

Wellesley College

Wellesley, MA

Alumnae Valley Restoration Project Receives General Design Award of Excellence by American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA): Approximately 13.5 acres of campus at Wellesley College, known as Alumnae Valley, was restored from a brownfield into an ecologically functioning landscape.

Early stages of the project included removing a 175-car parking lot and significant amounts of contaminated soil from the site. Moderately contaminated soils were moved to make landforms that were later capped. A series of sedimentation basins as well as wetland vegetation now provide filtering and natural treatment for runoff and groundwater to help protect Lake Waban. The Landscape Architectural firm receiving the award was Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates of Cambridge, MA.



A range of soils were designed by soil consultants Pine & Swallow Associates that were devised to optimize hydrology and support a variety of vegetation. Agresource supplied AGRESOIL COMPOST™ made in Merrimack, NH, to Dexter and Harpell Loam, who made the different soils to specification. The soils included a Marsh Basin Mix, Wet Meadow Mix, Meadow Mix, Lawn Mix, and Backfill Mix. The landscape contractor was Valley Crest Landscaping. Civil engineering was provided by Vanasse, Hangen, Brustlin, Inc. (VHB). Geotechnical engineering was provided by Haley & Aldrich, Inc.



