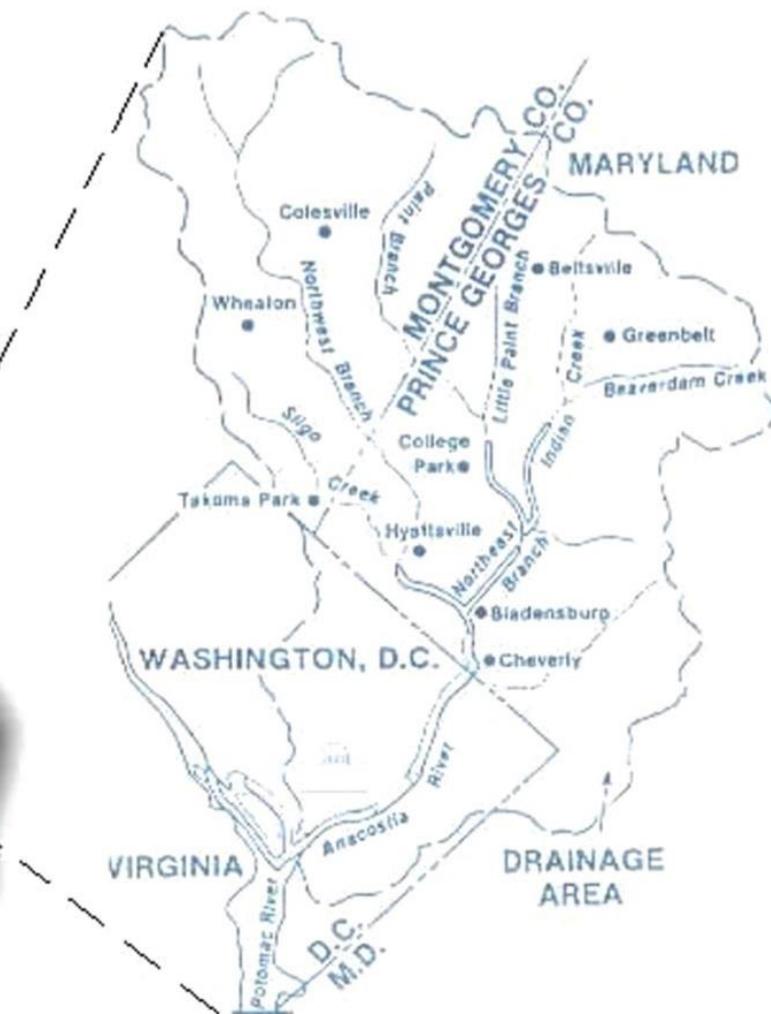
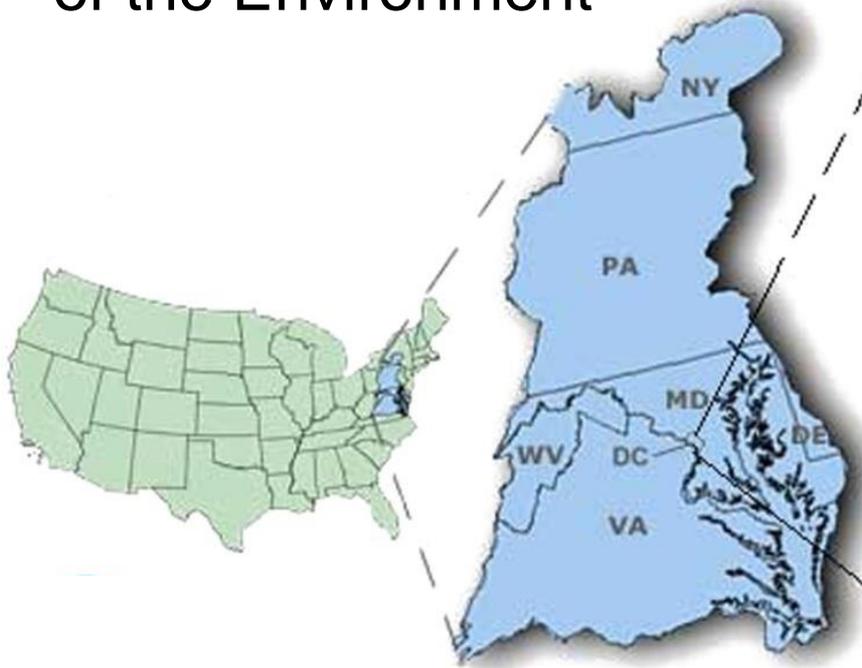


