Standing guard around trees to increase stormwater infiltration

Trees can pack a big punch when it comes to reducing stormwater. But Robert Elliott, former Columbia University (New York) graduate student and co-founder of Get Urban Leaf (New York), believes there is untapped potential for using trees to manage runoff in cities. He led a university study that provides urban planners with information that can help increase this potential.

Discover how a single small change can make a big difference

2018 National Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards open for nominations

The Water Environment Federation is now accepting applications for the 2018 Municipal Stormwater and Green Infrastructure Awards Program. Phase I and Phase II municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit holders are invited to submit a nomination.

Apply today to receive your recognition at WEFTEC 2018

Los Angeles Zoo plans drought-proof water strategy
From the summer issue of World Water: Stormwater Management — One Water LA calls for increased use of municipal recycled water at the Los Angeles (LA) Zoo to reduce reliance on potable water. Authors Eliza Jane Whitman of EW Consulting Inc.; Ali Poosti, Lenise Marrero, and Flor Burrola of the City of Los Angeles, LA Sanitation; and Darryl Pon of the Los Angeles City Zoo explain some of the potential options under consideration at the LA Zoo.

Learn how the LA Zoo and One Water LA are working together to use stormwater in nonpotable applications

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Storms as destructive as Hurricane Harvey projected to happen more frequently

When Hurricane Harvey inundated eastern Texas late last August, the eye of the storm loitered over land for nearly a week rather than dispersing as it moved farther from the ocean, as most hurricanes do. The result was a stronger, more destructive storm, which dropped a record-breaking 127 cm (50 in.) of rain and directly killed more than 65 people.

According to U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) researcher James Kossin, Harvey’s sluggish pace — and its devastation — may soon become more commonplace.

Find out how slower, warmer storms and weaker winds are combining into a "new normal"

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Steel chips purge nearly 99% of E. coli bacteria from runoff in lab tests

A researcher from South Dakota State University has demonstrated that the best solutions sometimes come from unlikely places. Sourcing metal wastes from a machine shop near campus, then-graduate student Peng Dai discovered that simple steel chips could remove up to 99% of E. coli from simulated stormwater runoff.

Small-column testing showed the steel chips could remove anywhere from 85 to 98% of E. coli bacteria