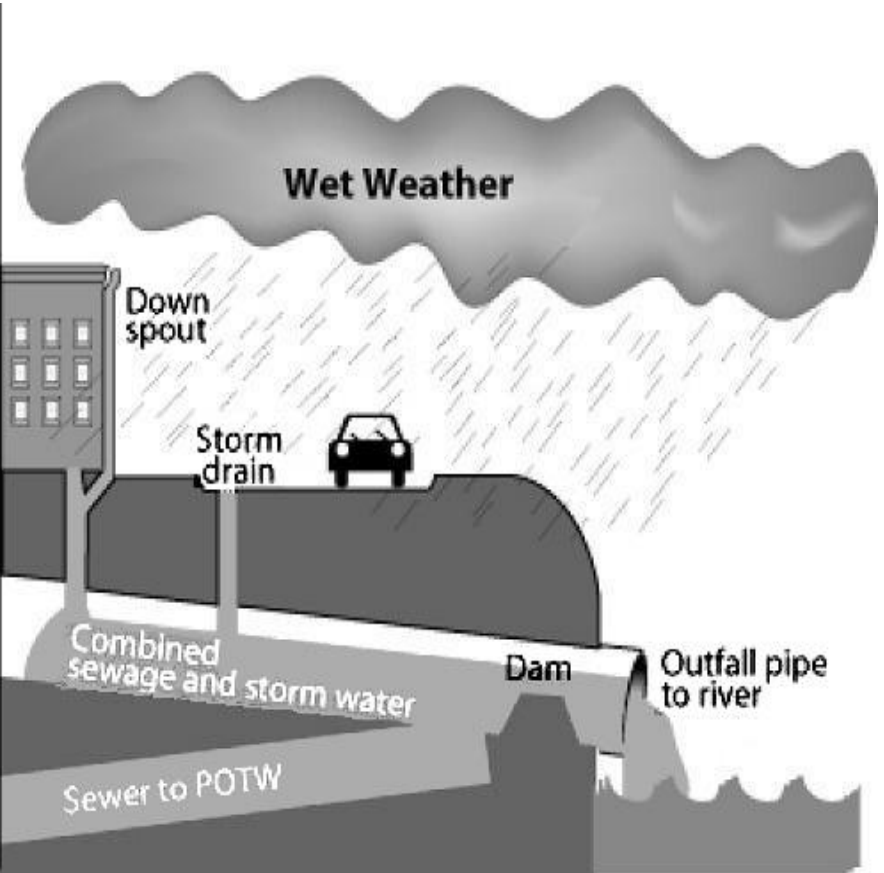
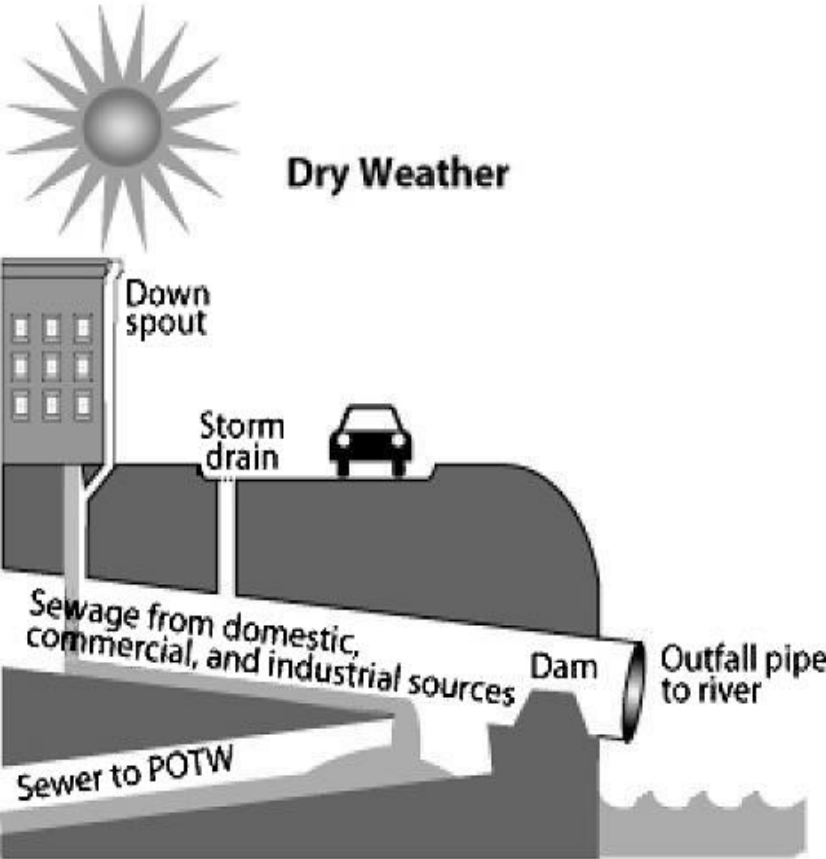
Occurs when homes, yards, or streets are inundated with water from heavy rains or snow melt, damaging property, making travel difficult and dangerous. It also results from sewer water backing up through pipes into basements, and from water seeping through foundation walls.

