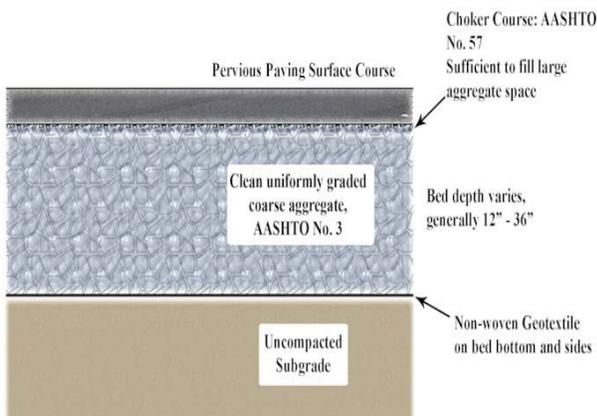


## BMP 6.4.1: Pervious Pavement with Infiltration Bed



Pervious pavement consists of a permeable surface course underlain by a uniformly-graded stone bed which provides temporary storage for peak rate control and promotes infiltration. The surface course may consist of porous asphalt, porous concrete, or various porous structural pavers laid on uncompacted soil.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Almost entirely for peak rate control</li> <li>▪ Water quality and quantity are not addressed</li> <li>▪ Short duration storage; rapid restoration of primary uses</li> <li>▪ Minimize safety risks, potential property damage, and user inconvenience</li> <li>▪ Emergency overflows</li> <li>▪ Maximum ponding depths</li> <li>▪ Flow control structures</li> <li>▪ Adequate surface slope to outlet</li> <li>▪ Waterproofing (rooftop storage)</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Limited<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Limited</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Very Low<br/>                 Recharge: Very Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Med./Low<br/>                 Water Quality: Low</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 0%<br/>                 TP: 0%<br/>                 NO3: 0%</p>   |

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

## Maintenance Issues

The primary goal of pervious pavement maintenance is to prevent the pavement surface and/or underlying infiltration bed from being clogged with fine sediments. To keep the system clean throughout the year and prolong its life span, the pavement surface should be vacuumed biannually with a commercial cleaning unit. **Pavement washing systems or compressed air units are not recommended.** All inlet structures within or draining to the infiltration beds should also be cleaned out biannually.

Planted areas adjacent to pervious pavement should be well maintained to prevent soil washout onto the pavement. If any washout does occur it should be cleaned off the pavement immediately to prevent further clogging of the pores. Furthermore, if any bare spots or eroded areas are observed within the planted areas, they should be replanted and/or stabilized at once. Planted areas should be inspected on a semiannual basis. All trash and other litter that is observed during these inspections should be removed.

Superficial dirt does not necessarily clog the pavement voids. However, dirt that is ground in repeatedly by tires can lead to clogging. Therefore, trucks or other heavy vehicles should be prevented from tracking or spilling dirt onto the pavement. Furthermore, all construction or hazardous materials carriers should be prohibited from entering a pervious pavement lot.

### Special Maintenance Considerations:

- Prevent Clogging of Pavement Surface with Sediment
  - Vacuum pavement 2 or 3 times per year
  - Maintain planted areas adjacent to pavement
  - Immediately clean any soil deposited on pavement
  - Do not allow construction staging, soil/mulch storage, etc. on unprotected pavement surface
  - Clean inlets draining to the subsurface bed twice per year

### Winter Maintenance

Winter maintenance for a pervious parking lot may be necessary but is usually less intensive than that required for a standard asphalt lot. By its very nature, a pervious pavement system with subsurface aggregate bed has superior snow melting characteristics than standard pavement. The underlying stone bed tends to absorb and retain heat so that freezing rain and snow melt faster on pervious pavement. Therefore, ice and light snow accumulation are generally not as problematic. However, snow will accumulate during heavier storms. Abrasives such as sand or cinders should not be applied on or adjacent to the pervious pavement. Snow plowing is fine, provided it is done carefully (i.e. by setting the blade slightly higher than usual, about an inch). Salt is acceptable for use as a deicer on the pervious pavement, though nontoxic, organic deicers, applied either as blended, magnesium chloride-based liquid products or as pretreated salt, are preferable.

### Repairs

Potholes in the pervious pavement are unlikely; though settling might occur if a soft spot in the subgrade is not removed during construction. For damaged areas of less than 50 square feet, a declivity could be patched by any means suitable with standard pavement, with the loss of porosity of that area being insignificant. The declivity can also be filled with pervious mix. If an

area greater than 50 sq. ft. is in need of repair, approval of patch type should be sought from either the engineer or owner. Under no circumstance should the pavement surface ever be seal coated. Any required repair of drainage structures should be done promptly to ensure continued proper functioning of the system.

**Cost Issues**

- Pervious asphalt, with additives, is generally 10% to 20% higher in cost than standard asphalt on a unit area basis.
- Pervious concrete as a material is generally more expensive than asphalt and requires more labor and experience for installation due to specific material constraints.
- Pervious paver blocks vary in cost depending on type and manufacturer.

The added cost of a pervious pavement/infiltration system lies in the underlying stone bed, which is generally deeper than a conventional subbase and wrapped in geotextile. However, this additional cost is often offset by the significant reduction in the required number of inlets and pipes. Also, since pervious pavement areas are often incorporated into the natural topography of a site, there generally is less earthwork and/or deep excavations involved. Furthermore, pervious pavement areas with subsurface infiltration beds often eliminate the need (and associated costs, space, etc.) for detention basins. When all of these factors are considered, pervious pavement with infiltration has proven itself less expensive than the impervious pavement with associated stormwater management. Recent installations have averaged between \$2000 and \$2500 per parking space, for the pavement and stormwater management.

**Specifications**

The following specifications are provided for informational purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

1. **Stone** for infiltration beds shall be 2-inch to 1-inch uniformly graded coarse aggregate, with a wash loss of no more than 0.5%, AASHTO size number 3 per AASHTO Specifications, Part I, 19th Ed., 1998, or later and shall have voids 40% as measured by ASTM-C29. Choker base course aggregate for beds shall be 3/8 inch to 3/4 inch uniformly graded coarse aggregate AASHTO size number 57 per Table 4, AASHTO Specifications, Part I, 13th Ed., 1998 (p. 47).
2. **Non-Woven Geotextile** shall consist of needled nonwoven polypropylene fibers and meet the following properties:
  - a. Grab Tensile Strength (ASTM-D4632) ≥ 120 lbs
  - b. Mullen Burst Strength (ASTM-D3786) ≥ 225 psi
  - c. Flow Rate (ASTM-D4491) ≥ 95 gal/min/ft<sup>2</sup>
  - d. UV Resistance after 500 hrs (ASTM-D4355) ≥ 70%
  - e. Heat-set or heat-calendared fabrics are not permitted.

Acceptable types include Mirafi 140N, Amoco 4547, Geotex 451, or approved others.

## BMP 6.4.2: Infiltration Basin



An Infiltration Basin is a shallow impoundment that stores and infiltrates runoff over a level, uncompacted, (preferably undisturbed area) with relatively permeable soils.

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|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Uncompacted sub-grade</li> <li>▪ Infiltration Guidelines and Soil Testing Protocols apply</li> <li>▪ Preserve existing vegetation, if possible</li> <li>▪ Design to hold/infiltrate volume difference in 2-yr storm or 1.5" storm</li> <li>▪ Provide positive stormwater overflow through engineered outlet structure.</li> <li>▪ Do not install on recently placed fill (&lt;5 years).</li> <li>▪ Allow 2 ft buffer between bed bottom and seasonal high groundwater table and 2 ft buffer for rock.</li> <li>▪ When possible, place on upland soils.</li> <li>▪</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited<br/>                 Industrial: Yes*<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Limited</p> <p><small>* Applicable with specific consideration to design.</small></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: High<br/>                 Recharge: High<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Med./High<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p> |
|---|--|

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

### Volume Reduction Calculations

$$\text{Volume} = \text{Depth}^* (\text{ft}) \times \text{Area} (\text{sf})$$

\*Depth is the depth of the water surface during a storm event, depending on the drainage area and conveyance to the bed.

$$\text{Infiltration Volume} = \text{Bed Bottom Area} (\text{sf}) \times \text{Infiltration design rate} (\text{in/hr}) \\ \times \text{Infiltration period}^* (\text{hr}) \times (1/12)$$

\*Infiltration Period is the time when the bed is receiving runoff and capable of infiltration. Not to exceed 72 hours.

**Peak Rate Mitigation Calculations:** See Chapter 8 for Peak Rate Mitigation methodology which addresses link between volume reduction and peak rate control.

**Water Quality Improvement:** See Chapter 8 for Water Quality Improvement methodology, which addresses pollutant removal effectiveness of this BMP.

### Construction Sequence

1. Protect Infiltration basin area from compaction prior to installation.
2. If possible, install Infiltration basin during later phases of site construction to prevent sedimentation and/or damage from construction activity. After installation, prevent sediment-laden water from entering inlets and pipes.
3. Install and maintain proper Erosion and Sediment Control Measures during construction.
4. If necessary, excavate Infiltration basin bottom to an uncompacted subgrade free from rocks and debris. Do NOT compact subgrade.
5. Install Outlet Control Structures.
6. Seed and stabilize topsoil. (Vegetate if appropriate with native plantings.)
7. Do not remove Inlet Protection or other Erosion and Sediment Control measures until site is fully stabilized.

