

NEWS RELEASE
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For immediate release

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Behnke LA utilizes permeable pavers and bioretention to reduce pollution and flooding in Coe Creek.

Cleveland, Ohio: BEHNKE Landscape Architecture led the design-build team for the Fairview Park, Ohio, City Hall parking lot retrofit project. An Ohio EPA Section 319 grant for green infrastructure and storm water management helped demonstrate the benefits of 2,000 square feet of permeable pavers and a 158-square-foot bio-retention cell. With savings from a smarter design proposed by Behnke LA that reduced the number of pavers needed, a building entry portico, seating area, and beautifications were also added.

Storm runoff from the roof and parking lot now drains cleanly because the green infrastructure filters and encourages the water to soak into the ground, or infiltrate, which naturally removes pollutants before reaching nearby Coe Creek and Lake Erie. Storm water in that area of the building will no longer travel across impervious surfaces, collecting trash, contaminants and debris. With the new design, storm water will be captured and held until naturally penetrating the ground or being released slowly.

"Contaminant-laden runoff from parking lots is an extreme detriment to our local ecosystem, causing flooding, erosion and pollution," said Matt Hils of [Behnke Landscape Architecture](#). "Now when the water hits this pervious pavement, it goes between the pavers into joints that are filled with a very fine gravel and then into a gravel sub-base. The water, filtered by the gravel, seeps into a subdrain and runs off much more slowly, and cleaner, into our same local waterways."

He further explained the [bio-retention cell](#) located in the corner near the building entrance acts in a similar fashion, with water draining from a small section of the roof into a downspout, where it travels into the cell.

Project collaboration involved Fairview Park city officials, [F. Buddie Contracting](#), [NTH Consultants](#) and [Behnke Landscape Architecture](#). Nearly 2,000 square feet of permeable pavers were installed, and interpretative signage educates City Hall visitors about the benefits of green infrastructure.

BEHNKE Landscape Architecture is the Cleveland-based leader in planning and designing award-winning outdoor places. We specialize in Green and Urban Placemaking, including Active Transportation, Athletics, Education, Institutions, and Parks. Our fresh approach and 57 years of expertise drives our creation of places that are vital, sustainable, and beautiful.

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Picture attached –.

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