

Dear Colleague:

On March 5, 2007, Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator of Water for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), issued a memo entitled *Using Green Infrastructure to Protect Water Quality in Stormwater, CSO, Nonpoint Source and other Water Programs*. In this memo, EPA recognizes the value of green infrastructure techniques and encourages their use in addressing water quality problems.

A coalition of organizations, including the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Low Impact Development Center, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has collaborated on the attached *Statement of Support for Green Infrastructure (Statement)*. The *Statement* promotes the use of green infrastructure solutions to address combined sewer overflows, stormwater discharges, and other wet weather water quality problems. The coalition is seeking endorsement of the *Statement* by multiple organizations.

To further action on the goals outlined in the *Statement*, EPA is convening a Green Infrastructure forum to promote the exchange of innovative ideas and practices, and provide input to an implementation strategy. The primary purpose of this discussion will be to promote understanding and opportunities, encourage support of the overall principle, and focus resources and authority, as efficiently as possible, on improving the utilization of green infrastructure in managing water. This strategy can include activities in areas such as guidance, technical assistance, grants, research, and education and outreach efforts. We welcome ideas to build collaborative approaches to meet our shared water quality objectives using regulatory and non-regulatory programs, and building partnerships to enhance outcomes. The forum is scheduled:

April 16, 2007  
1 p.m. ó 4:00 p.m.  
EPA East, Room 1117A  
1201 Constitution Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20004

We encourage you to review the goals and benefits outlined in the *Statement* prior to the meeting. Additional information and case studies on green infrastructure approaches are also described in *Rooftops to Rivers: Green strategies for controlling stormwater and combined sewer overflows* (NRDC, June 2006), available at: <http://www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/rooftops/contents.asp>.

Please let us know if a representative of your organization will be able to join us on April 16, 2007. Contact Patricia Campbell, [campbell.patricia@epa.gov](mailto:campbell.patricia@epa.gov), or 202-564-9867 to respond.

Sincerely,

Benjamin H. Grumbles  
Assistant Administrator  
Office of Water

Granta Nakayama  
Assistant Administrator  
Office of Enforcement & Compliance  
Assurance

Enclosure(s)