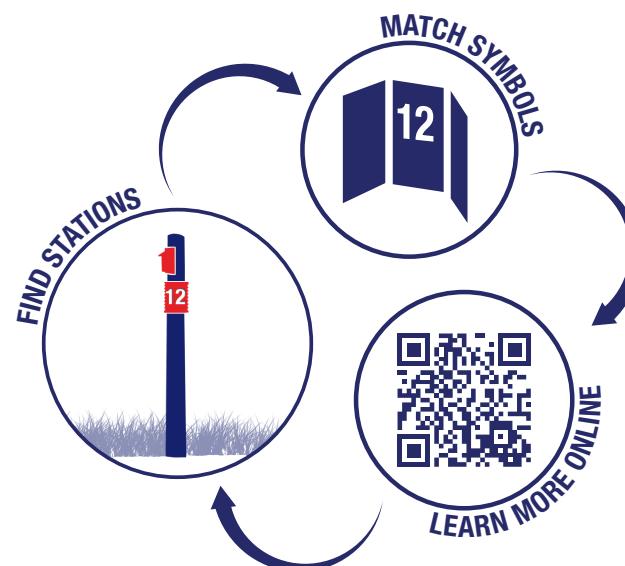


# What is the **Hazel's Creek** **Low Impact Development** **Demonstration Project?**

Hazel's Creek is an important stormwater treatment facility offering education in Low Impact Development (LID) for the Moran Prairie neighborhood and City of Spokane. LID is an approach to stormwater management that attempts to mimic nature by storing and treating stormwater as close to where it falls as possible.

In addition, Hazel's Creek is a cultural and natural amenity, highlighting a recent agricultural past and providing valuable open space. The land contains critical wetland and upland habitat that support a diverse array of plant and animal life.

Learning about stormwater doesn't stop at the Hazel's Creek Low Impact Development Demonstration Project.



## How to Use This Brochure

This brochure provides information about interpretive stations located across the site. Match the symbols at each interpretive station with their descriptions. These stations highlight Low Impact Development technologies, the water cycle, and the history of the site.

You can find more detailed information about each station using your computer or smart phone to visit [www.spokaneicity.org/hazelscreek](http://www.spokaneicity.org/hazelscreek).

Visit Hazel's Creek online!

[www.spokanewastewater.org/  
HazelsCreek.aspx](http://www.spokanewastewater.org/HazelsCreek.aspx)



## Visitor's Guide



**Hazel's Creek  
Low Impact Development  
Demonstration Project**

## Permeable Pavement When it rains, it drains

**1**

Permeable paving surfaces allow infiltration, treatment, and storage of stormwater. They are firm enough to walk, ride, and in some cases, park or drive on. Pervious concrete, one form of permeable paving, has been installed here.

## Storm Gardens Uses nature, treats runoff

**2**

Storm gardens capture, clean, and soak in runoff. Some of the water is stored in the soil and used by plants, which filter and remove pollutants. The rest of the water soaks into the ground to recharge the aquifer.

## Rainwater Harvesting Conserves water

**3**

Rainwater collected from roofs and patios is stored and re-used to water plants and flush toilets.

## Drought-Tolerant Plants Low maintenance, less water

**4**

Drought-tolerant plants are adapted to Spokane's dry summers and cold winters. These plants grow best if they are grouped together by soil, water, sunlight, and fertilizing needs. Additionally, they take less time and money to maintain because they require less water, fertilizers, and pesticides and do not need to be mown.

## Mulches Beneficial top layer

**5**

Mulch is a protective layer spread on top of the soil. It reduces erosion, holds in moisture, reduces weeds, regulates temperature, and adds necessary nutrients.

## Amended Soils Better soils, cleaner water

**6**

Amending soils improves soil conditions by adding different materials. Adding sandy loam and organic matter to soil helps plants stay healthy, grow bigger, and use less water. Amended soils soak in more water, which is better for stormwater management.

## Wetland Ecology Using natural systems to clean water

**7**

Wetlands are created where groundwater reaches the surface. Wetlands clean water, slow water flow, and provide habitat for plants and animals. Wetlands are an essential part of the water cycle and aid in stormwater management.

## Historic Homestead A legacy of stewardship

**8**

In the past, two small farms were built on the Hazel's Creek property. Animal grazing and pasture flooding resulted in the pastoral character of the landscape. The red barn is the remaining landmark of these farms. The creek is named for the last owner and resident, Hazel O'Byrne.

## Pin Foundations Less excavation

**9**

Soils and water flow are altered when building foundations are excavated. Keeping water flow natural and reducing native soil removal are important low impact development techniques. Pin foundations can support small decks or even entire houses, require less excavation, and use smaller equipment to install.

## Grass Filter Strip Simple, natural wetland protection

**10**

Grass filter strips slow the flow of stormwater runoff, allowing sediment and pollutants to settle out. Grass filter strips help protect bordering wetlands and streams from pollution.

## Stormwater Management Reducing flooding, protecting quality

**11**

Stormwater management prevents flooding and protects water quality. By controlling runoff, the ponds at Hazel's Creek manage stormwater runoff from Regal Street and the surrounding area.

## Noxious Weed Control Unwelcome guests

**12**

Noxious weeds are aggressive plants that can be destructive, competitive, or difficult to control. They may out-compete desirable plant and animal habitats, destroy pasture lands, and may even clog waterways. At Hazel's Creek, areas treated for noxious weeds are being restored with native grasses and shrubs.

## Landscape Restoration Return to nature

**13**

Like many areas in Spokane, land is altered by human activities. Some activities modify the flow of water, damage the soil, introduce noxious weeds, and pollute our water. We can help restore the land by planting native vegetation, amending the soil, and treating stormwater runoff.

## Paleochannel History of the land

**14**

Water has shaped this land for thousands of years. A paleochannel, an ancient creek bed buried during the Missoula floods, begins at this site.

## Groundwater Water moves underground

**15**

In many parts of Spokane, including the Moran Prairie, the natural flow of groundwater has been altered by paving and piping stormwater. Changing groundwater flow can disturb vegetation, water quality, and soil. The trail at this location demonstrates a way to protect wetlands and let groundwater flow naturally.

**WATER CYCLE**

**SITE HISTORY**

**LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID)**

**HAZEL'S CREEK Interpretive Stations**