#### **OUR TASK?**

Reshape La Crosse area landscapes to soak up water. Keep yard trimmings, trash and chemicals out of streets where rain and snowmelt carry them directly to storm drains, creeks and the Black, La Crosse and Mississippi Rivers. Stormwater Group CITY OF LA CROSSE CITY OF ONALASKA LA CROSSE COUNTY TOWN OF CAMPBELL TOWN OF HOLLAND TOWN OF HOLLAND TOWN OF ONALASKA TOWN OF SHELBY VILLAGE OF HOLMEN VILLAGE OF WEST SALEM

La Crosse Urban



### VISIT!

Habitat For Humanity La Crosse Area ReStore Stormwater Learning Center

3181 BERLIN DRIVE LA CROSSE, WI 54601 608-785-2375

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The ReStore became a community learning site for stormwater management thanks to local governments and passionate local partners including Habitat For Humanity La Crosse Area, La Crosse Community Foundation, Paragon Associates, Coulee Region EcoScapes, Viterbo University, Western Technical College, generous materials suppliers, and project lead, NewGround.

Paddling the La Crosse River / Photo courtesy Ellistone Canoe Rentals

VISIT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY LA CROSSE AREA RESTORE TO SEE HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF OUR LOCAL CLEAN WATER SOLUTION

# Soak It Up!

## DON'T LET WATER RUN OFF YOUR PROPERTY



#### YES, YOU!

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? Polluted surface runoff is the largest remaining source of water pollution.

#### WHY DO ORDINARY CITIZENS NEED TO DO SOMETHING?

Our communities are working as hard as they can to protect streams and groundwater, but the challenge is so big that local and mandated federal goals can only be met with private investment.

#### WHAT CAN YOU LEARN ABOUT PROTECTING WATER AT THE RESTORE PROPERTY?

Landscaping and teaching signs show how to hold water where it falls, so rain soaks in and doesn't carry pollution to the river. Learn to prevent erosion, locate and build rain gardens, use native plants, locate a rain barrel, and integrate food and places for people in the landscape. See infiltration basins, hugelkultur, and porous pavement options.

WHERE DO I FIND MORE INFORMATION? lacrosseareawaters.org & your local government website

# **Become part of the solution.**

8 WAYS YOU, FRIENDS & LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS CAN REDUCE POLLUTED RUNOFF TO LOCAL RIVERS



Point downspouts to basins where earth & native plants soak up water.

Use less turf grass and more diverse native plants, especially on shorelines.



Use deicer instead of salt, and apply carefully.



Wash your car at a car wash where water is treated, not in the driveway.

When you build, plan ahead. Use silt fences. Keep soil in place and out of streets. Drain hard surfaced areas to low basins, not storm drains.



*Clean up after your pet. Do not put waste in street drains.* 



Minimize pavement! When you need it, choose material with openings so water soaks through and doesn't run off.