### Maintenance and Inspection Issues

- Catch Basins and Inlets (upgradient of infiltration basin) should be inspected and cleaned at least two times per year and after runoff events.
- The vegetation along the surface of the Infiltration basin should be maintained in good condition, and any bare spots revegetated as soon as possible.
- Vehicles should not be parked or driven on an Infiltration Basin, and care should be taken to avoid excessive compaction by mowers.
- Inspect the basin after runoff events and make sure that runoff drains down within 72 hours. Mosquito's should not be a problem if the water drains in 72 hours. Mosquitoes require a

considerably long breeding period with relatively static water levels.

- Also inspect for accumulation of sediment, damage to outlet control structures, erosion control measures, signs of water contamination/spills, and slope stability in the berms.
- Mow only as appropriate for vegetative cover species.
- Remove accumulated sediment from basin as required. Restore original cross section and infiltration rate. Properly dispose of sediment.

### Cost Issues

The construction cost of Infiltration Basins can vary greatly depending on the configuration, location, site-specific conditions, etc.

Excavation (if necessary) - varies

Plantings - Meadow mix \$2500 - \$3500 / acre

Pipe Configuration – varies with stormwater configuration, may need to redirect pipes into the infiltration basin.

### Specifications

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

1. **Topsoil** amend with compost if necessary or desired. (See Soil Amendment & Restoration BMP 6.7.2)

2. **Vegetation** See Native Plant List available locally, and/or see Appendix B.

### References

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. *Index of Individual BMPs*. 2004. State of Michigan. <  
[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/1,1607,7-135-3313\\_3682\\_3714-13186—,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/1,1607,7-135-3313_3682_3714-13186—,00.html)>

Young, et. al., "Evaluation and Management of Highway Runoff Water Quality," Federal Highway Administration, 1996

California Stormwater Quality Association. *California Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbook: New Development and Redevelopment*. 2003.

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services. *Minnesota Urban Small Sites BMP Manual*. 2001.

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. *New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual*. 2004.

## BMP 6.4.3: Subsurface Infiltration Bed



Subsurface Infiltration Beds provide temporary storage and infiltration of stormwater runoff by placing storage media of varying types beneath the proposed surface grade. Vegetation will help to increase the amount of evapotranspiration taking place.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Beds filled with stone (or alternative) as needed to increase void space</li> <li>▪ Wrapped in nonwoven geotextile</li> <li>▪ Level or nearly level bed bottoms</li> <li>▪ Provide positive stormwater overflow from beds</li> <li>▪ Protect from sedimentation during construction</li> <li>▪ Provide perforated pipe network along bed bottom for distribution as necessary</li> <li>▪ Open-graded, clean stone with minimum 40% void space</li> <li>▪ Do not place bed bottom on compacted fill</li> <li>• Allow 2 ft. buffer between bed bottom and seasonal high groundwater table and 2 ft. for bedrock.</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Limited</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: High<br/>                 Recharge: High<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Med./High<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p>  |

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

6. Install upstream and downstream control structures, cleanouts, perforated piping, and all other necessary stormwater structures.
7. Geotextile and bed aggregate should be placed immediately after approval of subgrade preparation and installation of structures. Geotextile should be placed in accordance with manufacturer's standards and recommendations. Adjacent strips of geotextile should overlap a minimum of 16 inches. It should also be secured at least 4 feet outside of bed in order to prevent any runoff or sediment from entering the storage bed. This edge strip should remain in place until all bare soils contiguous to beds are stabilized and vegetated. As the site is fully stabilized, excess geotextile along bed edges can be cut back to the edge of the bed.
8. Clean-washed, uniformly graded aggregate should be placed in the bed in maximum 8-inch lifts. Each layer should be lightly compacted, with construction equipment kept off the bed bottom as much as possible.
9. Approved soil media should be placed over infiltration bed in maximum 6-inch lifts.
10. Seed and stabilize topsoil.
11. Do not remove inlet protection or other Erosion and Sediment Control measures until site is fully stabilized.

## Maintenance Issues

Subsurface Infiltration is generally less maintenance intensive than other practices of its type. Generally speaking, vegetation associated with Subsurface Infiltration practices is less substantial than practices such as Recharge Gardens and Vegetated Swales and therefore requires less maintenance. Maintenance activities required for the subsurface bed are similar to those of any infiltration system and focus on regular sediment and debris removal. The following represents the recommended maintenance efforts:

- All Catch Basins and Inlets should be inspected and cleaned at least 2 times per year.
- The overlying vegetation of Subsurface Infiltration features should be maintained in good condition, and any bare spots revegetated as soon as possible.
- Vehicular access on Subsurface Infiltration areas should be prohibited, and care should be taken to avoid excessive compaction by mowers. If access is needed, use of permeable, turf reinforcement should be considered.

## Cost Issues

The construction cost of Subsurface Infiltration can vary greatly depending on design variations, configuration, location, desired storage volume, and site-specific conditions, among other factors. Typical construction costs are about \$5.70 per square foot, which includes excavation, aggregate (2.0 feet assumed), non-woven geotextile, pipes and plantings.

## BMP 6.4.4: Infiltration Trench



An Infiltration Trench is a “leaky” pipe in a stone filled trench with a level bottom. An Infiltration Trench may be used as part of a larger storm sewer system, such as a relatively flat section of storm sewer, or it may serve as a portion of a stormwater system for a small area, such as a portion of a roof or a single catch basin. In all cases, an Infiltration Trench should be designed with a positive overflow.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Continuously perforated pipe set at a minimum slope in a stone filled, level-bottomed trench</li> <li>▪ Limited in width (3 to 8 feet) and depth of stone (6 feet max. recommended)</li> <li>▪ Trench is wrapped in nonwoven geotextile (top, sides, and bottom)</li> <li>▪ Placed on uncompacted soils</li> <li>▪ Minimum cover over pipe is 12 inches</li> <li>▪ A minimum of 6" of topsoil is placed over trench and vegetated</li> <li>▪ Positive Overflow always provided</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes*<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes*<br/>                 Industrial: Yes*<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes*<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* With consideration of hotspots</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: Medium<br/>                 Recharge: High<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Medium<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p> |
|--|---|

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

## Maintenance and Inspection Issues

- Catch Basins and Inlets should be inspected and cleaned at least 2 times per year.
- The vegetation along the surface of the Infiltration Trench should be maintained in good condition, and any bare spots revegetated as soon as possible.
- Vehicles should not be parked or driven on a vegetated Infiltration Trench, and care should be taken to avoid excessive compaction by mowers.

## Cost Issues

The construction cost of infiltration trenches can vary greatly depending on the configuration, location, site-specific conditions, etc. Typical construction costs in 2003 dollars range from \$4 - \$9 per cubic foot of storage provided (SWRPC, 1991; Brown and Schueler, 1997). Annual maintenance costs have been reported to be approximately 5 to 10 percent of the capital costs (Schueler, 1987).

## Specifications

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

**1. Stone** for infiltration trenches shall be 2-inch to 1-inch uniformly graded coarse aggregate, with a wash loss of no more than 0.5%, AASHTO size number 3 per AASHTO Specifications, Part I, 19th Ed., 1998, or later and shall have voids 40% as measured by ASTM-C29.

**2. Non-Woven Geotextile** shall consist of needled nonwoven polypropylene fibers and meet the following properties:

- a. Grab Tensile Strength (ASTM-D4632)
  - b. Mullen Burst Strength (ASTM-D3786)
  - c. Flow Rate (ASTM-D4491)
  - d. UV Resistance after 500 hrs (ASTM-D4355) 70%
  - e. Heat-set or heat-calendared fabrics are not permitted
- Acceptable types include Mirafi 140N, Amoco 4547, and Geotex 451.

**3. Pipe** shall be continuously perforated, smooth interior, with a minimum inside diameter of 8-inches. High-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe shall meet AASHTO M252, Type S or AASHTO M294, Type S.

## References

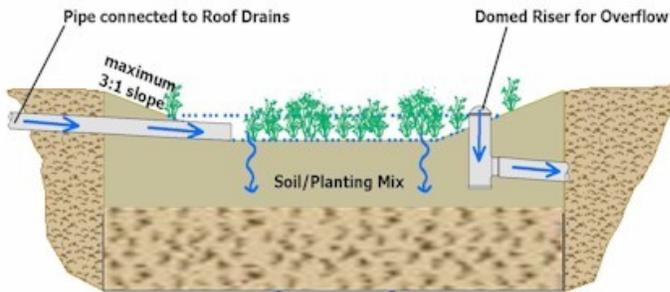
Brown and Schueler, *Stormwater Management Fact Sheet: Infiltration Trench*. 1997.

Schueler, T., 1987. *Controlling urban runoff: a practical manual for planning and designing urban BMPs*, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, DC

SWRPC, The Use of of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in Urban Watersheds, US Environmental Protection Agency, 1991.

## BMP 6.4.5: Rain Garden/Bioretention

### RECHARGE GARDEN / BIORETENTION BED



A Rain Garden (also called Bioretention) is an excavated shallow surface depression planted with specially selected native vegetation to treat and capture runoff.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Flexible in terms of size and infiltration</li> <li>▪ Ponding depths generally limited to 6 inches or less for aesthetics, safety, and rapid draw down. Certain situations may allow deeper ponding depths.</li> <li>▪ Deep rooted perennials and trees encouraged</li> <li>▪ Native vegetation that is tolerant of hydrologic variability, salts and environmental stress</li> <li>▪ Modify soil with compost.</li> <li>▪ Stable inflow/outflow conditions</li> <li>▪ Provide positive overflow</li> <li>▪ Maintenance to ensure long-term functionality</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Ultra Yes<br/>                 Urban: Industrial: Yes Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Medium<br/>                 Recharge: Med./High<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low/Med.<br/>                 Water Quality: Med./High</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: TP: 85% 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p> |
|---|--|

### Other Considerations

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

## Maintenance Issues

Properly designed and installed Rain Gardens require some regular maintenance.

