

March 24, 2021



The permeable patio provides the same functionality as the concrete slab it replaced, while keeping localized flooding to a minimum.

Where Does the Water Go?

Ever wonder how permeable patios can help mitigate localized flooding on your property? The permeable patio pictured above should give you a pretty good idea. The patio was under construction when heavy rains hit in mid-March. These homeowners used to get water up to their doorstep and standing water in their yard for days on end after even a moderate rain event. Yikes!

But now their permeable patio can store nearly 1000 gallons of stormwater per rain event below the surface, reducing standing water issues, mosquito populations, and the threat of water making it into their house.

The Urban Conservancy thanks [Ubuntu Construction Company](#) for installing this beautiful permeable patio and to District E Councilmember Cyndi Nguyen, Harrah's Community Partnership Grant, and the Greater New Orleans Foundation for helping to fund this green project. We appreciate how hard you all are working to make New Orleans a safer and more sustainable home.

Learn more about how green infrastructure can help reduce flooding on your property on [FYI's Resource webpage](#).

[FYI Resources](#)



French Quarter visitors enjoy the protected seating that the new parklet on French Market Place provides on its first day in operation last weekend.

Outdoor Dining

[StayLocal](#) has provided business owners a variety of recovery resources in recent months. In time for beautiful spring weather, StayLocal has worked with the City and local businesses to design a replicable, durable [parklet](#) which demonstrates the elements which will be required for constructing permanent parklets.

The new parklet, constructed by local fabricator [NOLA Woodworks](#), hosts table seating in the French Market Fridays through Sundays, when French Market Place is closed to vehicle traffic. Parklets extend useable space into a car parking spot by creating an elevated platform which meets the sidewalk. This extension of the public realm allows for additional areas for outdoor dining, planted areas, rest and play.

Business owners interested in parklet designs can come kick the tires on our parklet anytime! Stop by #19 French Market Place to experience a parklet in person, call (504) 252-1259, or visit [staylocal.org/bizresources](#) for more information.

[Find More Business Resources Here](#)



From top left: Mr. Davis with one of his 3 rain barrels, next to his permeable drive on Jackson Ave.; volunteers clean trash from around SOUL trees and catch basins on S. Galvez St.; UC program manager and green firm Mastodonte discuss water management with Ms. Hicks on S. Dorgenois St.

Reducing Flood Risk in the Hoffman Triangle

When it rains, it pours and when it pours, many Hoffman Triangle residents are left with standing water that lingers for days.

[Umbrella NOLA](#) is a collective of New Orleans nonprofits and the City's Office of Resilience and Sustainability that is coordinated by the Urban Conservancy. Together, we empower residents in the Hoffman Triangle to affordably and effectively reduce flood risk on their properties while addressing related quality-of-life concerns such as food insecurity and health issues that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

Since 2019, Umbrella partners have installed three dozen rain barrels ([Green Light New Orleans](#)); planted 227 trees ([Sustaining Our Urban Landscape - SOUL](#)) and created thousands of gallons of rainwater storage capacity through the installation of French drains, rain gardens, and permeable paving ([the Urban Conservancy](#)). A green infrastructure installation at Stronger Hope Baptist Church on South Galvez Street is scheduled to break ground in Spring 2021. It will create another 20,000 gallons of storage capacity and give [Thrive New Orleans'](#) Launch NOLA Green businesses an opportunity to participate in a paid apprenticeship, learning from their peers and industry experts alike.

Major funding is provided by the [Southeast Sustainable Communities Fund](#), a partnership between The Keneda Fund and the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network.

Many other partners have made our progress possible: the Greater New Orleans Foundation, Harrah's Community Partnership Grant, Tulane's Center for Public Service, United Saints Recovery Project, WaterBlock LLC, the Wisner Fund, and most importantly, the residents and faith leaders of the Hoffman Triangle.



Save the Date: Give NOLA Day

Help support all of these projects and more! The Urban Conservancy is participating in [Give NOLA Day](#) on May 4th.

Our Initiatives

We create projects to meet the needs of our constituents; that's how FYI, BASIN, and StayLocal came about. Sometimes we just lend a hand to get big ideas off the ground. The Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative and the Lafitte Greenway are examples of some of our most recent collaborative efforts.



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