



BEST

Benefits of SuDS Tool

A comprehensive tool for estimating the value of SuDS



@sudsulike



#sudsnotduds



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The multiple benefits of SuDS...

(assessed over an anticipated 50 year period)



download BeST here
susdrain.org/resources/best.html

HEALTH

SuDS can play a role in greening streets, neighbourhoods and cities which can contribute to health and wellbeing. They can improve quality of life by reducing pressure on health services and increasing productivity. **Use of vegetated SuDS can provide as much as £400,000 in health-related benefits per 100 adults.**



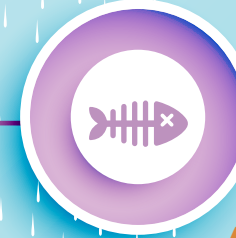
RAINWATER USE

Harvested rainwater can be used for everyday use where drinking water quality is not needed eg. watering gardens and flushing toilets. **Collecting rainwater and using it in 1,000 properties can save up to £300,000 for water companies, and provide a similar value to customers through reduced water usage.**



WATER QUALITY

SuDS can improve water quality in rivers and water courses. They reduce water pollutant loads and divert these pollutants from combined sewers that are found in many cities, by reducing overflow spills. **Improving a 1km stretch of watercourse from a poor to moderate water quality classification, can result in benefits of over £250,000.**



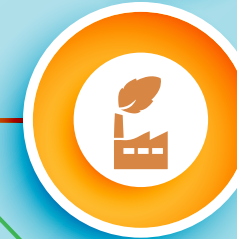
FLOODING & BIODIVERSITY

Distributing SuDS across green infrastructure networks can reduce flood risk by intercepting rainfall, holding, conveying and storing surface water runoff. Managing water on the surface can cost significantly less than below ground infrastructure. Through good integrated design, SuDS can deliver other benefits. **The creation of 5,000m² of wetland habitat can provide up to £9,000 of benefits through enhanced biodiversity and habitat connectivity.**



AIR QUALITY & CARBON SEQUESTRATION

SuDS that include trees and vegetation can absorb air pollutants and help to remove noxious gases. **1,000 medium sized trees planted in an area with air pollution can absorb up to 80kg of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and store 2,500 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂). Over 50 years this can bring £170,000 benefits from reduced damage to health and sequestered carbon.**



EDUCATION

SuDS provide a rich learning environment for students if constructed within or near to school grounds. **Just 200 students visiting a SuDS scheme every year can provide educational benefits equivalent to £50,000.**



BUILDING TEMPERATURE

Green roofs help manage flooding and pollution. They also keep buildings cool in summer and warm in winter. **An 800m² green roof can generate benefits worth £3,500 by reducing CO₂ emissions, and £6,000 by reducing energy costs.**



AMENITY

SuDS can enhance the attractiveness and desirability of urban areas. **Property prices can increase by 3-10% and the value of greening streets with SuDS could be worth £25,000 to nearby residents.**



GROUND WATER RECHARGE

Infiltrating rainwater into the ground replenishes groundwater. This increases water availability, reduces abstraction and treatment costs. **Infiltrating runoff from five streets, each 200m long, can provide £16,000 of benefits.**



Why use BeST?

- BeST provides an estimate of 22 benefits of SuDS that can be readily compared to costs
- BeST helps to engage stakeholders who may be interested in SuDS
- BeST supports you when looking for other funders
- BeST is robust, simple to use and makes best use of available information



When to use BeST?

For further information, please contact best@susdrain.org