# Green Infrastructure Financial Incentives in the District of Columbia

Evan Branosky  
District Department  
of the Environment



DISTRICT  
DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT



Image courtesy of

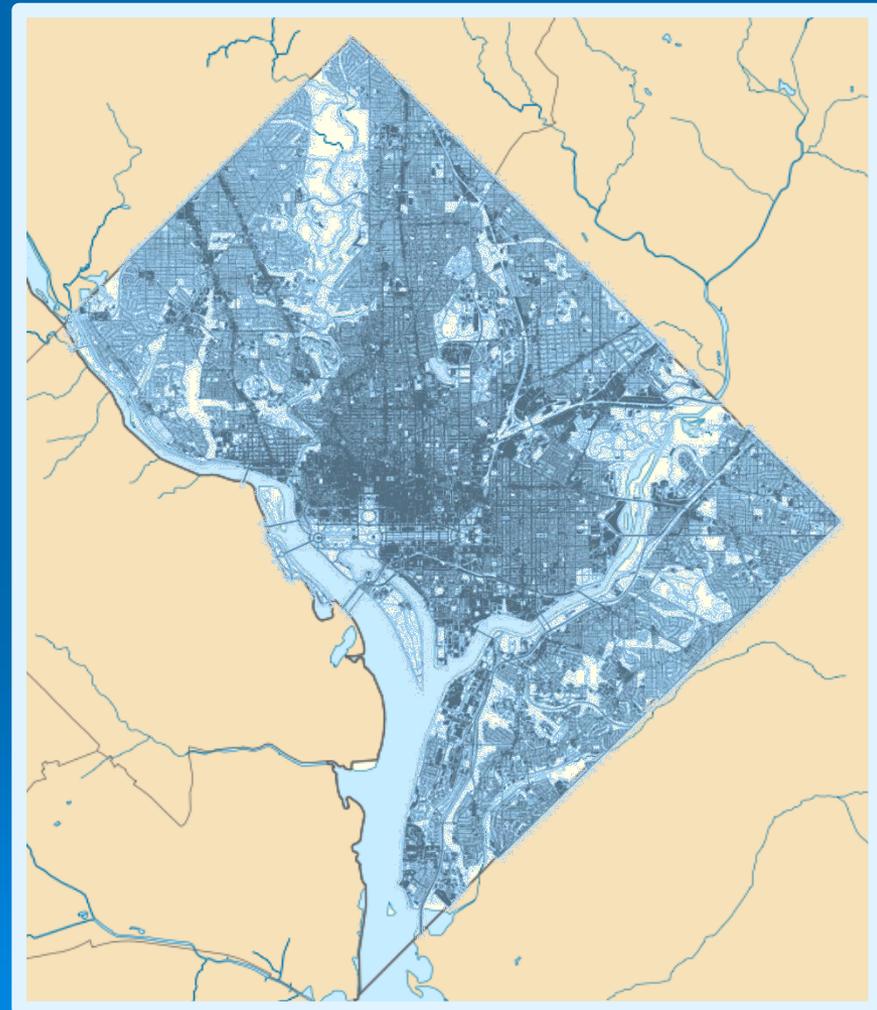
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# Presentation Outline

- The problem of stormwater for coastal and marine ecosystem services
- Financial Incentive Programs in the District of Columbia
  - Stormwater Retention Credit Trading
  - RiverSmart Rewards
  - Other RiverSmart programs
- Program benefits

# The Problem

- 43% of District's land area is impervious.
- A single 1.2 inch storm falling on this area produces about 525 million gallons of stormwater runoff.



