

## What is GSI?

**Green Stormwater Infrastructure**, or GSI, creates tiny green spaces that soak up rainwater where it falls to help reduce pollution from flowing to the river. Instead of going down the storm drain, the captured rainwater recharges the soil which brings much needed water to plants that create shade for people and habitat for wildlife.

GSI is more than an approach, it is the actions or structures you can install that leverage the power of living, natural systems to provide us with many benefits. These features include directing rainwater to desert adapted trees and other plants for its most efficient use, saving our clean tap water for drinking and other household needs.

## Why you should try GSI!



Irrigates trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers supporting a lush landscape that is desert friendly and creates habitat for our wild neighbors like birds, pollinators and other wildlife.



Gives the cooling shade of nature's air conditioner, promoting an active lifestyle that improves health and wellness for us humans.



Improves air and water quality by naturally filtering our pollutants and supports healthy soils, reducing erosion and improving nutrient availability for plants.



**The Arid Low Impact Development (LID) Coalition** is a growing community of volunteers and practitioners who share a common vision to foster urban landscapes that sustainably uses all sources of water, integrating natural solutions alongside engineered infrastructure to create more resilient, climate-adapted habitats for generations of people, plants, and wildlife.

Our Coalition serves as a resource hub for technical, educational, and training materials specific to design, construction, and maintenance of residential scale GSI/LID for our high desert environment. We want you to join the movement and we'll support you throughout your journey!

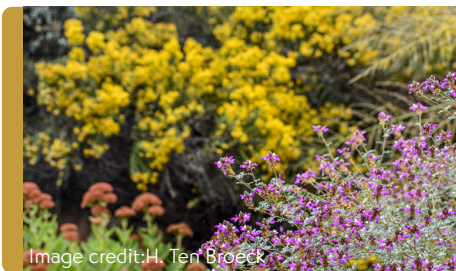
# Ways to Implement GSI



**Rainwater Harvesting Basins** are shallow depressions in the soil where rainwater can collect and infiltrate into your soil. This reduces flooding and holds water in the soil to be used by plant roots as an extra source of free irrigation. These features can also be called rain gardens.



**Swales** are gradually sloping channels that moves rainwater from one place to another, such as from a gutter downspout to a basin. Wide and gentle-sloped swales with rock and grasses also help slow down and soak up more water.



**Pollinator Gardens** are landscaped areas of locally adapted trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers that can use rainwater harvesting such as basins, swales, and other features as their primary source of irrigation. Native plants support pollinators and other wildlife, cool the environment, and improve our communities while saving drinking water for other uses.



**Rain Barrels**, also called *Cisterns*, collect and store rainwater from rooftops for future use. This water can be used to irrigate trees, plants, and even veggie gardens without depleting the drinking water of our communities. Pair a rain barrel with a nearby basin or swale so that “overflow” during heavy storms is captured in the soil to save all that nature provides, maximizing your rainwater harvesting at home.

## Join the GSI Movement

**GET INVOLVED** with the Arid LID Coalition to learn more about how you can install these practices at your home or business.

- » **Attend a hands-on training** with Arid LID Coalition partner organizations to build your GSI skills
- » **Install a GSI feature** in your yard
- » **Take advantage of local rebates** to help offset some of the installation costs
- » **Volunteer with our partner organizations** to make your community more climate-adapted and help conserve water in your neighborhood
- » **Ask your elected officials to support GSI** in our local redevelopment projects

visit us at [aridlidcoalition.org](http://aridlidcoalition.org) for resources & events