The City of River Falls takes pride in being the largest City in Wisconsin on a Class I trout stream and we intend to do all we can to keep it that way. City standards and requirements for stormwater management exceed those required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural resources. The project exceeds the requirements of both City Ordinances and State Regulations.

Cascade Avenue currently has a pavement surface that is 56’ wide from curb to curb. The reconstructed road will have two separate lanes that are a maximum of 18’ wide from curb to curb. This is a 35% reduction in impervious surface for the typical roadway section and in itself provides for betterment of stormwater runoff.

Opportunities were sought to add stormwater management practices to the project that provide stormwater management beyond that required by City Code or WisDNR regulations. These opportunities had to be compatible with the fact that a well house is located near Second Street and Cascade Avenue and wellhead protection regulations prohibit many stormwater management practices from being implemented in the wellhead protection area.

The following opportunities for enhancing stormwater management were incorporated into this project:

Mowable Grass Infiltration Basins – Mowable grass infiltration basins have been located in the boulevard areas in from of both North Hall and South Hall. Stormwater from University buildings and pavements in addition to runoff from Cascade Avenue will be introduced into these basins and given an opportunity to infiltrate into the underlying sandy soils. This technique cools and filters the runoff while recharging the groundwater system.

Perforated Storm Water Pipes – Perforated storm water pipes embedded in drain rock is being utilized in appropriate locations to cool the runoff while recharging the groundwater system.