

**CAMBRIDGE**

# GoGreen Awards

2009



**CATEGORY:** Stormwater Management / Small Organization

## **OLD CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH 1151 Massachusetts Avenue**

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- *Motivated by the need to mitigate roof and site water infiltration into the Church's basement office areas, OCBC implemented a site drainage system that solved the water infiltration problem and mitigated offsite stormwater flows to the City's combined sewer system, and provided a water conservation benefit to the Church. The system, using Best Management Practices (BMP) design principles, is an integrated stormwater detention and harvesting system which exceeds the 25-year storm flow detention requirements while realizing water conservation benefits in the re-use of harvested storm water for site irrigation;*
- *Designed and built by Rainwater Recovery Inc of Waltham, MA, the site drainage system currently stores 10,000 gallons of roof water for reuse and detains 20,000 gallons of site stormwater flows prior to discharge into the city storm drains at the prescribed 2-year storm event flow rate;*
- *The Church is ready to undertake investigation of the second phase of the project in which the harvested water will also be used for meeting large volume toilet flushing water demands, thus converting the 20,000 gallon detention volume into a fully integrated harvesting and detention system. This modification will further reduce stormwater flows to the City's combined sewer system, assist in the reduction of periodic combined sewer overflows into the Charles River, and reduce stormwater flows to the sewage treatment facility. The latter manifests in energy savings as well, since reduction of stormwater flows to the sewage treatment plant results in energy savings at the plant due to the very large quantities of energy used in treating wastewater flows.*

### **ABOUT OLD CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Old Cambridge Baptist Church, founded in 1844, is on the National Register of Historic Places. We are a small but active congregation in Harvard Square, welcoming all. We have a partnership with the Jose Mateo Ballet Theater and we also house organizations promoting justice for homeless, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people, refugees, and others. "Our church has a long history of working for social justice, environmental sustainability and historic preservation."*



*For more information, contact Javier Negron, Church Administrator, 617 864-9275 x200, [chadmin.ocbc@verizon.net](mailto:chadmin.ocbc@verizon.net).*

### **ABOUT THE GO GREEN AWARD**

*The City of Cambridge annually recognizes local businesses and organizations for outstanding practices in transportation, waste reduction and recycling, energy, stormwater management, climate protection, and community sustainability. The awardees make significant contributions to the reduction of the carbon footprint of Cambridge and to making the city more sustainable.*