1

AGING & UNDERSIZED INFRASTRUCTURE



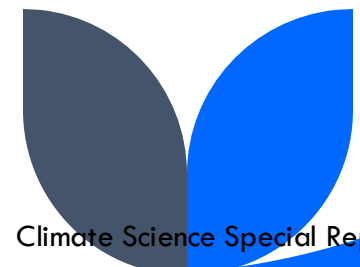
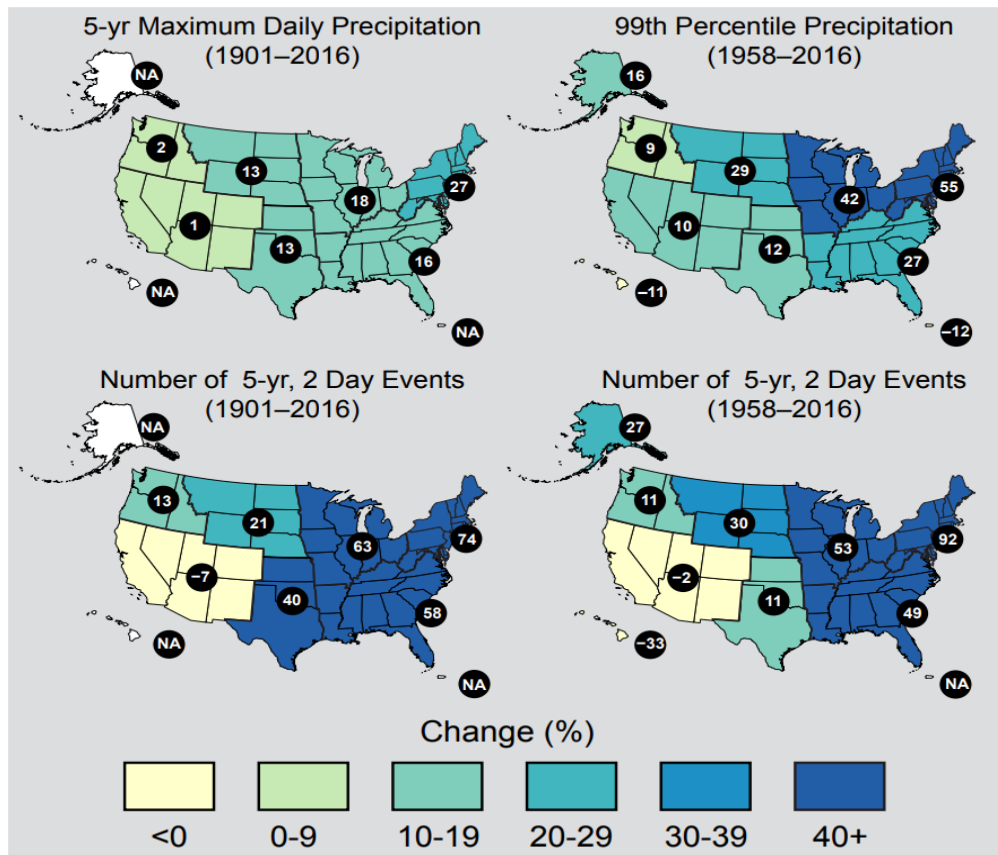
COMBINED SEWER SYSTEMS



