

# A Study in Green Building: LID and LEED Practices at Work at Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.



**W**hen NVBIA member Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc (WSSI) was looking for new office space for their growing company, they knew they wanted to build a space that reflected their core belief, stated in the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, that “healthy state and local economies and a healthy Chesapeake Bay are integrally related; balanced economic development and water quality protection are not mutually exclusive.” To meet this goal, they needed to develop a hydrologically, technologically and ecologically advanced building and site that was also economically feasible. What followed became a practical application case study for implementing Low Impact Development (LID) and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) practices in development.

## Low Impact Development

Although no onsite storm water management was required as the site was already serviced by a regional storm water management pond, for WSSI, implementing LID practices and creating an integrated plan rather than using a haphazard approach to LID implementation was the “right