- While vegetation is being established, pruning and weeding may be required. Weeds should be removed thereafter by hand.
- Detritus may also need to be removed approximately twice per year. Perennial plantings may be cut down at the end of the growing season.
- Mulch should be re-spread when erosion is evident and be replenished annually. Once every 2 to 3 years the entire area may require mulch replacement.
- Rain Gardens should be inspected at least two times per year for sediment buildup, erosion, vegetative conditions, etc.
- During periods of extended drought, Rain Gardens may require watering.
- Rain Gardens should not be mowed on a regular basis.
- Trees and shrubs should be inspected twice per year to evaluate health.

## Cost Issues

Rain Gardens often replace areas that would have been landscaped and are maintenance-intensive so that the net cost can be considerably less than the actual construction cost. In addition, the use of Rain Gardens can decrease the cost for stormwater conveyance systems at a site. Rain Gardens cost approximately \$5 to \$7 per cubic foot of storage to construct.

## Specifications

The following specifications are provided for informational purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

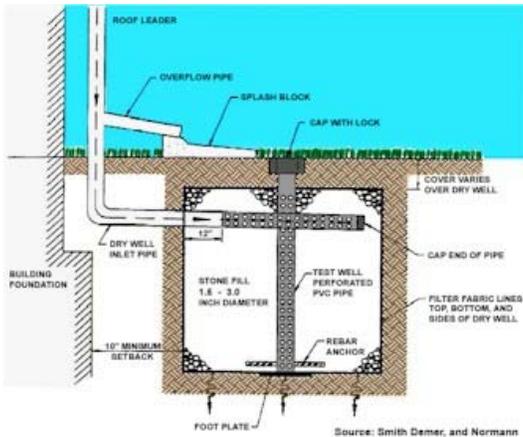
### 1. Topsoil Specifications

### 2. Vegetation - See Appendix B

### 3. Execution

- a. Owner and Engineer shall be notified at least 24 hours prior to all work.
- b. Subgrade preparation
  1. Existing sub-grade in Rain Gardens shall NOT be compacted or subject to excessive construction equipment traffic.

## BMP 6.4.6: Dry Well / Seepage Pit



A Dry Well, or Seepage Pit, is a variation on an Infiltration system that is designed to temporarily store and infiltrate rooftop runoff.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Maintain minimum distance from building foundation (typically 10 feet)</li> <li>▪ Provide adequate overflow outlet for large storms</li> <li>▪ Depth of Dry Well aggregate should be between 18 and 48 inches</li> <li>▪ At least one observation well; clean out is recommended</li> <li>▪ Wrap aggregate with nonwoven geotextile</li> <li>▪ Maximum drain-down time is 72 hours</li> <li>▪ Provide pretreatment for some situations</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Limited<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: No</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Medium<br/>                 Recharge: High<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Medium<br/>                 Water Quality: Medium</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS:                      TP: 85%    85%<br/>                    NO3: 30%</p>   |

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

12. Do not remove Erosion and Sediment Control measures until site is fully stabilized.

**Maintenance Issues**

As with all infiltration practices, Dry Wells require regular and effective maintenance to ensure prolonged functioning. The following represent minimum maintenance requirements for Dry Wells:

- Inspect Dry Wells at least four times a year, as well as after every storm exceeding 1 inch.
- Dispose of sediment, debris/trash, and any other waste material removed from a Dry Well at suitable disposal/recycling sites and in compliance with local, state, and federal waste regulations.
- Evaluate the drain-down time of the Dry Well to ensure the maximum time of 72 hours is not being exceeded. If drain-down times are exceeding the maximum, drain the Dry Well via pumping and clean out perforated piping, if included. If slow drainage persists, the system may need replacing.
- Regularly clean out gutters and ensure proper connections to facilitate the effectiveness of the dry well.
- Replace filter screen that intercepts roof runoff as necessary.
- If an intermediate sump box exists, clean it out at least once per year.

**Cost Issues**

The construction cost of a Dry Well/Seepage Pit can vary greatly depending on design variability, configuration, location, site-specific conditions, etc. Typical construction costs in 2003 dollars range from \$4 - \$9 per cubic foot of storage volume provided (SWRPC, 1991; Brown and Schueler, 1997). Annual maintenance costs have been reported to be approximately 5 to 10 percent of the capital costs (Schueler, 1987). The cost of gutters is typically included in the total structure cost, as opposed

**Specifications**

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

**1. Stone** for infiltration trenches shall be 2-inch to 1-inch uniformly graded coarse aggregate, with a wash loss of no more than 0.5%, AASHTO size No. 3 per AASHTO Specifications, Part I, 19th Ed., 1998, or later and shall have voids 40% as measured by ASTM-C29.

**2. Nonwoven Geotextile** shall consist of needled nonwoven polypropylene fibers and meet the following properties:

- a. Grab Tensile Strength (ASTM-D4632) <sup>3</sup> 120 lbs
- b. Mullen Burst Strength (ASTM-D3786) <sup>3</sup> 225 psi
- c. Flow Rate (ASTM-D4491) <sup>3</sup> 95 gal/min/ft<sup>2</sup>
- d. UV Resistance after 500 hrs (ASTM-D4355) <sup>3</sup> 70%
- e. Heat-set or heat-calendared fabrics are not permitted  
Acceptable types include Mirafi 140N, Amoco 4547, and Geotex 451.

## BMP 6.4.7: Constructed Filter



Filters are structures or excavated areas containing a layer of sand, compost, organic material, peat, or other filter media that reduce pollutant levels in stormwater runoff by filtering sediments, metals, hydrocarbons, and other pollutants.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Drain down – should empty within 72 hrs</li> <li>▪ Minimum permeability of filtration medium required</li> <li>▪ Minimum depth of filtering medium = 12"</li> <li>▪ Perforated pipes in stone, as required</li> <li>▪ May be designed to collect and convey filtered runoff down-gradient</li> <li>▪ May be designed to infiltrate</li> <li>▪ Pretreatment for debris and sediment may be needed</li> <li>▪ Should be sized for drainage area</li> <li>▪ Regular inspection and maintenance required for continued functioning</li> <li>▪ Positive overflow is needed</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Limited<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: Low-High*<br/>                 Recharge: Low-High*<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low-High*<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* Depends on if infiltration is used</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p> |
|---|---|

**Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C
- Certain applications may warrant spill containment.

## Maintenance and Inspection

Filters require a regular inspection and maintenance program in order to maintain the integrity of the filtering system and pollutant removal mechanisms. Studies have shown that filters are very effective upon installation, but quickly decrease in efficiency as sediment accumulates in the filter. (Urbonas, Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, CO) Odor is also a concern for filters that are not maintained. Inspection of the filter is recommended at least **four times a year**.

During inspection the following conditions should be considered:

- **Standing water** – any water left in a surface filter after the design drain down time indicates the filter is not optimally functioning.
- **Film or discoloration** of any surface filter material – this indicates organics or debris have clogged the filter surface.



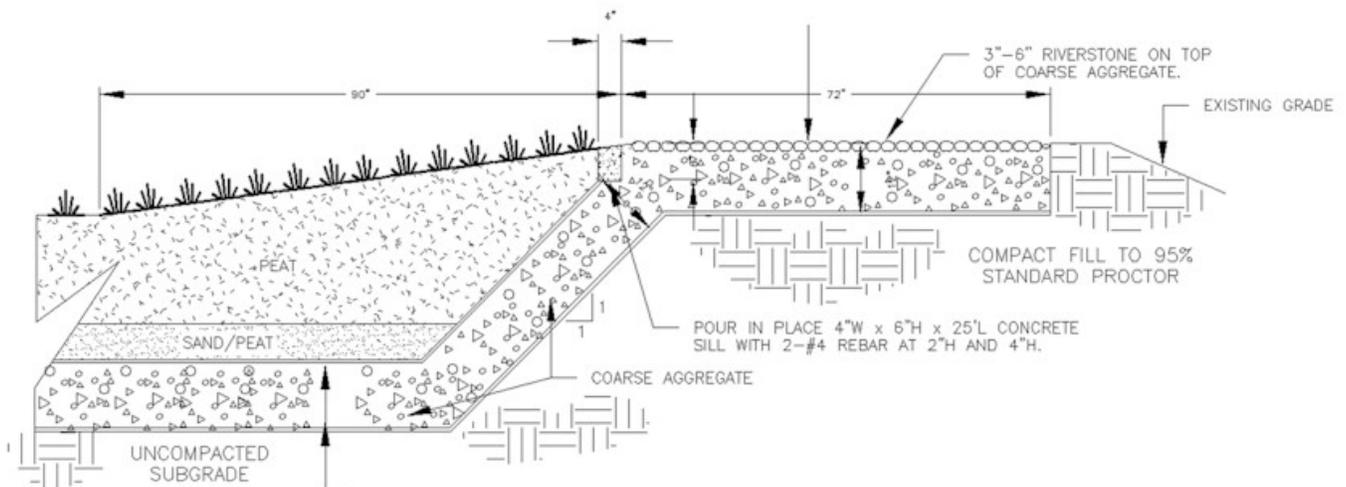
### Filter Maintenance

- Remove trash and debris as necessary
- Scrape silt with rakes
- Till and aerate filter area
- Replace filtering medium if scraping/removal has reduced depth of filtering media

In areas where the potential exists for the discharge and accumulation of toxic pollutants (such as metals), filter media removed from filters must be handled and disposed of in accordance with all state and federal regulations.

