A group of conservation-minded partners have teamed up to design a better street. The Utah Association of Conservation Districts, North Logan City, the Utah Botanical Center and Stantec Engineering have developed designs for low-impact streets to better handle storm water runoff.

Low-impact streets feature reduced pavement width without concrete gutters, therefore minimizing impervious surfaces and reducing storm water runoff. On both sides of the street naturally landscaped swales reduce the speed of storm water, filter urban-borne contaminants and allow smaller volumes of water into irrigation canal systems.

The street design has also shown other benefits such as reduced construction costs, slower traffic speeds and more attractive and livable neighborhoods.

Using the new designs, North Logan City and the Utah Botanical Center will build two streets to demonstrate a more environmentally friendly alternative to traditional street design. The design standards can also be applied in other Utah communities and are available at www.ci.north-logan.ut.us

Key features of low-impact design:

- Flat concrete curb holds road edge and disperses storm water runoff
- Swale area vegetated to treat storm water runoff on-site
- Landscape area contains low water/maintenance plants, i.e. grasses, forbs, shrubs and limited trees
- Improved storm water quality to receiving waters
- Pavement width encourages slower traffic speeds
- Parking allowed on one side of roadway
- Design speed for 30 mph residential streets and 40 mph collector street

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Funded by the EPA, Utah Soil Conservation Commission and North Logan City. Questions regarding this project should be directed to:

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UACD
NEW 50' RIGHT-OF-WAY
SERVICE UP TO 25 RESIDENCES

LOW-IMPACT RESULTS
• 17% LESS ASPHALT SURFACE
• 6-8% STORM WATER RUNOFF REDUCTION
• 86% INCREASE IN GREEN SPACE

NEW 60' RIGHT-OF-WAY
SERVICE 26 TO 75 RESIDENCES

LOW-IMPACT RESULTS
• 28% LESS ASPHALT SURFACE
• 10-14% STORM WATER RUNOFF REDUCTION
• 125% INCREASE IN GREEN SPACE

NEW 66' RIGHT-OF-WAY
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• 26% LESS ASPHALT SURFACE
• 12-15% STORM WATER RUNOFF REDUCTION
• 125% INCREASE IN GREEN SPACE