



# Agency for Roads, Bridges & Water (Hamburg)

## Biodiverse Rainwater Cleaning Facilities

The Agency for Roads, Bridges & Water plans and builds major roadways in Hamburg. Whenever the road works take place in an area with separated rainwater sewage system, we plan and build rainwater cleaning facilities for the polluted surface runoff prior to discharging it into our water bodies.



### CHALLENGE

The competition for land is very high in our urban and densely built city of Hamburg. Usually the space within an area classified as roads is not sufficient for a proper cleaning facility. In the remaining possible areas the need for adaptation to the surrounding is very high.



### APPROACH

Planning of rainwater treatment facilities that can be experienced and that are close to nature. We refrain from fences, choose biodiverse plants and design the facilities as close to nature as possible.



### IMPACT

Increase of biodiversity in comparison to usual rainwater cleaning facilities. Improvement of the surrounding by adaptation of the cleaning facility.

## Ecologic improvement of water bodies

Measures for ecological improvement are planned and implemented by the Agency for Roads, Bridges & Water. These consist mainly of ecological improvement of habitat for endangered species in water bodies and measures for ecological connectivity of water bodies. We analyse the feasibility, plan and carry out the measures needed.



### CHALLENGE

The ecological improvement faces common challenges like critical citizens, private use of land and property issues in the foreseen areas. Special challenges arising from complex boundary conditions due to water management regulations and natural protected areas.



### APPROACH

Feasibility studies, design of measures that include: ecological continuity of water bodies, fishing for predators of endangered species, water cleaning, establishment of shallow water zones for spawning and habitation. Citizen engagement and information is carried out in order to increase acceptance of the planned measures.



### IMPACT

The habitat of endangered species is improved and the biodiversity of the water body increased. The current measures and results of the feasibility studies may be used as a blueprint for future measures.

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