### Winter concerns

Pennsylvania's winter temperatures go below freezing about four months out of every year, and surface filtration may not take place as well in the winter. Peat and compost may hold water, freeze, and become impervious on the surface. Design options that allow directly for subsurface discharge into the filter media during cold weather may overcome this condition.



## BMP 6.4.8: Vegetated Swale



A Vegetated Swale is a broad, shallow, trapezoidal or parabolic channel, densely planted with a variety of trees, shrubs, and/or grasses. It is designed to attenuate and in some cases infiltrate runoff volume from adjacent impervious surfaces, allowing some pollutants to settle out in the process. In steeper slope situations, check dams may be used to further enhance attenuation and infiltration opportunities.

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|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Plant dense, low-growing native vegetation that is water-resistant, drought and salt tolerant, providing substantial pollutant removal capabilities</li> <li>▪ Longitudinal slopes range from 1 to 6%</li> <li>▪ Side slopes range from 3:1 to 5:1</li> <li>▪ Bottom width of 2 to 8 feet</li> <li>▪ Check-dams can provide limited detention storage, as well as enhanced volume control through infiltration. Care must be taken to prevent erosion around the dam</li> <li>▪ Convey the 10-year storm event with a minimum of 6 inches of freeboard</li> <li>▪ Designed for non-erosive velocities up to the 10-year storm event</li> <li>▪ Design to aesthetically fit into the landscape, where possible</li> <li>▪ Significantly slow the rate of runoff conveyance compared to pipes</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Limited<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes*<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Low/Med.<br/>                 Recharge: Low/Med.<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Med./High<br/>                 Water Quality: Med./High</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 50%<br/>                 TP: 50%<br/>                 NO3: 20%</p>   |

### **Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed whenever infiltration of runoff is desired, see Appendix C

5. Seed, vegetate and install protective lining as per approved plans and according to final planting list. Plant the swale at a time of the year when successful establishment without irrigation is most likely. However, temporary irrigation may be needed in periods of little rain or drought. Vegetation should be established as soon as possible to prevent erosion and scour.
6. Once all tributary areas are sufficiently stabilized, remove temporary erosion and sediment controls. It is very important that the swale be stabilized before receiving upland stormwater flow.
7. Follow maintenance guidelines, as discussed below.

Note: If a vegetated swale is used for runoff conveyance during construction, it should be regraded and reseeded immediately after construction and stabilization has occurred. Any damaged areas should be fully restored to ensure future functionality of the swale.

**Maintenance Issues**

Compared to other stormwater management measures, the required upkeep of vegetated swales is relatively low. In general, maintenance strategies for swales focus on sustaining the hydraulic and pollutant removal efficiency of the channel, as well as maintaining a dense vegetative cover. Experience has proven that proper maintenance activities ensure the functionality of vegetated swales for many years. The following schedule of inspection and maintenance activities is recommended:

**Maintenance activities to be done annually and within 48 hours after every major storm event (> 1 inch rainfall depth):**

- Inspect and correct erosion problems, damage to vegetation, and sediment and debris accumulation (address when > 3 inches at any spot or covering vegetation)
- Inspect vegetation on side slopes for erosion and formation of rills or gullies, correct as needed
- Inspect for pools of standing water; dewater and discharge to a sanitary sewer at an approved location and restore to design grade
- Mow and trim vegetation to ensure safety, aesthetics, proper swale operation, or to suppress weeds and invasive vegetation; dispose of cuttings in a local composting facility; mow only when swale is dry to avoid rutting
- Inspect for litter; remove prior to mowing
- Inspect for uniformity in cross-section and longitudinal slope, correct as needed
- Inspect swale inlet (curb cuts, pipes, etc.) and outlet for signs of erosion or blockage, correct as needed

**Maintenance activities to be done as needed:**

- Plant alternative grass species in the event of unsuccessful establishment

- Reseed bare areas; install appropriate erosion control measures when native soil is exposed or erosion channels are forming
- Rototill and replant swale if draw down time is more than 48 hours
- Inspect and correct check dams when signs of altered water flow (channelization, obstructions, erosion, etc.) are identified
- Water during dry periods, fertilize, and apply pesticide **only when absolutely necessary**

Most of the above maintenance activities are reasonably within the ability of individual homeowners. More intensive swales (i.e. more substantial vegetation, check dams, etc.) may warrant more intensive maintenance duties and should be vested with a responsible agency. A legally binding and enforceable maintenance agreement between the facility owner and the local review authority might be warranted to ensure sustained maintenance execution. Winter conditions also necessitate additional maintenance concerns, which include the following:

- Inspect swale immediately after the spring melt, remove residuals (e.g. sand) and replace damaged vegetation without disturbing remaining vegetation.
- If roadside or parking lot runoff is directed to the swale, mulching and/or soil aeration/manipulation may be required in the spring to restore soil structure and moisture capacity and to reduce the impacts of deicing agents.
- Use nontoxic, organic deicing agents, applied either as blended, magnesium chloride-based liquid products or as pretreated salt.
- Use salt-tolerant vegetation in swales.

**Cost Issues**

As with all other BMPs, the cost of installing and maintaining Vegetated Swales varies widely with design variability, local labor/material rates, real estate value, and contingencies. In general, Vegetated Swales are considered relatively low cost control measures. Moreover, experience has shown that Vegetated Swales provide a cost-effective alternative to traditional curbs and gutters, including associated underground storm sewers. The following table compares the cost of a typical vegetated swale (15 ft top width) with the cost of traditional conveyance elements.

| Structure:                          | Swale   | Underground Pipe                  | Curb & Gutter |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Construction Cost (per linear foot) | \$4.50 - \$8.50 (from seed)<br>\$15 - \$20 (from sod) | \$2 per foot per inch of diameter | \$13 - \$15   |
| Annual O&M cost (per linear foot)   | \$0.75  | No data                           | No data       |
| Total Annual Cost (per linear foot) | \$1 (from seed)      \$2<br>(from sod)                | No data                           | No data       |
| Lifetime (years)                    | 50  |                                   | 20            |

## BMP 6.4.9: Vegetated Filter Strip

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The EPA defines a Vegetated Filter Strip as a “permanent, maintained strip of planted or indigenous vegetation located between nonpoint sources of pollution and receiving water bodies for the purpose of removing or mitigating the effects of nonpoint source pollutants such as nutrients, pesticides, sediments, and suspended solids.”

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sheet Flow across Vegetated Filter Strip</li> <li>▪ Filter Strip length is a function of the slope, vegetative cover, and soil type.</li> <li>▪ Minimum recommended length of Filter Strip is 25 ft, however shorter lengths provide some water quality benefits as well.</li> <li>▪ Maximum Filter Strip slope is based on soil type and vegetated cover.</li> <li>▪ Filter strip slope should never exceed 8%. Slopes less than 5% are generally preferred.</li> <li>▪ Level spreading devices are recommended to provide uniform sheet flow conditions at the interface of the Filter Strip and the adjacent land cover.</li> <li>▪ Maximum contributing drainage area slope is generally less than 5%, unless energy dissipation is provided.</li> <li>▪ Minimum filter strip width should equal the width of the contributing drainage area.</li> <li>▪ Construction of filter strip should entail as little disturbance to existing vegetation at the site as possible.</li> <li>▪ See Appendix B for list of acceptable filter strip vegetation.</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes*<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited*<br/>                 Industrial: Limited*<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: Low/Med.<br/>                 Recharge: Low/Med.<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 30%<br/>                 TP: 20%<br/>                 NO3: 10%</p> |
|--|---|

**Other Considerations**

- Regular maintenance required for continued performance

6. Seed or sod, as desired. Plant more substantial vegetation, such as trees and shrubs, if proposed. If sod is proposed, place tiles tightly enough to avoid gaps and stagger the ends to prevent channelization along the strip. Use a roller on sod to prevent air pockets between the sod and soil from forming.
7. Concurrent with #6, stabilize seeded filter strips with appropriate permanent soil stabilization methods, such as erosion control matting or blankets. Erosion control for seeded filter strips should be maintained for at least the first 75 days following the first storm event of the season.
8. Once the filter strip is sufficiently stabilized, remove temporary erosion and sediment controls. It is very important that filter strip vegetation be fully established before receiving upland stormwater flow. One full growing season is the recommended minimum time for establishment. Some seed mixtures may require a longer time period to become established.
9. Follow maintenance guidelines, as discussed below.

Note: When and if a filter strip is used for temporary sediment control, it might need to be regraded and reseeded immediately after construction and stabilization has occurred.

## Maintenance Issues

As with other vegetated BMPs, filter strips should be properly maintained to ensure their effectiveness. In particular, it is critical that sheet flow conditions and infiltration are sustained throughout the life of the filter strip. Field observations of strips in more urban settings show that their effectiveness can deteriorate due to lack of maintenance, inadequate design/location, and poor vegetative cover. Compared with other vegetated BMPs, filter strips require only minimal maintenance efforts, many of which may overlap with standard landscaping demands.

Vegetated filter strip components that receive or trap sediment and debris should be inspected for clogging, density of vegetation, damage by foot or vehicular traffic, excessive accumulations, and channelization. Inspections should be made on a quarterly basis for the first two years following installation, and then on a biannual basis thereafter. Inspections should also be made after every storm event greater than 1 in during the establishment period. Guidance information, usually in written manual form, for operating and maintaining filter strips should be provided to all facility owners and tenants. Facility owners are encouraged to keep an inspection log, where they can record all inspection dates, observations, and maintenance activities.