# New Stormwater Retention Performance Standards

## Major land-disturbing activity

- 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> or more of land-disturbing activity.
- Retain the first 1.2” of rainfall on site or through a combination of on-site and off-site retention.

## Major substantial improvement activity

- Renovation for which:
  - Cost exceeds 50% pre-project value of structure and
  - Combined footprint of structure and land disturb  $\geq$  5,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.
- Retain the first 0.8” of rainfall on site or through a combination of on-site and off-site retention.

# Flexibility to Use Off-Site Retention

- Free to go off site after achieving 50% of required retention on site.



# Achieving Off-Site Retention Volume

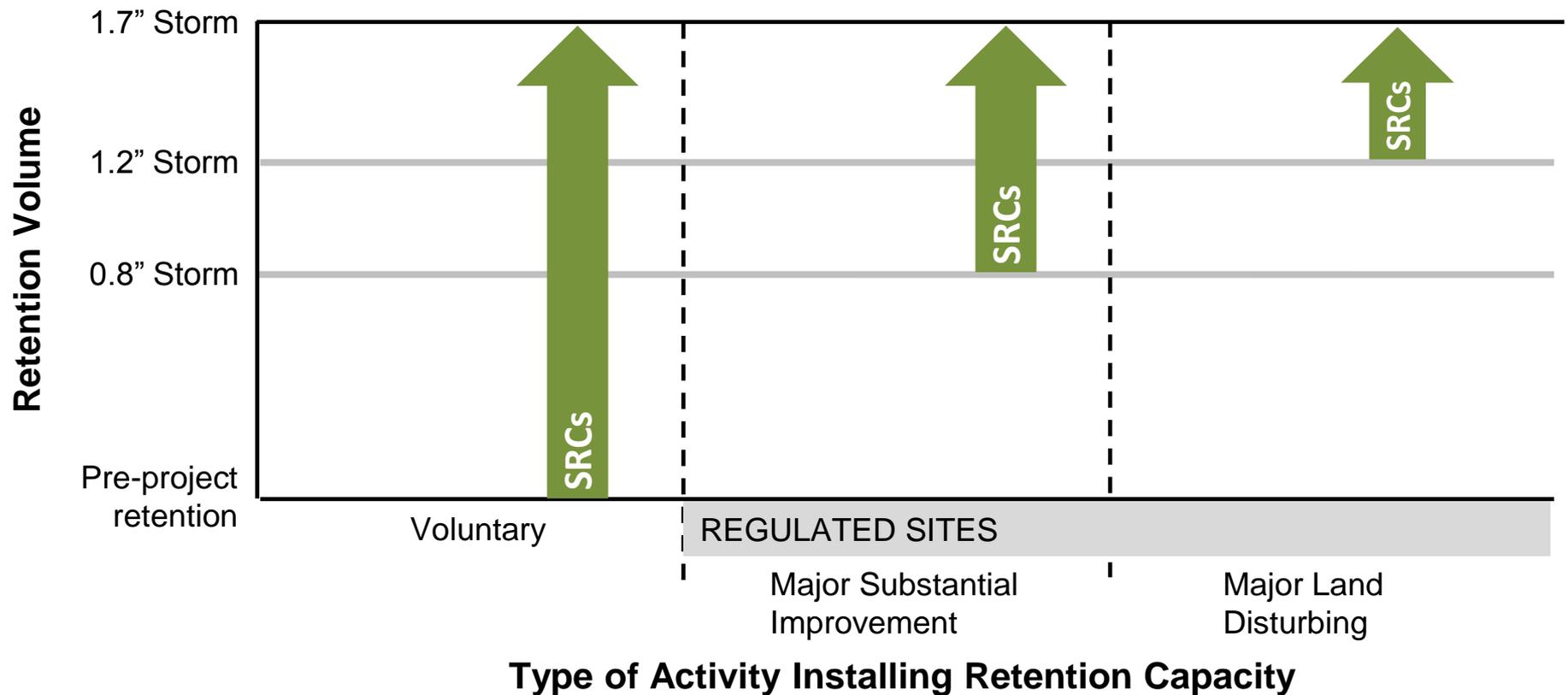
- Offv is an ongoing annual obligation.
- Two options to achieve off-site volume:
  - In-lieu fee (ILF) payment to DDOE = \$3.50/gallon/year.
  - Use of privately tradable SRCs.
- Off-site volume can be:
  - Met on yearly or multi-year basis.
  - Met with a mix of ILF & SRCs and mix can change.
  - Reduced in the future by increasing on-site retention.

