



STORMWATER ACTION CENTER FACT SHEET

Name of Project:

Depot Park

Location:

Birmingham, Alabama

County:

Shelby and Jefferson
Counties

Watershed:

Black Warrior Watershed

Website:

<https://www.landscapeperformance.org/case-study-briefs/railroad-park>

RAILROAD PARK – BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

OVERVIEW:


Formerly the site of warehouses and a yard for rail and steel industry waste, Railroad Park links the northern and southern halves of Birmingham, Alabama and celebrates the 11 rail lines that bisect and define the landlocked city. Railroad Park's unique introduced topography, organized around the elevated rail lines, allows people to be physically at the level of the trains, reconnecting the city to the historic force that built it.

BENEFITS:

- Sequesters approximately 20,800 lbs of atmospheric carbon annually in 531 newly-planted trees, equivalent to driving a single passenger vehicle 21,000 miles.
- The tree canopies also intercept 92,000 gallons of stormwater runoff annually; Increased the number of bird species observed on the site by 250%, from an estimated 10 to 35, including bobolink, wood duck, peregrine falcon, loggerhead shrike, and northern mockingbird;
- The circulating pond-stream system provides biofiltration capacity for over 1.5 million gallons of water and provides emergency flood storage for the surrounding watershed.
- Portions of the lawn areas, the West Green and The Meadow, are designed to tolerate inundation should the western ponds become overfilled;
- Stormwater is filtered through a 3,500-sf wetland before continuing into the lake and stream system;
- The "birch bowl" is a cool, paved plaza that holds stormwater. Irrigation for the trees is provided by pop-up sprinklers.

FUNDING SOURCES:

- City of Birmingham
- Jefferson County
- CMAQ grant (Congestion, Mitigation, and Air Quality) through the federal government, local charities, corporations, and individuals.

-  - Water Storage
-  - Habitat Restoration
-  - Flood Mitigation
-  - Bio-Filtration/Green Infrastructure
-  - New/Improved Drainage Infrastructure