Sediment and debris should be routinely removed (but never less than biannually), or upon observation, when buildup exceeds 2 inches in depth in either the strip itself or the level spreader. If erosion is observed, measures should be taken to improve the level spreader or other dispersion method to address the source of erosion. Rills and gullies observed along the strip may be filled with topsoil, stabilized with erosion control matting, and either seeded or sodded, as desired. For channels less than 12 inches wide, filling with crushed gravel, which allows grass to creep in over time, is acceptable. For wider channels, i.e. greater than 12 inches, regrading and reseeding may be necessary. (Small bare areas may only require overseeding.) Regrading may also be required when pools of standing water are observed along the slope. (In no case should standing water be tolerated for longer than 48-72 hours.) If check dams are proposed, they should be inspected for cracks, rot, structural damage, obstructions, or any other factors that cause altered flow patterns or channelization. Inlets or sediment sumps that drain to filter strips should be cleaned periodically or as needed.

Sediment should be removed when the filter strip is thoroughly dry. Trash and debris removed from the site should be deposited only at suitable disposal/recycling sites and must comply with applicable local, state, and federal waste regulations. In the case where a filter strip is used for sediment control, it should be regraded and reseeded immediately after construction has concluded.

Maintaining a vigorous vegetative cover on a filter strip is critical for maximizing pollutant removal efficiency and erosion prevention. Grass cover should be mowed, with low ground pressure equipment, as needed to maintain a height of 4-6 inches. Mowing should be done only when the soil is dry, in order to prevent tracking damage to vegetation, soil compaction, and flow concentrations. Generally speaking, grasses should be allowed to grow as high as possible, but mowed frequently enough to avoid troublesome insects or noxious weeds. Fall mowing should be controlled to a grass height of 6 inches, to provide adequate wildlife winter habitat. When and where cutting is desired for aesthetic reasons, a high blade setting should be used.

If vegetative cover is not fully established within the designated time, it should be replaced with an alternative species. It is standard practice to contractually require the contractor to replace dead vegetation. Unwanted or invasive growth should be removed on an annual basis. Biweekly inspections are recommended for at least the first growing season, or until the vegetation is permanently established. Once the vegetation is established, inspections of health, diversity, and density should be performed at least twice per year, during both the growing and non-growing season. Vegetative cover should be sustained at 85% and reestablished if damage greater than 50% is observed. Whenever possible, deficiencies in vegetation are to be mollified without the use of fertilizers or pesticides. These treatment options, as well as any other methods used to achieve optimum vegetative health, should only be used under special circumstances and if they do not compromise the functionality of the filter strip.

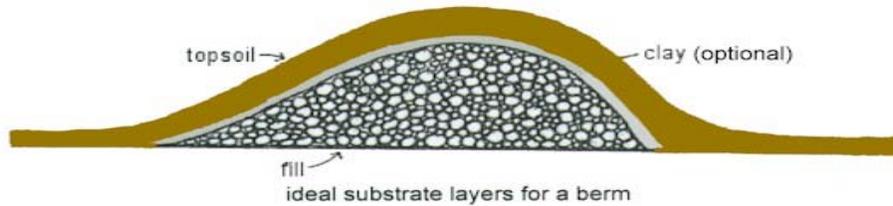
Two other maintenance recommendations involve soil aeration and drain down time. If a filter strip exhibits signs of poor drainage and/or vegetative cover, periodic soil aeration may be needed. In addition, depending on soil characteristics, the strip may need periodic liming. The design and maintenance plan of filter strips, especially those with flow obstructions should specify the approximate time it would take for the system to “drain down” the maximum design storm runoff volume. Post-rainfall inspections should include evaluations of the filter’s actual drain down time compared to the specified time. If significant differences (either increase or decrease) are observed, or if the 72 hour maximum time is exceeded, strip characteristics such as soils, vegetation, and groundwater levels should be reevaluated. Measures should be taken to establish, or reestablish as the case may be, the specified drain down time of the system.

## **Cost Issues**

The real cost of filter strips is the land they require. When unused land is readily available at a site, filter strips may prove a sensible and cost-effective approach. However, where land costs are at a premium (i.e. not readily available), this practice may prove cost-prohibitive in the end. The cost of establishing a filter strip itself is relatively minor. Of course, the cost is even less when an existing grass or meadow area is identified as a possible filter strip area before development begins.

The cost of filter strips includes grading, sodding (when applicable), installation of vegetation (trees, shrubs, etc.), the construction of a level spreader, and the construction of a pervious berm, if proposed. Depending on whether seed or sod is applied, not to mention enhanced vegetation use or design variations, construction costs may range anywhere from \$0 (assuming the area was to be grassed regardless of use as treatment) to \$50,000 per acre. The annual cost of maintaining filter strips

## BMP 6.4.10: Infiltration Berm & Retentive Grading



An Infiltration Berm is a mound of compacted earth with sloping sides that is usually located along a contour on relatively gently sloping sites. Berms can also be created through excavation/removal of upslope material, effectively creating a Berm with the original grade. Berms may serve various stormwater drainage functions including: creating a barrier to flow, retaining flow and allowing infiltration for volume control, and directing flows. Grading may be designed in some cases to prevent rather than promote stormwater flows, through creation of "saucers" or "lips" in site yard areas where temporary retention of stormwater does not interfere with use.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain a minimum 2-foot separation to bedrock and seasonally high water table, provide distributed infiltration area (5:1 impervious area to infiltration area - maximum), site on natural, uncompacted soils with acceptable infiltration capacity, and follow other guidelines described in Protocol 2: Infiltration Systems Guidelines</li> <li>▪ Berms should be relatively low, preferably no more than 24 inches in height.</li> <li>▪ If berms are to be mowed, the berm side slopes should not exceed a ratio of 4:1 to avoid "scalping" by mower blades.</li> <li>▪ The crest of the berm should be located near one edge of the berm, rather than in the middle, to allow for a more natural, asymmetrical shape.</li> <li>▪ Berms should be vegetated with turf grass at a minimum, however more substantial plantings such as meadow vegetation, shrubs and trees are recommended.</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Low/Med.<br/>                 Recharge: Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Medium<br/>                 Water Quality: Med./High</p>   |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 60%<br/>                 TP: 50%<br/>                 NO3: 40%</p>  |

### **Other Considerations**

- **Protocol 1. Site Evaluation and Soil Infiltration Testing** and **Protocol 2. Infiltration Systems Guidelines** should be followed, see Appendix C

5. Protect the surface ponding area at the base of the berm from compaction. If compaction of this area does occur, scarify soil to a depth of at least 8 inches.
6. Complete final grading of the berm after the top layer of soil is added. Tamp soil down lightly and smooth sides of the berm. The crest and base of the berm should be at level grade.
7. Plant berm with turf, meadow plants, shrubs or trees, as desired.
8. Mulch planted and disturbed areas with compost mulch to prevent erosion while plants become established.

## Maintenance Issues

Infiltration Berms have low to moderate maintenance requirements, depending on the design.

### Infiltration Berms

- Regularly inspect to ensure they are infiltrating; monitor drawdown time after major storm events
- Inspect any structural components, such as inlet structures to ensure proper functionality
- If planted in turf grass, maintain by mowing. Other vegetation will require less maintenance. Trees and shrubs may require annual mulching, while meadow planting requires annual mowing and clippings removal.
- Avoid running heavy equipment over the infiltration area at the base of the berms. The crest of the berm may be used as access for heavy equipment when necessary to limit disturbance.
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers in and around infiltration structures.
- Routinely remove accumulated trash and debris.
- Remove invasive plants as needed
- Inspect for signs of flow channelization; restore level gradient immediately after deficiencies are observed

### Diversion Berms

- Regularly inspect for erosion or other failures.
- Regularly inspect structural components to ensure functionality.
- Maintain turf grass and other vegetation by mowing and re-mulching.
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers where stormwater will be conveyed.
- Remove invasive plants as needed.
- Routinely remove accumulated trash and debris.

## Cost Issues

Generally speaking, construction and maintenance costs are comparable to that of large stormwater basins. Because berms can be incorporated into the landscape and can provide aesthetic value some of their cost can be offset. Woodland infiltration berms can be less expensive than other BMP options because extensive clearing and grubbing of existing woodlands is not necessary as it is for installation of conventional stormwater management facilities. Cost will depend on height, length and width of berms as well as desired vegetation.

## Specifications

## BMP 6.6.1: Constructed Wetland



Constructed Wetlands are shallow marsh systems planted with emergent vegetation that are designed to treat stormwater runoff.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adequate drainage area (usually 5 to 10 acres minimum)</li> <li>▪ Maintenance of permanent water surface</li> <li>▪ Multiple vegetative growth zones through varying depths</li> <li>▪ Robust and diverse vegetation</li> <li>▪ Relatively impermeable soils or engineered liner</li> <li>▪ Sediment collection and removal</li> <li>▪ Adjustable permanent pool and dewatering mechanism</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: Low<br/>                 Recharge: Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: High<br/>                 Water Quality: High</p>   |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p>  |



**Maintenance Issues**

Constructed Wetlands must have a maintenance plan and privately owned facilities should have an easement, deed restriction, or other legal measure to prevent neglect or removal. During the first growing season, vegetation should be inspected every 2 to 3 weeks. During the first 2 years, CWs should be inspected at least 4 times per year and after major storms (greater than 2 inches in 24 hours). Inspections should access the vegetation, erosion, flow channelization, bank stability, inlet/outlet conditions, and sediment/debris accumulation. Problems should be corrected as soon as possible. Wetland and buffer vegetation may require support – watering, weeding, mulching, replanting, etc. – during the first 3 years. Undesirable species should be removed and desirable replacements planted if necessary.