2

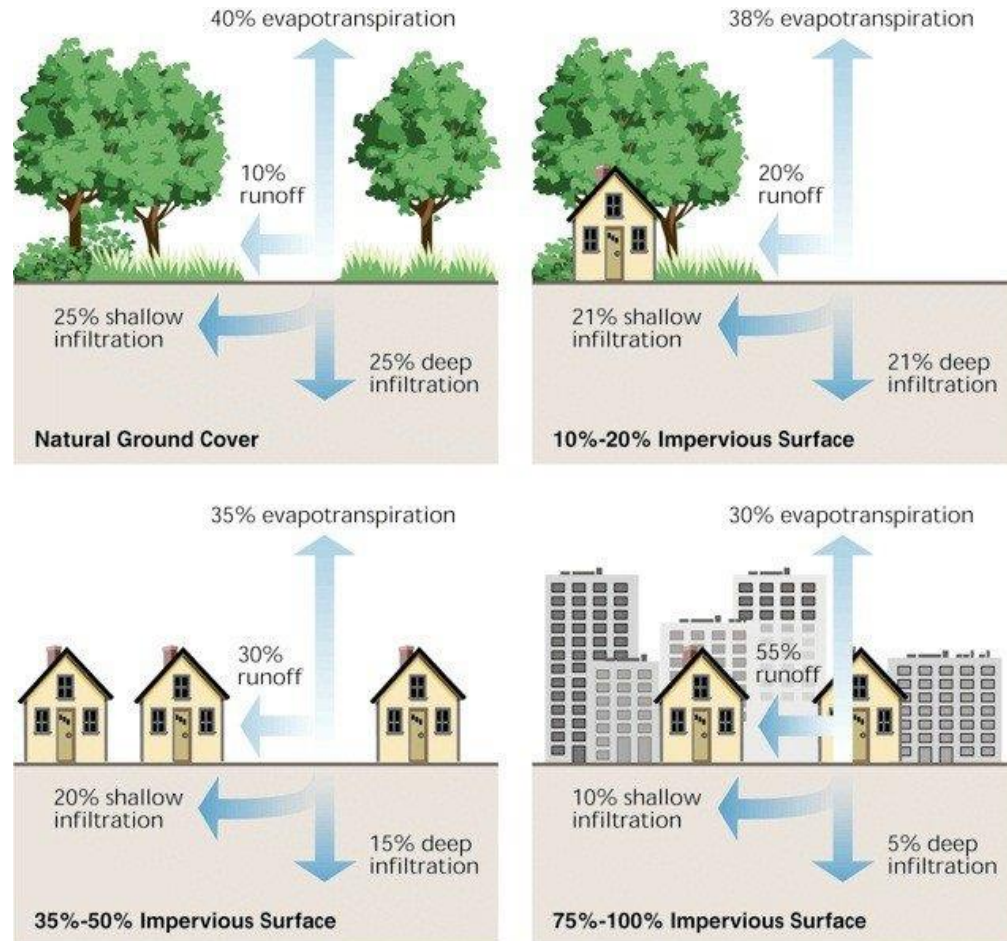
INCREASED PRECIPITATION – PONDING

Observed Change in Heavy Precipitation



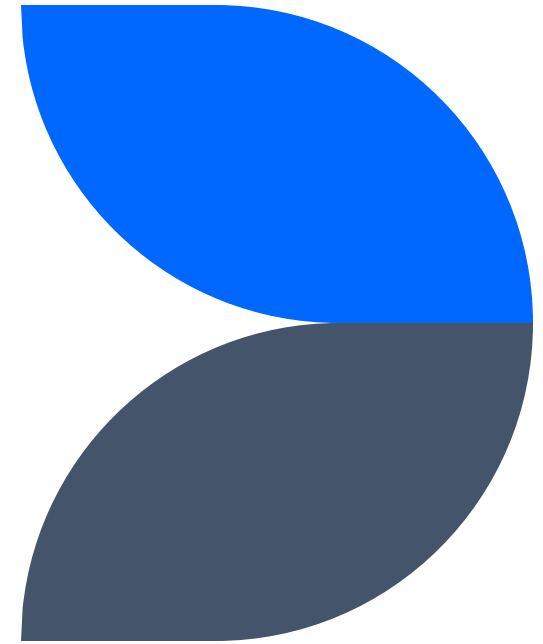
3

INCREASING IMPERVIOUS SURFACE – DISAPPEARED PONDS



Urban Flooding Baseline Tool

[Click Here](#)



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE vs GRAY INFRASTRUCTURE

Green infrastructure refers to natural systems including forests, floodplains, wetlands and soils that provide additional benefits for human well-being, such as flood protection and climate regulation.