# Eligibility for SRC Certification

Eligible GI & land cover changes must:

- Achieve retention above existing retention or regs.

## Retention Volume Eligibility: Stormwater Retention Credits (SRCs)



# DDOE Facilitation of the SRC Market

- SRC registry, database and website.
- SRC transaction template contract.
- Information:
  - Map & layer of parking lots and driveways.
  - Analyses of potential financial return, SRC price, supply, demand.
- Portfolio of potential SRC generating projects.
- SRC purchase guarantee to reduce demand uncertainty.
- SRC purchase by DDOE to meet CWA requirements.
- PACE for stormwater.

# DDOE Facilitation of the SRC Market



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## The District of Columbia



### Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program



Properties generate Stormwater Retention Credits (SRCs) for voluntary green infrastructure that reduces stormwater runoff. Owners trade their SRCs in an open market to others who use them to meet regulatory requirements for retaining stormwater. Revenue creates incentives to install green infrastructure that protects rivers and provides other benefits.

This page provides resources on the SRC trading program. For full program details, view the [Stormwater Management Guidebook](#) and [Stormwater Rule](#) or contact Evan Branosky at (202) 535-2295 or [src.trading@dc.gov](mailto:src.trading@dc.gov).

#### Participant Information

- [Visit the SRC Registry](#) for lists of SRCs for sale, final prices of trades and interested buyers.
- [Create an account](#) to login to the registry and apply to certify new SRCs or transfer, use and retire existing SRCs.
- [Attend a training session](#) and [view eligibility requirements](#) to further understand SRC trading.

#### SRC News

- [Press Release – District Recognized at International Climate Leadership Awards](#)
- [Press Release – DDOE Approves First Stormwater Retention Credit Trade](#)
- [Press Release – DDOE Certifies District's First Stormwater Retention Credits](#)

#### Resources

- [Benefits of SRC Trading for District Waterbodies](#) – article from Water Environment & Technology Magazine.
- [SRC Trading and DC's Stormwater Regulations](#) – article from BioCycle Magazine.
- [GIS Viewer for Impervious Areas in the District](#) – shows impervious areas and is helpful for identifying areas that could be retrofitted with green infrastructure to generate SRCs. Contact DDOE for the underlying GIS files.
- [Limitations on SRC generation by DDOE-funded projects](#) – explains the limited ability to generate SRCs on projects funded through RiverSmart Homes, Communities and other DDOE-funded programs.
- [Template SRC Trading Contract](#) – includes a template contract that buyers and sellers may adapt and use for their SRC trades.
- [Financial Analysis and Tools](#) – periodically updated, includes analysis on the SRC market and tools to calculate the financial return of green infrastructure.

# Voluntary Retrofit Programs



# RiverSmart Rewards

- DC Gov't (DDOE) Stormwater Fee (\$2.67/ERU for FY2014).
- DC Water Impervious Area Charge (\$11.85/ERU for FY2014).
- Collected by DC Water on water and sewer bill.
- Two separate discount rulemakings for each fee.
  - DDOE - 55% max discount for 1.2" retention from 1 ERU
  - DC Water - 4% max discount for 1.2" retention from 1 ERU