Once established, properly designed and installed Constructed Wetlands should require little maintenance. They should be inspected at least semiannually and after major storms as well as rapid ice breakup. Vegetation should maintain at least an 85 percent cover of the emergent vegetation zone. Annual harvesting of vegetation may increase the nutrient removal of CWs; it should generally be done in the summer so that there is adequate regrowth before winter. Care should be taken to minimize disturbance, especially of bottom sediments, during harvesting. The potential disturbance from harvesting may outweigh its benefits unless the CWs receives a particularly high nutrient load or discharges to a nutrient sensitive waterbody. Sediment should be removed from the forebay before it occupies 50 percent of the forebay, typically every 3 to 7 years.

**Cost Issues**

The construction cost of Constructed Wetlands can vary greatly depending on the configuration, location, site-specific conditions, etc. Typical construction costs in 2004 dollars range from approximately \$30,000 to \$65,000 per acre (USEPA Wetlands Fact Sheet, 1999). Costs are generally most dependent on the amount of earthwork and the planting. Annual maintenance costs have been reported to be approximately 2 to 5 percent of the capital costs although there is very little data available to support this.

**Specifications:**

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting.

## BMP 6.6.2: Wet Pond/Retention Basin



Wet Ponds/Retention Basins are stormwater basins that include a substantial permanent pool for water quality treatment and additional capacity above the permanent pool for temporary runoff storage.

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|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adequate drainage area (usually 5 to 10 acres minimum)</li> <li>▪ Natural high groundwater table</li> <li>▪ Maintenance of permanent water surface</li> <li>▪ Should have at least 2 to 1 length to width ratio</li> <li>▪ Robust and diverse vegetation surrounding wet pond</li> <li>▪ Relatively impermeable soils</li> <li>▪ Forebay for sediment collection and removal</li> <li>▪ Dewatering mechanism</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Low<br/>                 Recharge: Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: High<br/>                 Water Quality: Limited</p>  |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 70%<br/>                 TP: 60%<br/>                 NO3: 30%</p>  |

6. Apply and grade planting soil.
  - a. Matching design grades is crucial because aquatic plants can be very sensitive to depth.
7. Apply erosion-control measures.
8. Seed, plant and mulch according to Planting Plan
9. Install any anti-grazing measures, if necessary.
10. Follow required maintenance and monitoring guidelines.

**Maintenance Issues**

Wet Ponds should have a maintenance plan and privately owned facilities should have an easement, deed restriction, or other legal measure to prevent neglect or removal. During the first growing season or until established, vegetation should be inspected every 2 to 3 weeks. WPs should be inspected at least 4 times per year and after major storms (greater than 2 inches in 24 hours) or rapid ice breakup. Inspections should assess the vegetation, erosion, flow channelization, bank stability, inlet/outlet conditions, embankment, and sediment/debris accumulation. The pond drain should also be inspected and tested 4 times per year. Problems should be corrected as soon as possible. Wet Pond and buffer vegetation may need support (watering, weeding, mulching, replanting, etc.) during the first 3 years. Undesirable species should be carefully removed and desirable replacements planted if necessary.

Once established, properly designed and installed Wet Ponds should require little maintenance. Vegetation should maintain at least an 85 percent cover of the emergent vegetation zone and buffer area. Annual harvesting of vegetation may increase the nutrient removal of WPs; if performed it should generally be done in the summer so that there is adequate regrowth before winter. Care should be taken to minimize disturbance, especially of bottom sediments, during harvesting. The potential disturbance from harvesting may outweigh its benefits unless the WP receives a particularly high nutrient load or discharges to a nutrient sensitive waterbody. Sediment should be removed from the forebay before it occupies 50 percent of the forebay, typically every 5 to 10 years.

**Cost Issues**

The construction cost of Wet Ponds can vary greatly depending on the configuration, location, site-specific conditions, etc. Typical construction costs in 2004 dollars range from approximately \$25,000 to \$50,000 per acre-foot of storage (based on USEPA, 1999). Costs are generally most dependent on the amount of earthwork and the planting. Annual maintenance costs have been reported to be approximately 3 to 5 percent of the capital costs although there is little data available to support this.

**Specifications:**

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

**1. Excavation**

## BMP 6.6.3: Dry Extended Detention Basin



A dry extended detention basin is an earthen structure constructed either by impoundment of a natural depression or excavation of existing soil, that provides temporary storage of runoff and functions hydraulically to attenuate stormwater runoff peaks. The dry detention basin, as constructed in countless locations since the mid-1970's and representing the primary BMP measure until now, has served to control the peak rate of runoff, although some water quality benefit accrued by settlement of the larger particulate fraction of suspended solids. This extended version is intended to enhance this mechanism in order to maximize water quality benefits.

The basin outlet structure must be designed to detain runoff from the stormwater quality design storm for extended periods. Some volume reduction is also achieved in a dry basin through initial saturation of the soil mantle (even when compacted) and some evaporation takes place during detention. The net volume reduction for design storms is minimal, especially if the precedent soil moisture is assumed as in other volume reduction BMPs.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regular Maintenance is necessary</li> <li>▪ Evaluation of the device chosen should be balanced with cost</li> <li>▪ Hydraulic capacity controls effectiveness</li> <li>▪ Most useful in small drainage areas (&lt; 1 Acre)</li> <li>▪ Ideal in combination with other BMP's</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Volume Reduction: None<br/>                 Recharge: None<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low<br/>                 Water Quality: Medium</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TSS: 60%<br/>                 TP: 50%<br/>                 NO3: 20%</p>  |

The predevelopment and post-development hydrographs for the drainage area should be calculated using the NRCS's methodology described in the NRCS National Engineering Handbook. The NRCS's method uses a non-dimensional unit hydrograph and the soil cover complex method to predict runoff peak rates. Once the hydrograph has been computed, it can be routed manually or with a computer-modeling program.

### Water Quality Improvement

Water quality mitigation is partially achieved by retaining the runoff volume from the water quality design storm for a minimum of 24 hours. The low flow orifice should be sized to detain the calculated water quality runoff volume for at least 24 hours. Sediment forebays should be incorporated into the design to improve sediment removal. The storage volume of the forebay may be included in the calculated storage of the water quality design volume.

### Construction Sequence

1. Install all temporary erosion and sedimentation controls.
  - a. The area immediately adjacent to the basin must be stabilized in accordance with the PADEP's *Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program Manual* (2000 or latest edition) prior to basin construction.
2. Prepare site for excavation and/or embankment construction.
  - a. All existing vegetation should remain if feasible and should only be removed if necessary for construction.
  - b. Care should be taken to prevent compaction of the basin bottom.
  - c. If excavation is required, clear the area to be excavated of all vegetation. Remove all tree roots, rocks, and boulders only in excavation area
3. Excavate bottom of basin to desired elevation (if necessary).
4. Install surrounding embankments and inlet and outlet control structures.
5. Grade subsoil in bottom of basin, taking care to prevent compaction. Compact surrounding embankment areas and around inlet and outlet structures.
6. Apply and grade planting soil.
7. Apply geo-textiles and other erosion-control measures.
8. Seed, plant and mulch according to Planting Plan
9. Install any anti-grazing measures, if necessary.

### Maintenance Issues

Maintenance is necessary to ensure proper functionality of the extended detention basin and should take place on a quarterly basis. A basin maintenance plan should be developed which includes the following measures:

- All basin structures expected to receive and/or trap debris and sediment should be inspected for clogging and excessive debris and sediment accumulation at least four times per year, as well as after every storm greater than 1 inch.
  - Structures include basin bottoms, trash racks, outlets structures, riprap or gabion structures, and inlets.
- Sediment removal should be conducted when the basin is completely dry. Sediment should be disposed of properly and once sediment is removed, disturbed areas need to be immediately stabilized and revegetated.
- Mowing and/or trimming of vegetation should be performed as necessary to sustain the system, but all detritus should be removed from the basin.
  - Vegetated areas should be inspected annually for erosion.

- Vegetated areas should be inspected annually for unwanted growth of exotic/invasive species.
- Vegetative cover should be maintained at a minimum of 95 percent. If vegetative cover has been reduced by 10%, vegetation should be reestablished.

**Cost Issues**

The construction costs associated with dry extended detention basins can range considerably. One recent study evaluated the cost of all pond systems (Brown and Schueler, 1997). Before adjusting for inflation, the cost of dry extended detention ponds can be estimated with the equation:

$$C = 12.4V^{0.760}$$

Where:

C = Construction, Design and Permitting Cost

V = Volume needed to control the 10-year storm (cubic feet)

Using this equation, a typical construction costs are:

\$ 41,600 for a 1 acre-foot pond

\$ 239,000 for a 10 acre-foot pond

\$ 1,380,000 for a 100 acre-foot pond

Dry extended detention basins utilizing highly structural design features (rip-rap for erosion control, etc.) are more costly than naturalized basins. There is an installation cost savings associated with a natural vegetated slope treatment which is magnified by the additional environmental benefits provided. Long-term maintenance costs are reduced when more naturalized approaches are utilized due to the ability of native vegetation to adapt to local weather conditions and a reduced need for maintenance, such as mowing and fertilization.

Normal maintenance costs can be expected to range form 3 to 5 percent of the construction costs on an annual basis.

