

Sponge Cities in China

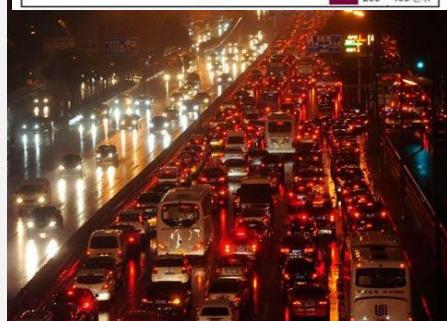
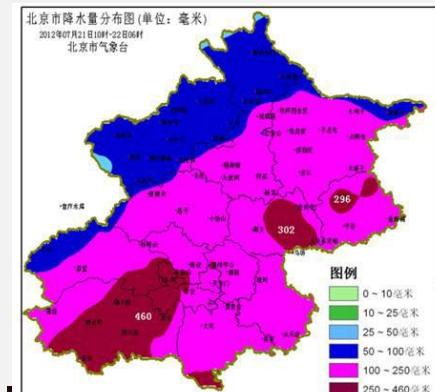
Zhang Hongping

Professor, advanced hydraulic engineer

China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research, IWHR

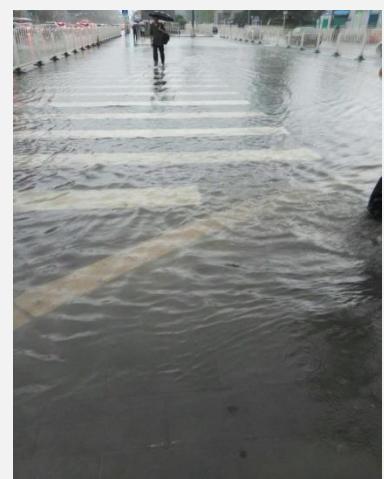
Two rainstorms in Beijing

- **A heavy Rainstorm hit Beijing on July 21, 2012**
 - About 2 million people were impacted and 79 died
 - 95 roads were inundated and many buses and cars were immerged
 - Many flights, trains, and subways were stopped
 - Economic lost was up to 10 billion Yuan

