

# *Stormwater Basics*

## Paraprofessional Watershed Restoration Training

October 3, 2013  
Duke Farms, Hillsborough, NJ

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# What is stormwater?



Stormwater is the water from rain or melting snows that can become “runoff,” flowing over the ground surface and returning to lakes and streams.

# OVERVIEW

1. What is a watershed?
2. Where does precipitation go?
3. Land Use/Land Cover Changes
4. Nonpoint Source Pollution
5. How can we better manage stormwater?



# WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

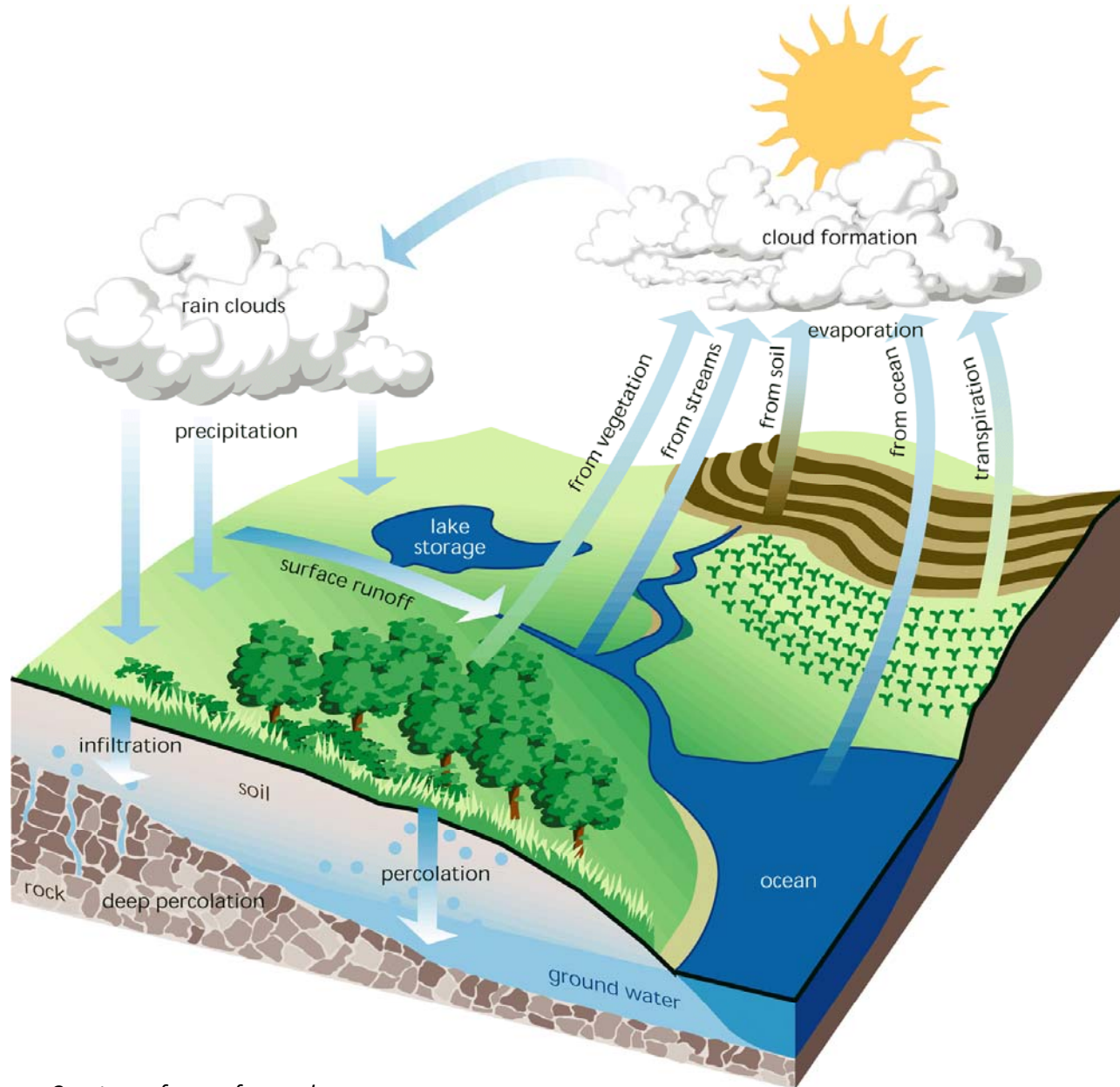
- An area of land that water flows across, through, or under on its way to a stream, river, lake, ocean or other body of water.
- A watershed is like one big bathtub...