# Program Benefits

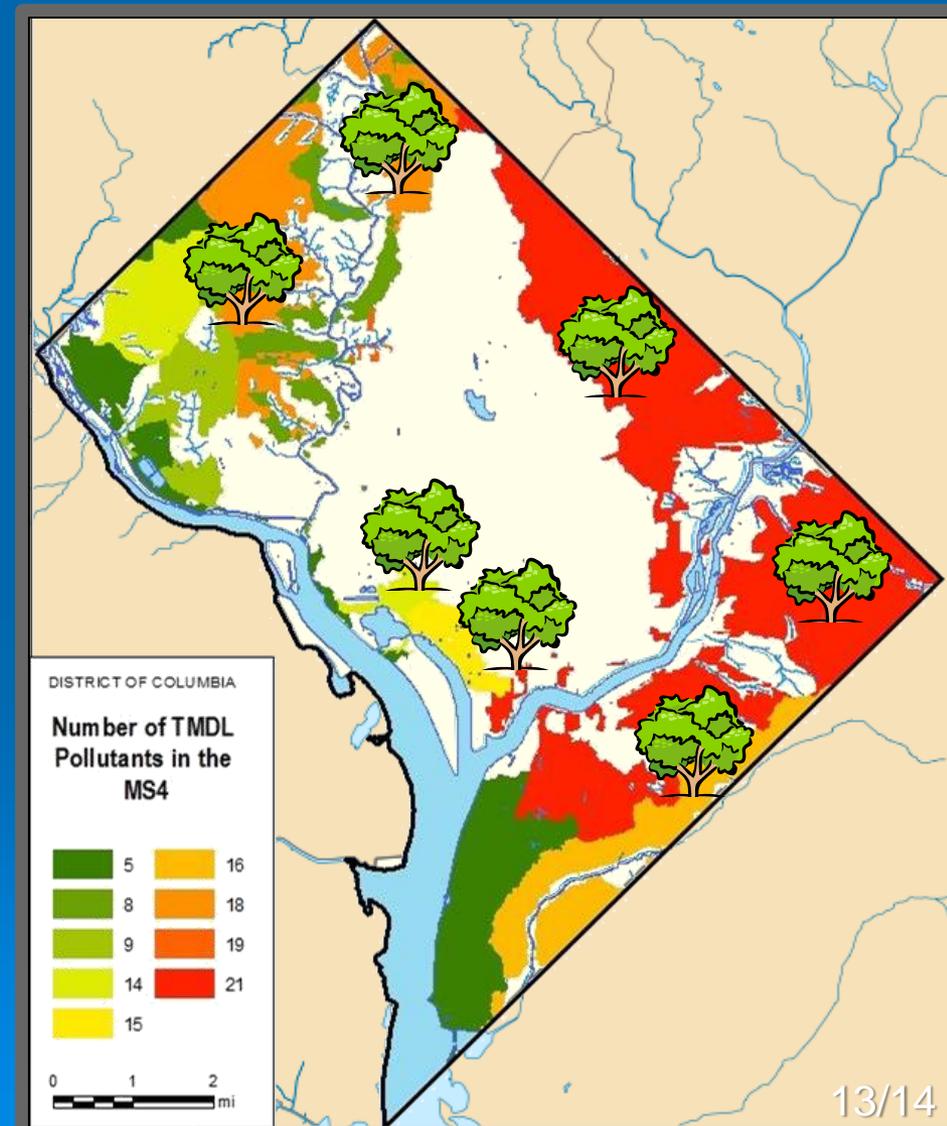
Problem of imperviousness provides opportunity for trading.



- Trading can maximize triple bottom line of sustainability:
  - Maximize cost savings & flexibility for regulated sites.
  - Increase retention and accelerate restoration of waterbodies.
  - Increase socioeconomic benefits, with more GI (health, aesthetics, environmental justice, green jobs).

# Program Benefits (cont'd)

- Increased annual retention District-wide.
- Increased capture of first-flush volume.
- Shift retention BMPs to most vulnerable tributaries and improve socioeconomic outcomes.



# Additional Information

Evan Branosky

[Evan.Branosky@dc.gov](mailto:Evan.Branosky@dc.gov); 202-535-2295

For the SRC registry and other resources, visit  
**[ddoe.dc.gov/src](https://ddoe.dc.gov/src)**