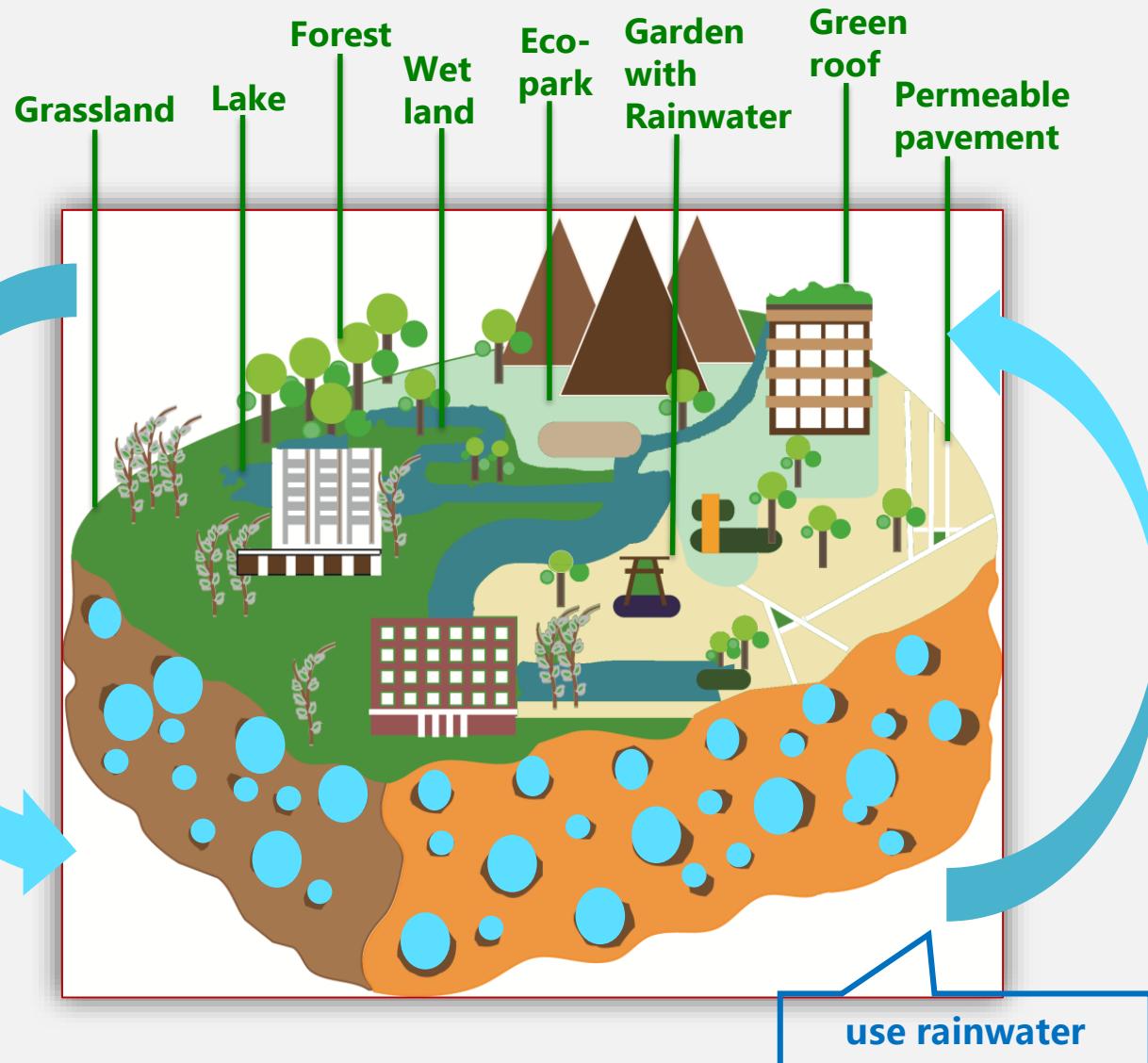


Two rainstorm in Beijing

- **A similar Rainstorm occurred on July 20, 2016**
 - No serious flooding and disaster
 - 1,178 rainwater utilization projects in place, retaining 8.76 million m³ water totally
 - The West Gravel Pit put in use and retained 3.7 million m³ water and effectively cut the flood peak from the West Mountain to the city center
 - After the rainstorm, groundwater increased 0.79 m and soil water content increased 20%.

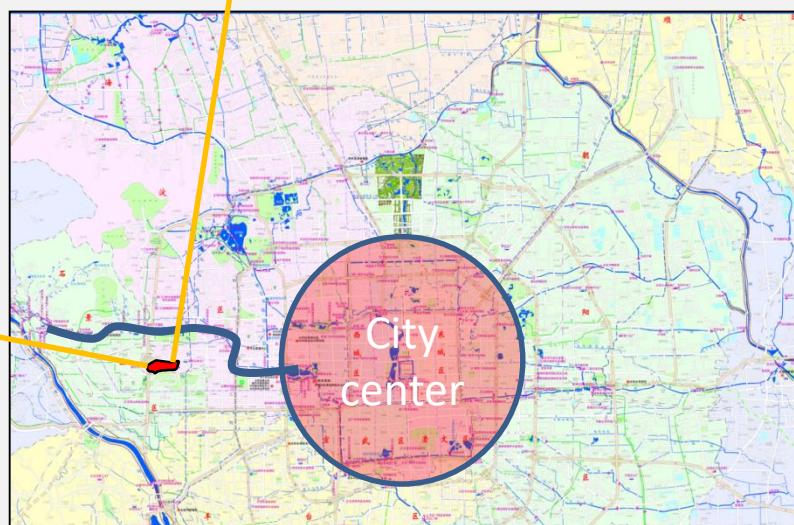
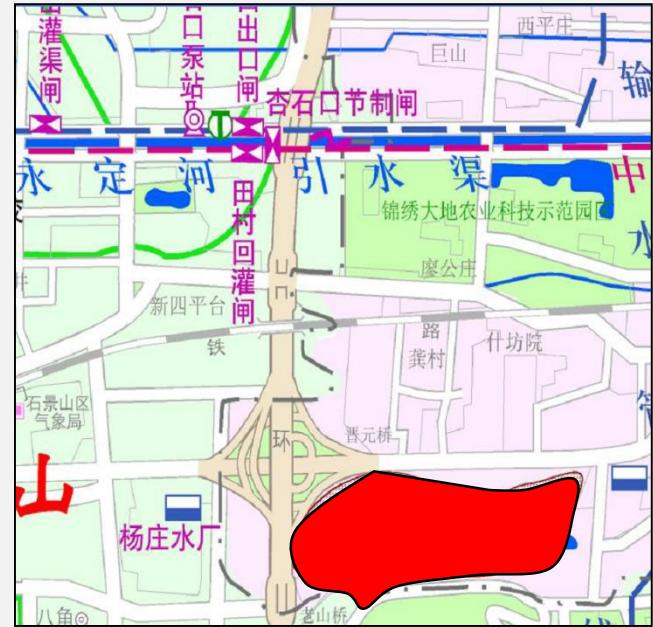
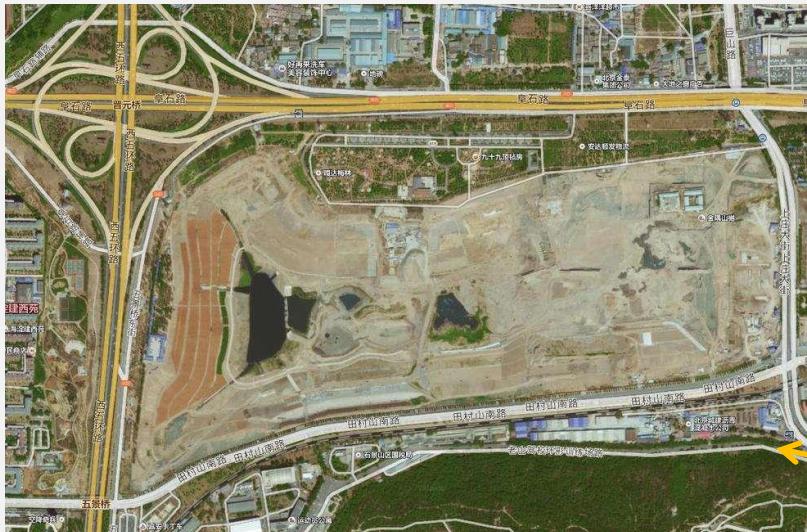


