

Nurturing Nature for Man

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CHAPTER 2

TAMING THE FLOOD IN URBAN MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

Issues on global environmental degradation attract many attentions. In a year we celebrated many days related to environment such as World Water Day, Earth Day, and in year 2008 the WHO have announced as an International Sanitation Year. It is important to raise the awareness of environmental issues amongst public. Basically, everybody should aware the important of a clean water. Water also needs to sustain the world's population and the ecosystems that support life on the planet. There is an urgent need for good educational methods to educate the public and supply them with information and issues on the environment. The public should also be encouraged to get involved in development proposals.

Keywords: awareness, water issues, environmental knowledge, attitude

INTRODUCTION

A number of Western countries have been developing Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUD) for many years. A very good example can be seen in the United Kingdom. It is clearly seen that they have been implementing SUDs very well. Based on the CIRIA guidelines on SUDs, 4 basic components have been introduced: ponds, wetlands, impermeable surfaces and filter strips and swales. These components have been used and integrated very well into the landscape design by the respective designers (Figure 2.1).

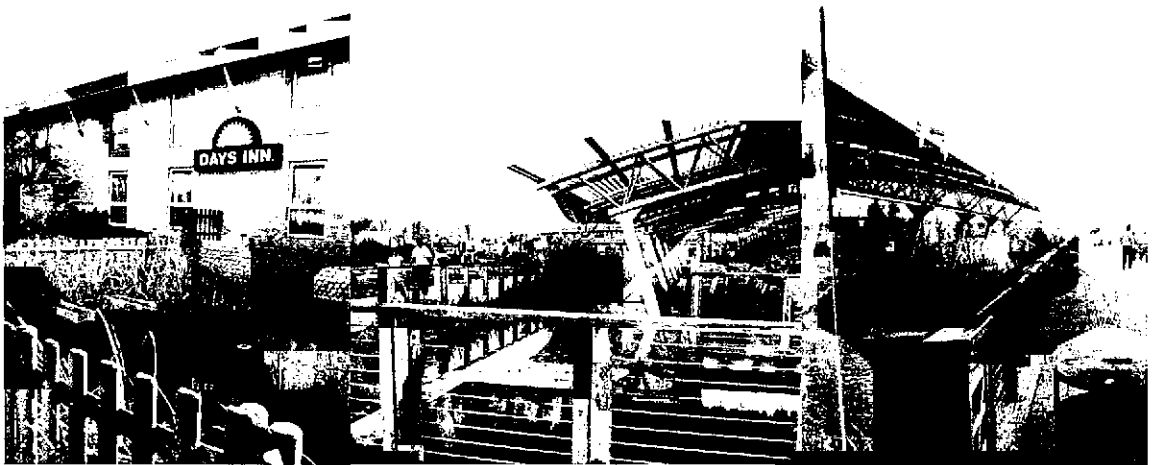


Figure 2.1: M42 Welcome breaks by Robert Bray (Photo: Izawati).

In Malaysia, the Manual Saliran Mesra Alam (MSMA) has also introduced the same components of the SUDs. However, there are limited examples be seen. The components are translated directly into the landscape (Figure 2.2 and 2.3). It would take more time for