Do you know  
what a  
watershed is?



*Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

# HYDROLOGIC CYCLE



Courtesy of [www.fgmorph.com](http://www.fgmorph.com)

# WHERE DOES PRECIPITATION GO?

1. It can *run off*



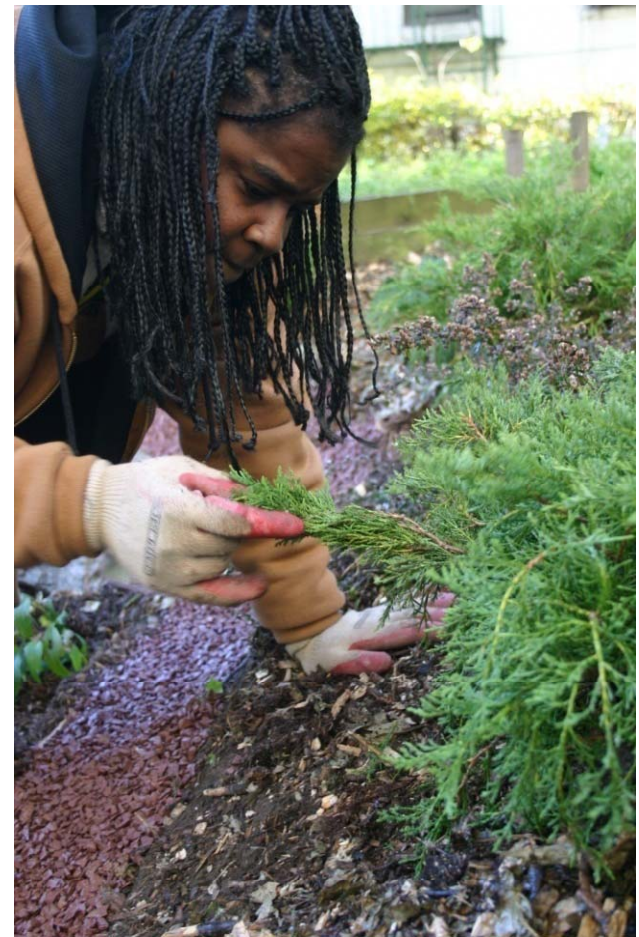
Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas  
A&M AgriLife Extension

