Slavic Village Vacant-Lot Rain Gardens — Cleveland Botanical Garden's Low-Cost Greening Trial, With Three of Nine Sites Lost to Housing

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 20/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Cleveland Botanical Garden built rain gardens on nine vacant Slavic Village lots with a US$59,680 EPA Urban Waters grant; the Garden estimates 55%+ of rain is filtered per lot, but no independent evaluation was found and three sites later became housing.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-10

Cleveland Botanical Garden — accessed 2026-11-10

Urban Waters Learning Network case — accessed 2026-11-10

US EPA stormwater case study: Cleveland, Ohio (2022) — accessed 2026-11-10

Ideastream: Vacant lots get a green makeover — accessed 2026-11-10

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