**Specifications**

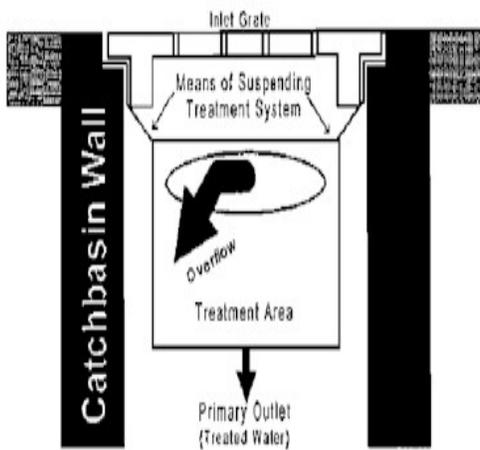
The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

**1. Site Preparation**

- a. All excavation areas, embankments, and where structures are to be installed shall be cleared and grubbed as necessary, but trees and existing vegetation shall be retained and incorporated within the dry detention basin area where necessary. Under no circumstances shall trees be removed.
- b. Where feasible, trees and other native vegetation shall be protected, even in areas where temporary inundation is expected. A minimum 10-foot radius around the inlet and outlet structures can be cleared to allow construction.
- c. Any cleared material shall be used as mulch for erosion control or soil stabilization.
- d. Care shall be taken to prevent compaction of the bottom of the reservoir. If compaction should occur, soils shall be restored and amended.

**2. Earth Fill Material & Placement**

## BMP 6.6.4: Water Quality Filters & Hydrodynamic Devices



A broad spectrum of BMPs have been designed to remove non point source pollutants from runoff as a part of the runoff conveyance system. These structural BMPs vary in size and function, but all utilize some form of settling and filtration to remove particulate pollutants from stormwater runoff, a difficult task given the concentrations and flow rates experienced. Regular maintenance is critical for this BMP. Many water quality filters, catch basin inserts and hydrodynamic devices are commercially available. They are generally configured to remove particulate contaminants, including coarse sediment, oil and grease, litter, and debris.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Choose a device that (collectively) has the hydraulic capacity to treat the design storm</li> <li>▪ Regular Maintenance is necessary</li> <li>▪ Evaluation of the device chosen should be balanced with cost</li> <li>▪ Hydraulic capacity controls effectiveness</li> <li>▪ Most useful in small drainage areas (&lt; 1 Acre)</li> <li>▪ Ideal in combination with other BMP's</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: None<br/>                 Recharge: None<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low<br/>                 Water Quality: Medium</p>  |
|  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">TSS: 60%<br/>                 TP: 50%<br/>                 NO3: 20%</p>   |

## Applications

Any existing or proposed inlet where the contributing runoff may contain significant levels of sediment and debris, for example: parking lots, gas stations, golf courses, streets, driveways, industrial or commercial facilities, and municipal corporation yards. Commonly used as pretreatment before other stormwater BMPs.

## Design Considerations

1. Match site considerations with manufacturer's guidelines/specifications (i.e. land use will determine specific pollutants to be removed from runoff).
2. Prevent re-suspension of particles by using small drainage areas and good maintenance.
3. Retrofits should be designed to fit existing inlets.
4. Placement should be accessible to maintenance.
5. If used as part of Erosion & Sedimentation Control during construction, insert should be reconfigured (if necessary) per manufacture's guidelines.
6. Overflow should be designed so that storms in excess of the device's hydraulic capacity bypass the treatment and is treated by another quality BMP.

## Detailed Stormwater Functions

### Volume Reduction Calculations

N/A

### Peak Rate Mitigation Calculations

N/A

### Water Quality Improvement

If sized to treat the design storm, removal rates above can be applied to that volume of water.

## Construction Sequence

1. Stabilize all contributing areas before installing and connecting pipes to these inlets.
2. Follow manufacturer's guidelines for installation. Do not use water quality inserts during construction unless product is designed primarily for sediment removal. (Some products have adsorption components that should be installed post-construction.)

## Maintenance Issues

Follow the manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance, also taking into account expected pollutant load and site conditions. Inlets should be inspected weekly during construction. Post-construction, they should be emptied when over half full of sediment (and trash) and cleaned at least twice a year. They

should also be inspected after runoff events. Maintenance is crucial to the effectiveness of this BMP. The more frequent a water quality insert is cleaned, the more effective it will be. One study (Pitt, 1985) found that WQI's can store sediment up to 60% of its sump volume, and after that, the inflow resuspends the sediments into the stormwater. Some sites have found keeping a log of sediment amount date removed helpful in planning a maintenance schedule. Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program and the Technology Acceptance and Reciprocity Partnership (TARP) may be available to assist with the development of a monitoring plan. These programs are detailed in Section 6.3.



Disposal of removed material will depend on the nature of the drainage area and the intent and function of the water quality insert. Material removed from water quality inserts that serve "Hot Spots" such as fueling stations or that receive a large amount of debris should be handled according to DEP regulations for that type of solid waste, such as a landfill that is approved by DEP to accept solid waste. Water quality inserts that primarily catch sediment and detritus from areas such as lawns may reuse the waste on site.

Vactor trucks may be an efficient cleaning mechanism.

Winter Concerns: There is limited data studying cold weather effects on water quality insert effectiveness. Freezing may result in more runoff bypassing the treatment system. Salt stratification may also reduce detention time. Colder temperatures reduce the settling velocity of particles, which can result in fewer particles being "trapped". Salt and sand are significantly increased in the winter, and may warrant more frequent maintenance. Sometimes freezing makes accessing devices for maintenance difficult.

### Cost Issues

Inserts range from \$400 - \$10,000  
Pre cast devices range from \$2000 - \$3000

### Specifications

Follow manufacturer's instructions and specific specifications.

### References

- Brzozowski, C., 2003. "Inlet Protection – Strategies for Preserving Water Quality," Stormwater magazine.
- Lee, F. "The Right BMPs? Another Look at Water Quality." Stormwater magazine.
- New Hampshire Watershed Management Bureau, Watershed Assistance Section, 2002. "Innovative Stormwater Treatment Technologies BMP Manual."
- Pitt, R. *Characterizing and Controlling Urban Runoff through Street and Sewerage Cleaning*. US EPA, June 1985.

## BMP 6.7.2: Landscape Restoration



Landscape Restoration is the general term used for actively sustainable landscaping practices that are implemented outside of riparian (or other specially protected) buffer areas. Landscape Restoration includes the restoration of forest (i.e. reforestation) and/or meadow and the conversion of turf to meadow. In a truly sustainable site design process, this BMP should be considered only after the areas of development that require landscaping and/or revegetation are minimized. The remaining areas that do require landscaping and/or revegetation should be driven by the selection and use of vegetation (i.e., native species) that does not require significant chemical maintenance by fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides..

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimize traditional turf lawn area</li> <li>▪ Maximize landscape restoration area planted with native vegetation</li> <li>▪ Protect landscape restoration area during construction</li> <li>▪ Prevent post-construction erosion through adequate stabilization</li> <li>▪ Minimize fertilizer and chemical-based pest control programs</li> <li>▪ Creates and maintains porous surface and healthy soil.</li> <li>▪ Minimize mowing (two times per year)</li> <li>▪ Reduced maintenance cost compared to lawn</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Low/Med.<br/>                 Recharge: Low/Med.<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low/Med.<br/>                 Water Quality: Very High</p>  |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 85%<br/>                 TP: 85%<br/>                 NO3: 50%</p>  |

**Other Considerations**

- Soil investigation recommended
- Soil restoration may be necessary

## 6. SITE MAINTENANCE (additional information below)

- Assign responsibilities for watering, weeding, mowing, and maintenance
- Monitor site regularly for growth and potential problems

### Maintenance Issues

Meadows and Forests are low maintenance but not “no maintenance”. They usually require more frequent maintenance in the first few years immediately following installation.

Forest restoration areas planted with a proper cover crop can be expected to require annual mowing in order to control invasives. Application of a carefully selected herbicide (Roundup or similar glyphosate herbicide) around the protective tree shelters/tubes may be necessary, reinforced by selective cutting/manual removal, if necessary. This initial maintenance routine is necessary for the initial 2 to 3 years of growth and may be necessary for up to 5 years until tree growth and tree canopy begins to form, naturally inhibiting weed growth (once shading is adequate, growth of invasives and other weeds will be naturally prevented, and the woodland becomes self-maintaining). Review of the new woodland should be undertaken intermittently to determine if replacement trees should be provided (some modest rate of planting failure is usual).

Meadow management is somewhat more straightforward; a seasonal mowing or burning may be required, although care must be taken to make sure that any management is coordinated with essential reseeded and other important aspects of meadow reestablishment. In the first year weeds must be carefully controlled and consistently mowed back to 4-6 inches tall when they reach 12 inches in height. In the second year, weeds should continue to be monitored and mowed and rhizomatous weeds should be hand treated with herbicide. Weeds should not be sprayed with herbicide as the drift from the spray may kill large patches of desirable plants, allowing weeds to move in to these new open areas. In the beginning of the third season, the young meadow should be burned off in mid-spring. If burning is not possible, the meadow should be mowed very closely to the ground instead. The mowed material should be removed from the site to expose the soil to the sun. This helps encourage rapid soil warming which favors the establishment of “warm season” plants over “cool season” weeds.

