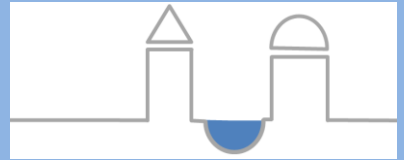




Type: Urban water spaces - standing

Category: Urban water systems

Open water elements in the urban environment with standing water



Description

Open water elements in the urban environment with standing water, e.g. ponds, water squares.

Spatial scale

City quarter/street

Problems addressed

- Heat: Water surfaces in the city can reduce heating up
- Heavy precipitation: increases water retention in the water body and reduces peak flows, amount depends on size of standing water

Combination with other types of measures

- Green open spaces
- Water retention, water drainage, urban water spaces - flowing
- Urban setting, urban texture

Implementation – functionality issues

Very different designs and volumes are possible, depending on the aim, i.e. if focus is on retention of rain water or reducing urban heat island effect.

Further benefits

- Can improve biodiversity for aquatic life-forms
- May be combined with recreational public space which is cooler in summer than its surroundings
- The attractiveness of a city quarter or neighbourhood can be enhanced.

Economic issues

The costs vary according to size and complexity of measure.

Acceptance

Urban water spaces are accepted, in general, as they contribute to an attractive living environment.

Acceptance might be lowered when conflicts arise (see obstacles).

Possible obstacles

- During Heat & Drought: eutrophication can become a problem, maintenance is needed to keep water clean to avoid smelling.
- The place can become an attractive meeting place and noise as well as littering can be a problem (if combined with recreational use).
- Conflicts with other urban uses may arise.
- Standing water can contradict the aim of cooling during summer nights, due to the specific heat capacity.

Find examples in Structural Fact Sheets



Water square
Vogelbuurt
Tiel, NL



Water Vision
Nijmegen, NL



Water study
De Vloei
Wvi, Ieper, BE



Slowed run-off
Wvi, Ieper, BE



Ambition
note
Wvi, Ieper, BE



Urban planning
Wvi, Ieper, BE