What is Permeable Paving?
While permeable paving looks like ordinary paving, it provides environmental benefits by soaking up (infiltrating) and cleaning stormwater runoff. It is just as strong as conventional pavement. When properly installed and maintained, it can last for over twenty years. It can be used for roads, sidewalks, trails, parking lots, and other surfaces.

How Does Permeable Paving Work?
1. Permeable paving is porous, which allows water to pass through and soak into the ground.
2. Water is held in a gravel storage area, which slowly releases water into the underlying soil.
3. The cleaner water replenishes the groundwater supply.

What is Permeable Paving Made From?
Permeable paving can be made of concrete, asphalt, pavers, or grid systems.

How much water flows through the pervious concrete?
The amount of water that flows through the pervious concrete (infiltration rate) can vary from 50-300 inches per hour. Silverdale’s average rainfall is about 50 inches per year. This surface can easily absorb water from large rainstorms.

Can pervious concrete clog?
Maintenance prevents clogging, and includes inspecting, vacuum sweeping, and pressure washing. Over several years, the infiltration rate may be reduced by up to 50% due to normal clogging. Because of its high initial infiltration rate, the paving will continue to absorb water.

Is freezing an issue?
Cold temperatures, snow and ice do not affect pervious concrete. Salt can be used for de-icing, and the surface can be plowed and sanded. However, excessive use of sand or gravel could clog the paving.

The Haselwood YMCA has a pervious concrete parking lot and permeable interlocking paver walkways.