# WHERE DOES PRECIPITATION GO?

2. It can be *absorbed* by plants and used for photosynthesis and other biological processes

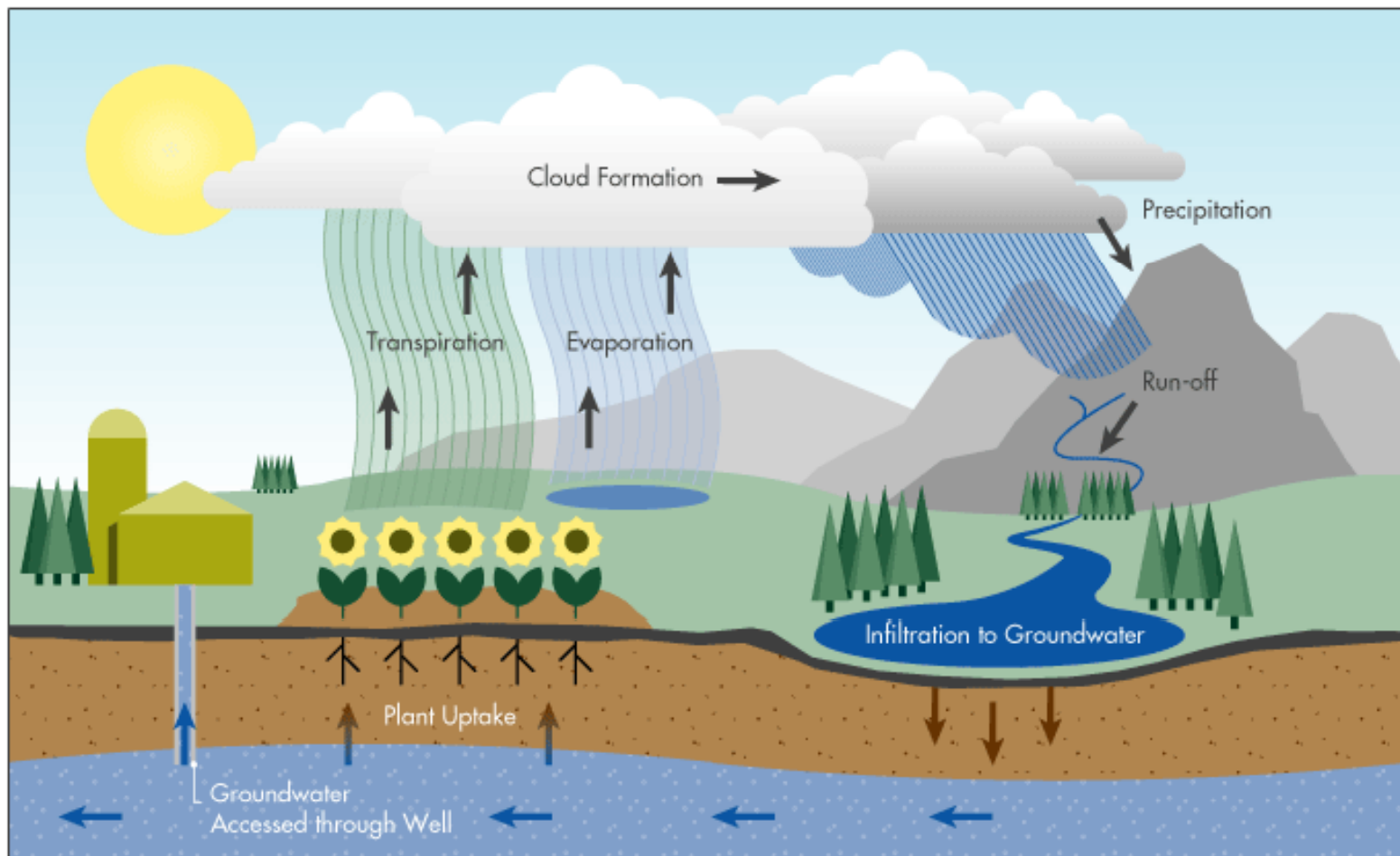


Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas  
A&M AgriLife Extension



# WHERE DOES PRECIPITATION GO?

3. It can *infiltrate* through the soil surface and percolate downward to groundwater *aquifers*



Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension



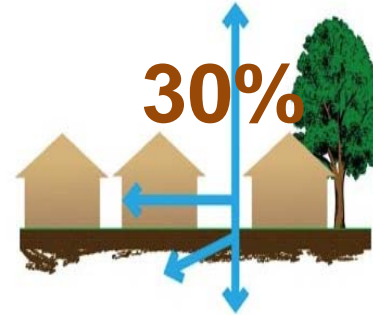
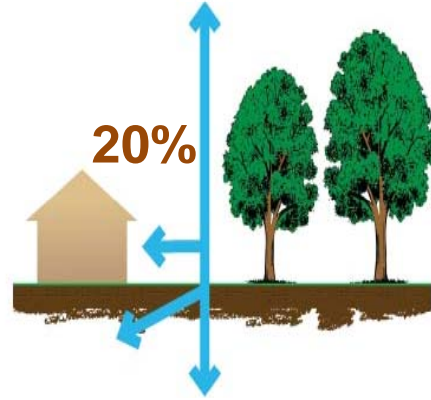
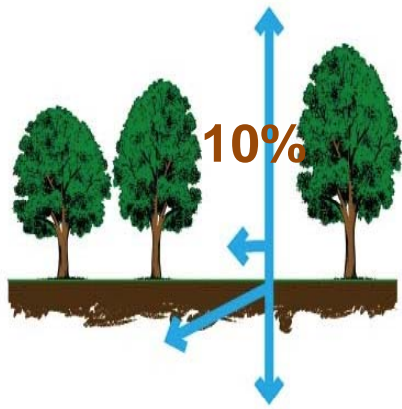
# WHERE DOES PRECIPITATION GO?

