

## Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward Earth Lab



The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) issued a request for proposals in 2014 for Green Infrastructure education & outreach and demonstration projects on public land. SWBNO has contracted with Groundwork New Orleans to design, build, and monitor a rain garden, green roof, and pervious pavement at 1901 Caffin Avenue, the corner of Caffin and N. Prieur St., in the Lower Ninth Ward neighborhood. The project once complete will be able to hold 9,000 gallons of rainwater per rain event easing pressure on the drainage system and improving water quality.

Groundwork New Orleans (GWNO) will build off of the organization's national model for engaging the community and making education integral to this project. GWNO's Green Team, a group of paid high school interns, have already gained valuable experience:

- Performing elevation surveying
- Hosting public meetings
- Obtaining community feedback
- Using social media as an outreach tool
- Researching weather stations
- Collecting pre-installation data

Their work will form the basis of a curriculum that can be adapted for a variety of participants and locations. The curriculum centers on high school students (grades 9-12); however, will be adaptable to college level and adult community workshops.

Construction is anticipated to be completed December 2016 (weather permitting).



For more information on this project and other SWBNO Green Infrastructure projects, please visit [http://www.swbno.org/work\\_greeninfrastructure.asp](http://www.swbno.org/work_greeninfrastructure.asp) OR call SWBNO Environmental at (504) 942-3849