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SPOTLIGHT: IWM in Atlanta, Georgia

With generous grant support from the San Francisco-based [Pisces Foundation](#), The Conservation Fund is pursuing integrated water management (IWM) strategies in two key US metropolitan centers; Atlanta, Georgia, and Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. Each region faces a unique set of challenges and opportunities affecting its water resources.

Here's a snapshot of some of the exciting efforts that took place in Atlanta this spring:

Innovative Green Infrastructure Workshop



On April 20th, The Conservation Fund partnered with [American Rivers](#) and the [Atlanta Regional Commission](#) (ARC), to host a workshop and dinner focused on innovative green infrastructure and how municipalities, communities and other stakeholders in the Upper Flint River basin can apply this knowledge in a practical way. The Upper Flint's headwaters are located in the shadow of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest airport.

In the afternoon workshop, speakers highlighted various approaches for scaling green infrastructure, including regional projects and ecosystem restoration, municipal and regional stormwater management programs, connections to land-use planning, and airport infrastructure that incorporates more sustainable approaches to water management. Local and regional leaders participated in the dinner and discussion about innovative approaches to green infrastructure. The partners will continue to engage this group in identifying and implementing viable green infrastructure projects and programs in the Upper Flint River basin.

Parks With Purpose Ribbon Cutting



The Conservation Fund continues to work with [Park Pride](#) and other community partners in the Proctor Creek Watershed. We are utilizing parks and greenspace to improve stormwater management while simultaneously improving the quality of life and economic opportunity in the neighborhoods involved.

On May 19, 2016, [Mayor Kasim Reed hosted the ribbon cutting](#) for the opening of the second phase of Vine City Park. This is the second Parks with Purpose project led by Park Pride and The Conservation Fund in the upper Proctor Creek Watershed. Like the recently completed [Lindsay Street Park](#), this expanded greenspace incorporates green infrastructure to handle stormwater runoff, and involved the continuing partnership with [Greening Youth Foundation](#) to train and employ local youth in building out new greenspace in their neighborhoods.

Important Announcement at One Water Summit



At the [One Water Summit](#) in Atlanta on June 10th, the [City of Atlanta](#) announced adoption of the first [Green Infrastructure Strategic Action Plan](#) for the city. The Conservation Fund has been working as part of the City's Green Infrastructure Task Force to complete this plan, which provides a framework for scaling up implementation of green infrastructure across the city. The Task Force includes representatives of six different City agencies, as well as The Conservation Fund, American Rivers, Invest Atlanta and the Atlanta Beltline.

Also at the Summit, the Fund worked with partners to convene **The City Upstream and Down: A Peer Cities exchange on Integrated Water Management**, an active peer-to-peer exchange to compare notes and strategies around integrated water management in the City, Upper Flint, Metropolitan Raleigh-Durham and Tucson. More on the peer exchange and Summit in a future issue.

Stay in the loop with our integrated water management efforts by joining our e-mail list [here](#).

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