## 4. It can *evaporate*



Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

# The Impact of Development on Stormwater Runoff



*More development*



*More impervious surfaces*



*More stormwater runoff*



# LAND USE/LAND COVER CHANGES

## LAND USE

### HOW LAND IS USED BY HUMANS:

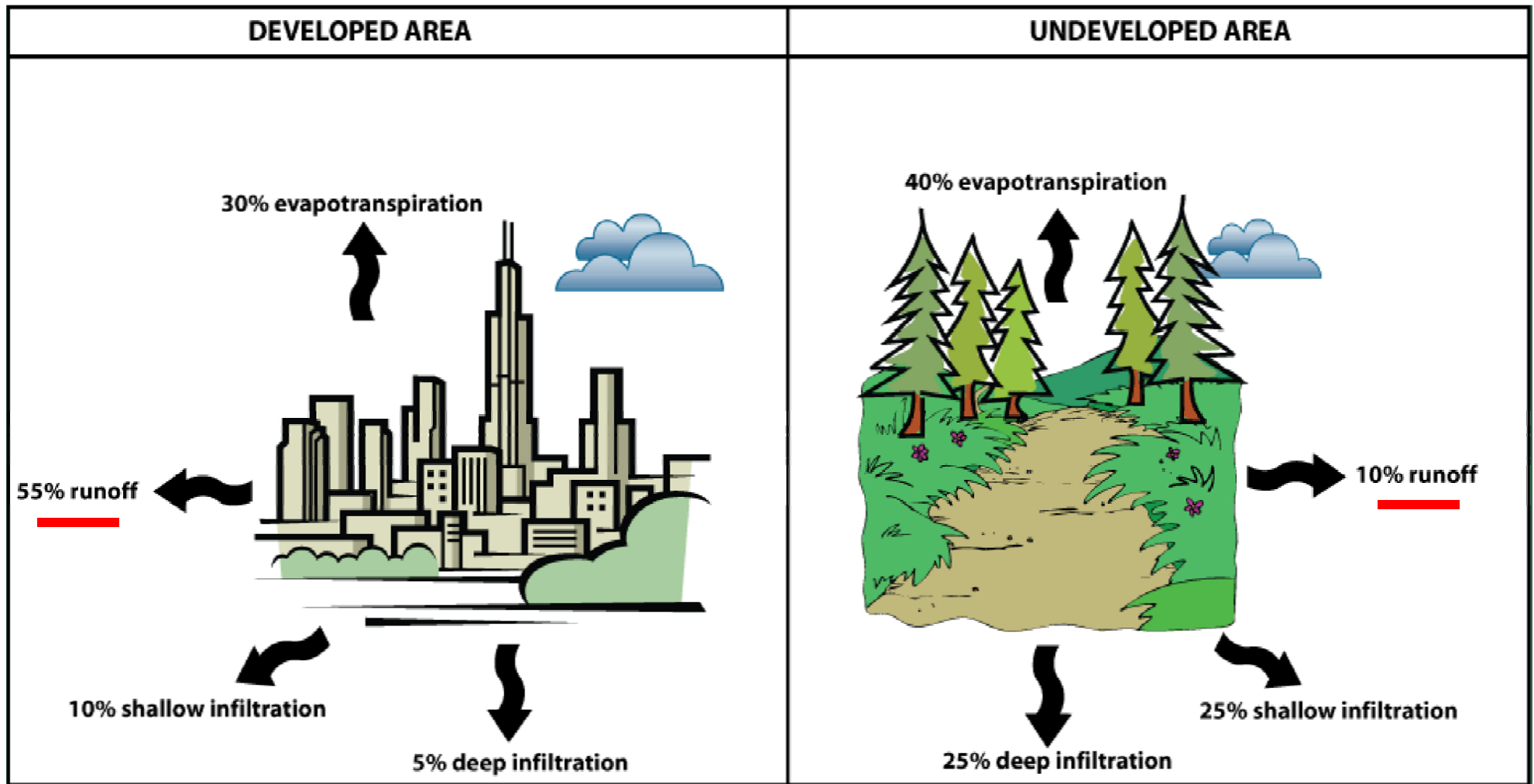