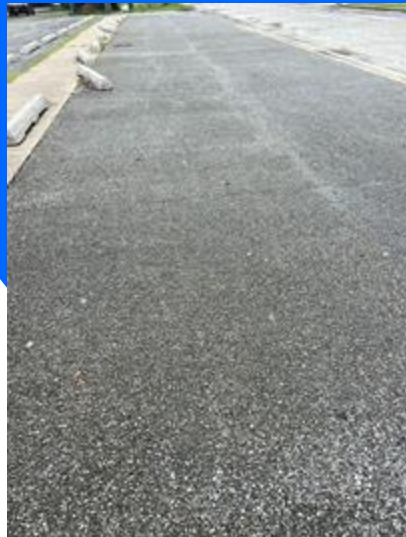
source: [Green-Gray Infrastructure \(conservation.org\)](https://www.conservation.org/green-gray-infrastructure)

Gray infrastructure refers to structures such as ground level or subsurface reservoirs, roads, pipes or water treatment plants.

source: [Green-Gray Infrastructure \(conservation.org\)](https://www.conservation.org/green-gray-infrastructure)



Examples of Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Blue Island

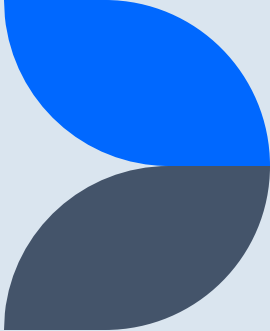


Where is flooding happening in Blue Island?

