
Rain gardens – the new ‘must have’ green accessory?

AECB Conference July 13th 2013

Cath Hassell

cath.hassell@ech2o.co.uk

ech₂o

Who are ech₂o and what do we do?

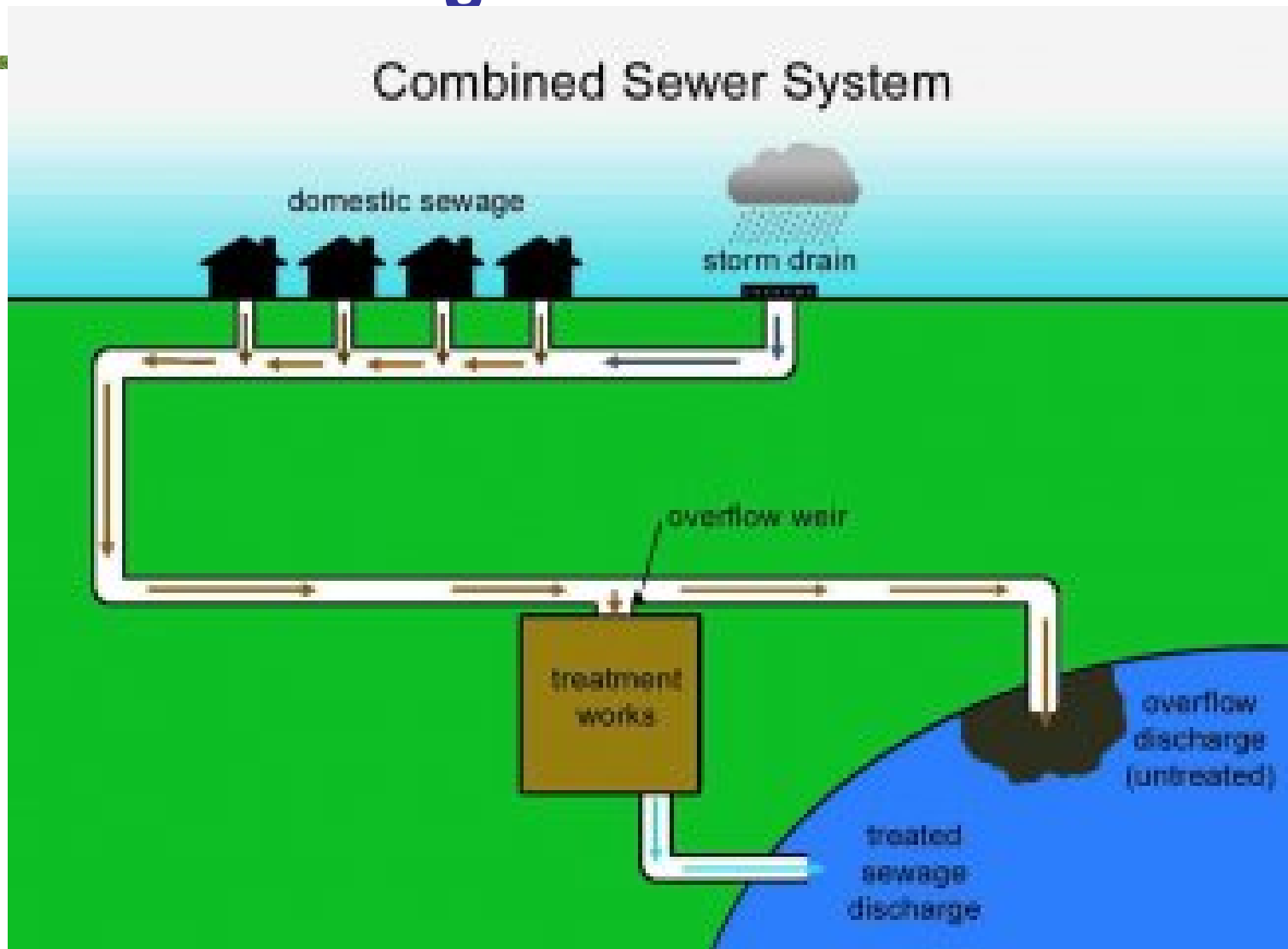
- We are environmental consultants specialising in sustainable water strategies and low carbon or renewable technologies
- We work in new build or existing buildings
- We work with occupants of the building to change their behaviour as well as identifying the best technological solutions
- Our clients include local authorities, housing associations, schools and colleges, water companies, architects, community groups, and householders



We must decouple rainwater from the sewer system



Bad sewers design



When it rains a lot, the sewers can't cope so the sewage comes out of the CSO



ech₂o

The sewage goes out to the sea.....



ech₂o



This is the result!

Greening the urban infrastructure

ech₂o

www.ech2o.co.uk

We may as well do this when its raining heavily!



ech₂o



SUDS for front gardens

- A mass retrofit of paved gardens throughout London could have a major effect re the size and cost of the new interceptor tunnel, currently £36b.
- Thames Water to pay a subsidy for householders in London to do this?

Rain gardens



- www.raingardens.info for a UK rain gardens guide

- Decouple storm-water downpipes or road gullies from the sewer system



Solutions from ech₂o - water

- Identification of best water efficiency solutions and CSH solutions.
- Feasibility studies and design guidance for rainwater or greywater (new build or retrofit).
- Identification of most effective SUDS solutions for existing buildings including green roofs.
- Water audits of existing buildings – residential, commercial, educational and public.
- Work with stakeholders to change behaviour around water use.



ech₂o consultants ltd work with a range of stakeholders to successfully incorporate sustainable water and low carbon solutions into the built environment.

www.ech2o.co.uk



The South East is Under Water Stress



Use Water Sparingly



'Saving water' in the hospitality sector' www.ech2o.com