- AGRICULTURE
- INDUSTRY
- URBAN
- RESIDENTIAL
- RECREATION

## LAND COVER

### BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE LAND:

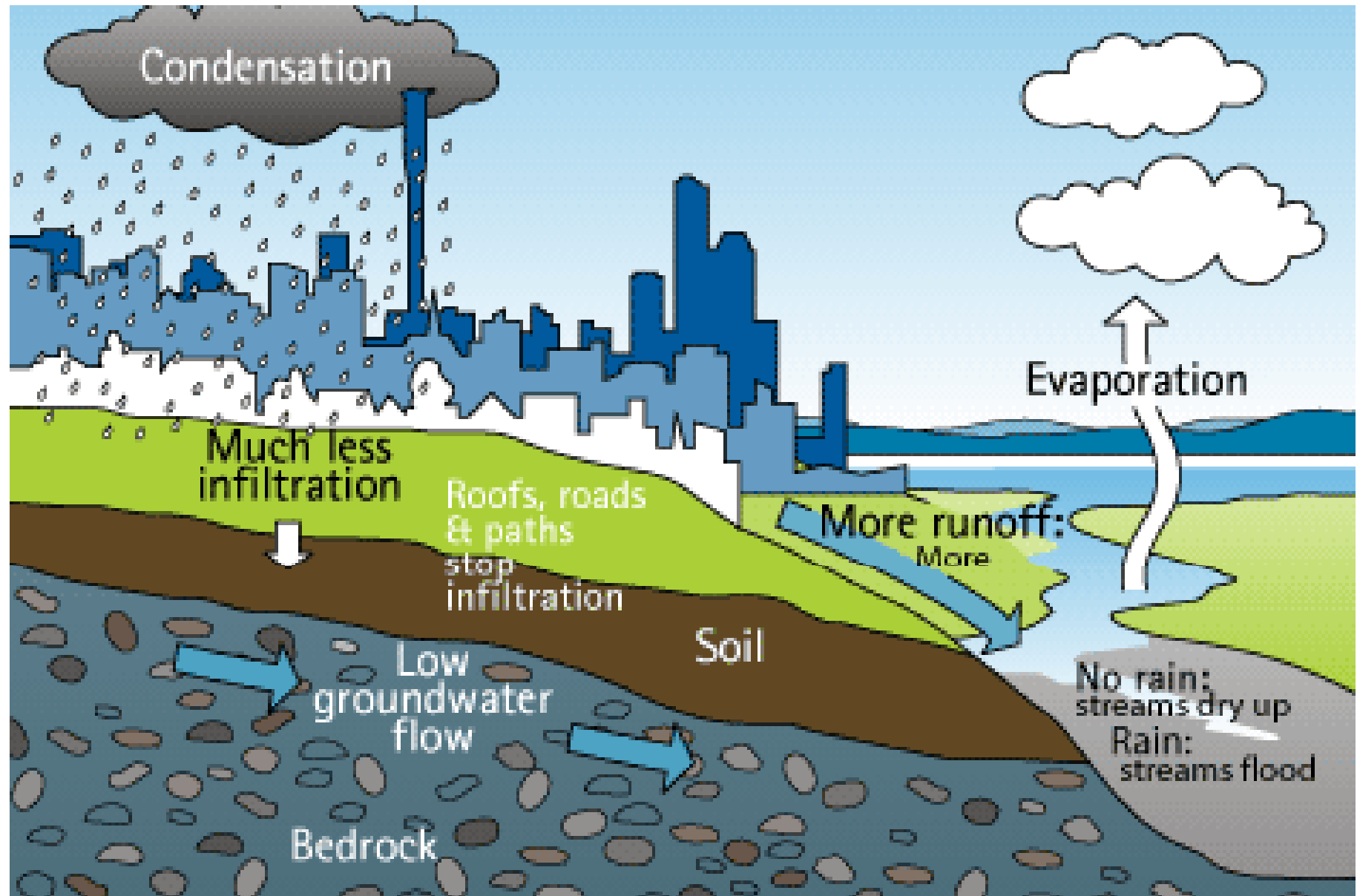
- FORESTS
- GRASSLANDS
- AGRICULTURAL FIELDS
- RIVERS, LAKES
- BUILDINGS, PARKING LOTS

