

**SUSTAINABLE SITE DEVELOPMENT:
THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING AND PROTECTING SOILS**



KEVIN BIEHN, ASLA, CPESC, LEED AP BD+C
Landscape Architect
Emmons & Olivier Resources

Abstract

The Amery Regional Medical Center (ARMC) campus plan reflects the client’s mission “to provide ... quality healthcare and to promote the health and wellness of our community” by creating a synergy between the hospital, the adjacent Apple River, and the greater Amery community.

Constructed in 2006, the project serves as a regional precedent for its many sustainable features including: porous pavement, green roof, and bioretention.

The design and construction process exemplifies the importance of understanding site soils and the protection of soil health & structure. This presentation will explore the soil analysis process, soils as a design generator, and the nuances used to ensure soil protection.

Biography

Kevin Biehn has 16 years of experience as a landscape architect and fluvial geomorphologist. He possesses a unique blend of ecological, architectural and sustainable design expertise and has established a niche in water-centric projects.

Kevin has managed a diversity of challenging projects, including: the 1.6 million dollar Harriet Island Park Rehabilitation; the Rice Creek Meander Restoration, one of the largest stream restoration projects undertaken in Minnesota; and the Amery Regional Medical Center, a sustainable medical campus and recipient of both Minnesota and Wisconsin ASLA Landscape Architecture Design Awards.