Concept of Sponge Cities



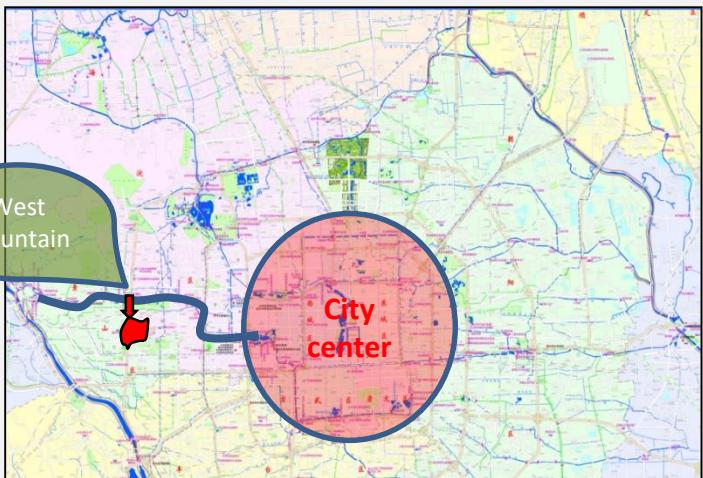
Case 1: West gravel pit

- In the Past:
 - A abandoned quarry with 32 hm²
 - Located at the West Mountain foot
 - Underground infiltration funnel



Case 1: West gravel pit

- Start restoration in 2014, and Put in use in 2016
 - It can catch the flood from the West Mountain with a volume: 6.8 million m³
 - It also can recharge groundwater 80 thousand m³ per day
 - It is a very beautiful city park



Case 2: Tongzhou New City



- Subsidiary administrative center
 - A trial sponge city in 2016
 - 14 sponge projects were finished until 2017
 - 40 sponge projects are in process



Case 2: Tongzhou New City

- Zijingyayuan, an old community with 11.61hm² and 17 buildings
- Sponge reforms:
 - Permeable paving
 - Sunken greenbelt
 - Rain garden
- Effects
 - Annual runoff volume control rate ≥75%;
 - Annual rainwater use rate ≥3%;
 - Annual runoff pollution control rate ≥37.5%.



Case 2: Tongzhou New City



- International Exchange

- April 11-12, 2018, Experts from Germany experts visited Tongzhou New City
- May 14, 2018, a conference on green city between Chinese and American experts was held in Beijing
- June 14, 2018, Experts from Demark visited Tongzhou New City



Challenges and Lessons



- Serious conflicts between building land and green land, especially during the rapid urbanization in China
- Shortage of personnels and experiences in the sponges city construction

*Thank You for
your attention*