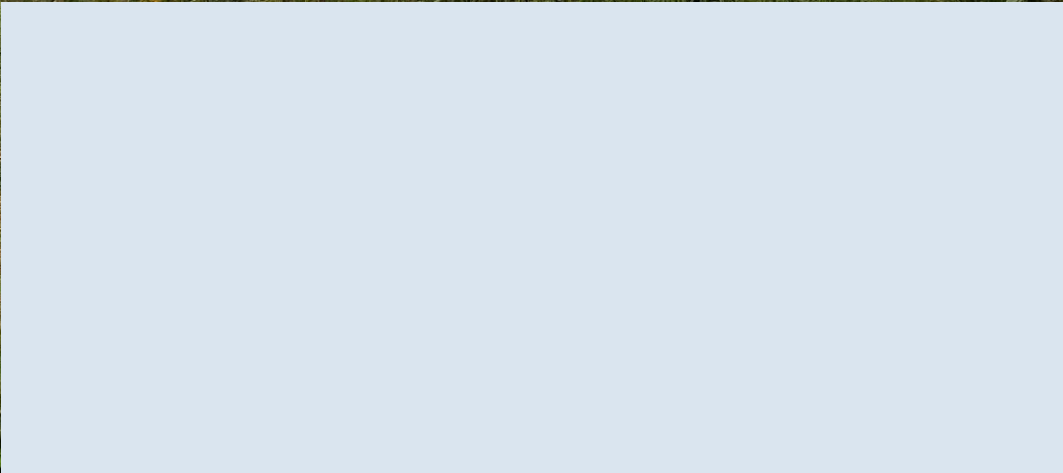


- Northeast
- Your stories





Context: Alsip Boat Launch



Community Benefits of Stormwater Infrastructure: Economic Benefits

Job Creation

Increased
Property
Values

Increased
Retail Sales

Increased
Recreational
Opportunities

Increased
Reuse of
Vacant Land



Climate & Public Health Benefits

Improved
Outdoor & Indoor
Air Quality

Reduced Heat

Improved Social
Connection within
the Community

Improved Mental
Health

Reduced Energy
& Fuel Use

Slowing Down
Climate Change



Transportation Benefits

Increased
Opportunity for
Walking & Biking

Improved Safety

Reduced On-
Street Flooding



Homeowner and Municipal Responsibility

HOME-SCALE

- Immediate relief
- Backflow valves, regraded yards, basement sealing, overhead sewers, rain gardens
- Expensive
- Moves the water, sometimes next door

SYSTEM-WIDE

- Larger network
- Green and gray stormwater infrastructure (nature & pipes)
- Expensive
- Community & Governments need to work together for placement

Hopes for Robbins

- What would you like to see accomplished in Robbins in the next year?
- And the longer term?
- What does Robbins need to do to get people to stay or come back?

Youth Involvement

- Importance of Youth

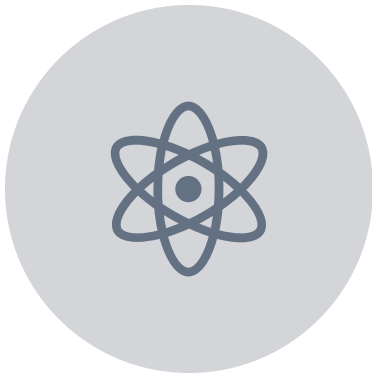


Youth Involvement Discussion

- How do we get more youth involved in this work?
- What would make this work more exciting?



Community Science as a Concept



WHAT IS COMMUNITY SCIENCE?



WHO IS THE FUNDER? [MCDOUGAL
HEALTHY WATER GRANT PROGRAM](#)



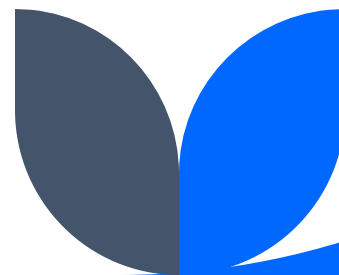
WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?





Community Science Goals

- To collaborate, not extract
- Respond to Community Need
- Community Participation



Research Goal: Understand how the stormwater investments that the Village of Robbins is committing to can be used to benefit the Village in other ways.





Research Topic to Question

Some questions:

1. Where does Robbins experience flooding now that some of the infrastructure has updated?
2. How do we keep our trees healthy?
3. What other water issues does Robbins experience?
4. What is the Village getting ready to do in terms of stormwater management and economic development?
5. What community benefits do people want to see in Robbins? Which of these can be incorporated into stormwater management updates?
6. How can stormwater management updates be used to harness economic benefits?
7. How can we honor the history of Robbins as we install the stormwater infrastructure?



Next Steps - Robbins

- Next session for everyone is Monday, October 28, 2024 6-8pm
 - Continue research question brainstorm
 - Learn some methods – intro to qualitative methods
- Before then...
 - Brainstorm research question thoughts
- Would y'all be interested in an in-person session in December 16 in Robbins?

Next Steps – Blue Island

- Next session is October 16, 2024
6-8pm
 - Continue research question brainstorm
 - Learn some methods – intro to quantitative research and budget equity analysis
- Before then...
 - Brainstorm research question thoughts

Check Out

- What is something you learned?
- What piqued your interest?
- What are you excited to learn more about?
- Suggestions for next meeting?

Thank you!