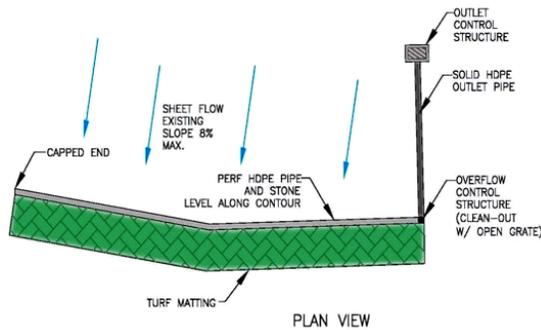
### Cost Issues

Landscape restoration cost implications are minimal during construction. Seeding for installation of a conventional lawn is likely to be less expensive than planting of a “cover” of native species, although when contrasted with a non-lawn landscape, “natives” often are not more costly than other nonnative landscape species. In terms of woodland creation, somewhat dated (1997) costs have been provided by the *Chesapeake Bay Riparian Handbook: A Guide for Establishing and Maintaining Riparian Forest Buffers*:

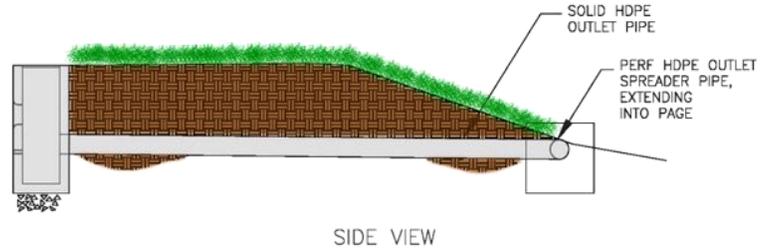
\$860/acre trees with installation  
\$1,600/acre tree shelters/tubes and stakes  
\$300/acre for four waterings on average

In current dollars, these values would be considerably higher, well over \$3,000/acre for installation costs. Costs for meadow reestablishment are lower than those for woodland, in part due to the elimination of the need for shelters/tubes. Again, such costs can be expected to be greater than

# BMP 6.8.1: Level Spreader



Level Spreaders are measures that reduce the erosive energy of concentrated flows by distributing runoff as sheet flow to stabilized vegetative surfaces. Level Spreaders, of which there are many types, may also promote infiltration and improved water quality.



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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Level spreaders must be level.</li> <li>▪ Specific site conditions, such as topography, vegetative cover, soil, and geologic conditions must be considered prior to design; level spreaders are not applicable in areas with easily erodible soils and/or little vegetation.</li> <li>▪ Level spreaders should safely diffuse at least the 10-year storm peak rate; bypassed flows should be stabilized in a sufficient manner.</li> <li>▪ Length of level spreaders is dependent on influent flow rate, pipe diameter (if applicable); number and size of perforations (if applicable), and downhill cover type.</li> <li>▪ It is always easier to keep flow distributed than to redistribute it after it is concentrated; multiple outfalls/level spreaders are preferable to a single outfall/level spreader.</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Yes<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Limited<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Yes</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Low<br/>                 Recharge: Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Low<br/>                 Water Quality: Low</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 20%<br/>                 TP: 10%<br/>                 NO3: 05%</p> |
|---|--|

## Maintenance Issues

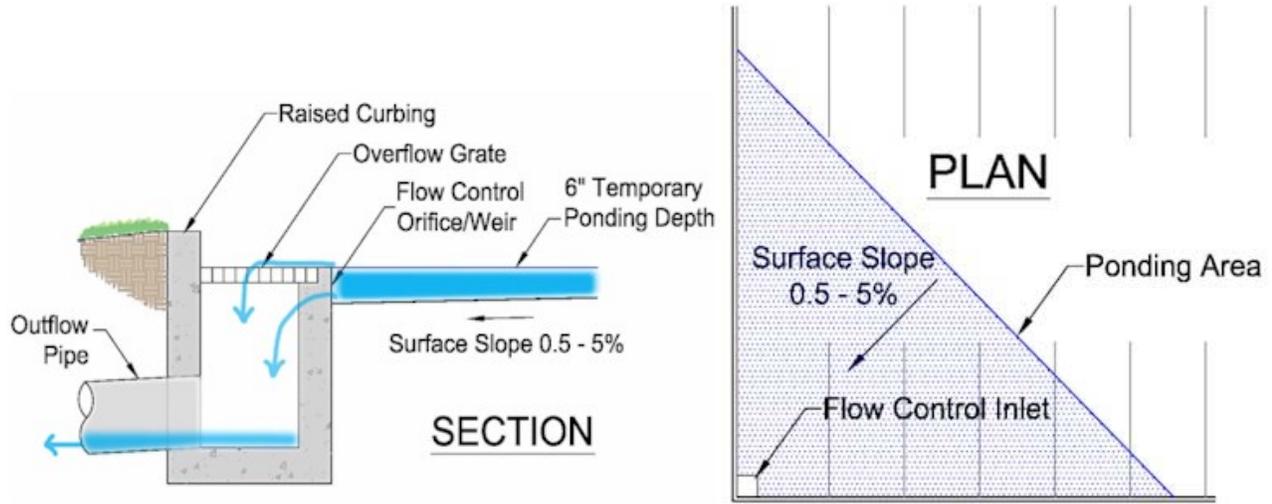
Compared with other BMPs, level spreaders require only minimal maintenance efforts, many of which may overlap with standard landscaping demands. The following recommendations represent the minimum maintenance effort for level spreaders:

- Catch Basins and Inlets draining to a level spreader should be inspected and cleaned on an annual basis.
- The receiving land area should be immediately restored to design conditions after any disturbance. Vegetated areas should be seeded and blanketed.
- It is critical that even **sheet flow conditions** are sustained throughout the life of the level spreader, as their effectiveness can deteriorate due to lack of maintenance, inadequate design/location, and poor vegetative cover.
  - **Inspection** - The area below a level spreader should be inspected for clogging, density of vegetation, damage by foot or vehicular traffic, excessive accumulations, and channelization. Inspections should be made on a quarterly basis for the first two years following installation, and then on a semiannual basis thereafter. Inspections should also be made after every storm event greater than 1-inch.
  - **Removal** - Sediment and debris should be routinely removed (but never less than semiannually), or upon observation, when buildup occurs in the clean outs. Regrading and reseeded may be necessary in the areas below the level spreader. Regrading may also be required when pools of standing water are observed along the slope. (In no case should standing water be allowed for longer than 72 hours.)
  - **Vegetation** - Maintaining a vigorous vegetative cover on the areas below a level spreader is critical for maximizing pollutant removal efficiency and erosion prevention. If vegetative cover is not fully established within the designated time, it may need to be replaced with an alternative species. (It is standard practice to contractually require the contractor to replace dead vegetation.) Unwanted or invasive growth should be removed on an annual basis. Biweekly inspections are recommended for at least the first growing season, or until the vegetation is permanently established. Once the vegetation is established, inspections of health, diversity, and density should be performed at least twice per year, during both the growing and non-growing season. Vegetative cover should be sustained at 85% and replaced if damage greater than 50% is observed.

## Cost Issues

As there are various types of level spreaders, their associated costs will vary. Per foot material and equipment cost will range from \$5 to \$20 depending on the type of level spreader desired. Concrete level spreaders may cost significantly more than perforated pipes or berms. (For more detailed cost information in BMP 6.4.4 Infiltration Trenches and BMP 6.4.10 Infiltration Berms.)

## BMP 6.8.2: Special Detention Areas – Parking Lot, Rooftop



Areas such as parking lots and rooftops that are primarily intended for other uses but that can be designed to temporarily detain stormwater for peak rate mitigation.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Key Design Elements</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Almost entirely for peak rate control</li> <li>▪ Water quality and quantity are not addressed</li> <li>▪ Short duration storage; rapid restoration of primary uses</li> <li>▪ Minimize safety risks, potential property damage, and user inconvenience</li> <li>▪ Emergency overflows</li> <li>▪ Maximum ponding depths</li> <li>▪ Flow control structures</li> <li>▪ Adequate surface slope to outlet</li> <li>▪ Waterproofing (rooftop storage)</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Potential Applications</u></b></p> <p>Residential: Limited<br/>                 Commercial: Yes<br/>                 Ultra Urban: Yes<br/>                 Industrial: Yes<br/>                 Retrofit: Yes<br/>                 Highway/Road: Limited</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>Volume Reduction: Very Low<br/>                 Recharge: Very Low<br/>                 Peak Rate Control: Med./Low<br/>                 Water Quality: Low</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Stormwater Functions</u></b></p> <p>TSS: 0%<br/>                 TP: 0%<br/>                 NO3: 0%</p> |
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## Construction Sequence

Not applicable.

## Maintenance Issues

Special Detention Areas generally require little maintenance. Maintenance activities should include semiannual inspection and cleaning of flow control structures, clearing debris/sediment from detention areas (as necessary), and inspecting waterproofing in rooftop storage areas.

## Cost Issues

Special Storage Areas can be a very economical means of reducing peak rates of runoff because they require little additional material and take up no additional space on a site.

## Specifications

The following specifications are provided for information purposes only. These specifications include information on acceptable materials for typical applications, but are by no means exclusive or limiting. The designer is responsible for developing detailed specifications for individual design projects in accordance with the project conditions.

### 1. Flow Control Structures

- a. Flow control structures shall be constructed of non-corrodible material.
- b. Structures shall be resistant to clogging by debris, sediment, floatables, plant material, or ice.
- c. Materials shall comply with applicable specifications (PennDOT or AASHTO, latest edition)

### 2. Waterproofing

- a. Waterproofing shall prevent all water migration into the building.
- b. Waterproofing must comply with applicable state and local building codes.
- c. Waterproofing shall have an expected service life of at least 25 years.

## References

2001, Georgia Stormwater Management Manual; Volume Two: Technical Handbook

2003, Ontario Stormwater Management Planning & Design Manual

Iowa Statewide Urban Design Standards Manual

1992, Michigan - Index of Individual BMPs