



1st Presbyterian Church of Stillwater

Date: 2010
Location: Oak Park Heights
Client(s): 1st Presbyterian Church

Summary

The church parking areas, originally designed as vast expanses of asphalt with no landscaping, shade, or visual interest, were in disrepair and posed hazards for vehicles and pedestrians. EOR's new design better reflects the congregation's environmental and community values while improving basic functional and safety concerns.

Stormwater is treated in a series of Bioretention Cells in the parking lot, and a large, shade tree lined porous paver promenade forms a visual focal point that extends to the main entry. Excess runoff is routed to several raingardens on site that were previously constructed.

Important to the congregation was the use of the design as an environmental education tool and demonstration site that would highlight the importance of sustainable design for its members.

Client Benefits

- Design helps to protect the water quality of the St. Croix River.
- Improvements include: reduced heat-island effect, pedestrian safety, accessibility, aesthetics, environmental stewardship and education.
- Community building effort: volunteers helped with planting and in the design input process.