

Rain Circle Idea a Long Shot

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It may not solve La Crosse's flooding problems, but supporters of so-called rain circles hope it makes a dent. City public works director Dale Hexom tells us he's not so sure a traffic circle-rain garden hybrid on the southside will do much to minimize flooding damage. Hexom says the real solution for intense flooding during heavy rains is big changes under the streets. He says the city needs bigger outlets into local waterways and larger diameter sewage pipes would have to go underground. Total cost? Tens of millions of dollars. The rain circle poised for approval by the city council tonight? Twenty thousand bucks or so.