

## North Town Center, Stratford, Connecticut

**L**ong before the ground is broken, commercial development requires extensive planning including how to manage stormwater. CULTEC, Inc.'s subsurface stormwater systems offer engineers, contractors and developers an environmentally sound stormwater option that offers increased capacity, flexibility and the ease of installation preferred on commercial sites.



In May 2006, site preparation began at the North Town Center in Stratford, Connecticut. The 13.3-acre site will be anchored by the world class Big Y supermarket along with New Alliance Bank and space for a dozen other retail stores. Slated for completion in December 2007, the shopping center will provide approximately 118,000-square-feet of building space and 8 acres of paved parking areas. Previously capable of absorbing run-off, this area will be replaced by non-permeable roofs and paved parking lots.

According to Clean Water Act regulations, a certain percentage of run-off created by impervious surfaces must be treated onsite to prevent pollution to the surrounding areas. Engineers from Stratford-based AM Engineering, a division of Tilton & Associates, Inc., specified a CULTEC single-level subsurface detention system including nearly 1,600 Recharger® 330 HD stormwater chambers. The

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underground detention system, covering almost 70,000-square-feet, was designed to capture, treat and store temporary run-off until its subsequent release through a storm drain.

“Beside the environmental benefits and increased capacity, a major benefit of this system was how efficiently it could be installed,” said Chris Fitzpatrick, owner of Chris Construction Company, the project’s site development company. “Two workers are able to line up the chambers while excavation is underway which saves valuable time as well as decreases labor costs for the installation.”

The magnitude of the site as well as the lack of available land surrounding the property eliminated the possibility for any kind of above-ground stormwater option.

