

RODALE INSTITUTE

Visionary Wastewater Treatment Design for a Visionary's Institute

Kutztown, Pennsylvania



Seamlessly integrated into the landscape, an institute's innovative wastewater system is affordable and simple to operate, as well as accessible for education and research purposes.

Founded by J.I. Rodale, one of the first advocates of sustainable, organic farming in the U.S., the Rodale Institute in Kutztown, Pennsylvania is a nonprofit dedicated to pioneering organic farming through research and outreach. When the Institute needed a wastewater treatment system for its new visitor center, Biohabitats created a fitting solution for an organization that devotes itself to studying the link between healthy soil, food, and people. The innovative wastewater system is comprised of three main components: rainwater to flush toilets, wetlands to treat wastewater, and a drip irrigation system that uses the

treated water to irrigate the building's landscaping. The wastewater system serves the main visitor restrooms for the farm; Biohabitats worked closely with the farm director and staff to design a system that was accessible for educational and research purposes, carefully integrated into the welcome area landscape, and sensibly designed to be affordable and simple to operate. This system will serve as a demonstration and teaching site to bring the technology to interested visitors. Biohabitats would like to think J.I. Rodale would be proud.

SERVICES
Design

from top: Visitor center's constructed wetlands to the right; Treated water irrigates nearby landscaping; Interactive video display educates visitors about the system

*conservation planning
ecological restoration
regenerative design*



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