

- ◆ Application to Retire Stormwater Retention Credits; and
- ◆ RiverSmart Rewards Standard Application.

After completing applications, public users submit them electronically to DDOE. The database notifies DDOE of new applications. Staff review and make a decision to approve or disapprove each application and the database notifies public users of DDOE's decision. For approved applications for SRC certification, DDOE generates a range of SRC serial numbers and lists them with seller contact information and an asking price in the SRC Registry ([octo.quickbase.com/db/behzxhhv3](http://octo.quickbase.com/db/behzxhhv3)). The Registry also lists contact information for public users who want to buy SRCs. Buyers and sellers may contact each other to negotiate trades. Upon reaching a trade agreement, participants apply to transfer SRCs. If the SRCs are available for sale, DDOE transfers the SRCs between user accounts. The Registry reports SRC information in real time.

After a month of internal testing, DDOE made a beta-version of the database available for public testing in September 2013. Eight public users from the building industry, environmental groups, and engineering and law firms tested and provided feedback on database functions and use. DDOE is incorporating their edits and plans an open release in early FY 2014.

### **2.1.3 Off-Site Mitigation and/or Fee-in-Lieu**

The 2013 Stormwater Rule provides regulated sites with flexible options for meeting regulatory requirements. Under the rule, each major regulated project faces a stormwater retention volume (SWRv) based on either the 0.8 or 1.2 inch storm. After they achieve half of their SWRv onsite, regulated sites may use Stormwater Retention Credits (SRCs) purchased from the private market or pay in-lieu fee (ILF) to meet any remaining retention obligation. Program details are contained in Section 527 and Sections 530 through 534 of the 2013 Stormwater Rule and Chapters 6 and 7 of the 2013 Stormwater Management Guidebook.

In FY 2013, DDOE made significant progress in implementing the SRC and ILF programs. Staff finalized sections on the SRC trading and ILF programs prior to issuing the 2013 Stormwater Rule and Guidebook on July 19, 2013. DDOE also developed a database with public-facing forms and reports to support online applications, approval and disapproval notifications, tracking of SRCs and ILF payments, and the SRC Registry. Other implementation activities in FY 2013 included:

- ◆ Developing an SRC website with program information and links to the database and SRC Registry;
- ◆ Establishing a special purpose revenue fund for ILF revenue through the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Support Act;
- ◆ Convening a legal workgroup to develop model templates for trading contracts between SRC buyers and sellers;
- ◆ Developing a poster and brochures for outreach; and
- ◆ Developing a Request for Applications to identify a third-party nonprofit partner to stimulate SRC supply by purchasing SRCs on behalf of the District Government.

DDOE also provided several trainings on the SRC and ILF programs, including:

- ◆ Three Use of Off-Site Retention and Generation of SRCs public sessions;
- ◆ Three General Compliance public sessions, which included a description and explanation of participation in the SRC trading program;
- ◆ One General Compliance internal session; and
- ◆ One brownbag on the 2013 Stormwater Rule including the SRC trading and ILF programs.

DDOE expects interest in the SRC trading and ILF programs to increase through FY 2014. Under the transition plan for the 2013 Stormwater Rule, stormwater management plans submitted prior to January 15, 2014 must demonstrate compliance with existing regulations. As regulated sites begin to face retention requirements, they will likely consider SRCs or ILF payment as compliance options. DDOE continues efforts to stimulate supply to meet demand, such as connecting potential buyers and sellers and guiding sites with eligible retention capacity through the process to certify SRCs.

#### **2.1.4 Green Landscaping Incentives Program**

The District is using a series of stormwater incentive programs to help single-family residents and commercial properties, multi-family residences, schools and churches plan and implement stormwater retrofit projects and increase planted areas. District incentive programs are:

- ◆ RiverSmart Homes
- ◆ RiverSmart Schools
- ◆ RiverSmart Communities
- ◆ RiverSmart Rooftops
- ◆ Rain Barrel Rebate
- ◆ Shade Tree Rebate
- ◆ Rain Garden and Installation of Pervious Pavers Rebate
- ◆ Bloomingdale Sewershed Rain Barrel-Cistern Program
- ◆ Stormwater Retention Credit Trading
- ◆ RiverSmart Rewards

#### **RiverSmart Homes**

The District recognizes the importance of targeting homeowners for pollution reduction measures because residential property is the largest single land use type in the city and is the slowest of all construction areas to be redeveloped. Since 2008, DDOE has been implementing RiverSmart Homes aimed at single family homes. The program started with eight demonstration sites—one in each ward of the city. It then expanded to a pilot program in the Pope Branch watershed of the city. The RiverSmart Homes Program is now mature and has been operating citywide since summer of 2009.