# LAND USE/LAND COVER CHANGES



Courtesy of Texas Watershed Stewards, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

# The Urban Hydrologic Cycle



# Combined Sewer Systems (CSOs)

## DURING DRY WEATHER

Normal sewage flow is contained within the system and flows to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.



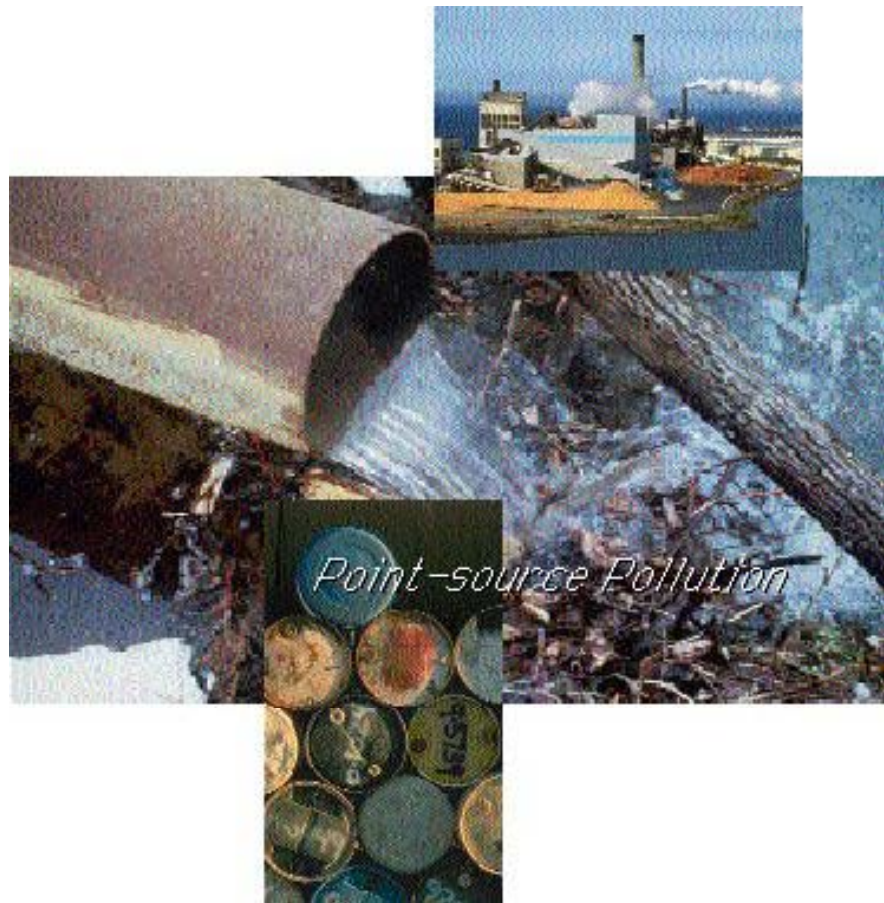
## DURING STORMY WEATHER

The combination of stormwater and sewage can exceed normal capacity and overflows into area waterways.



# WATER POLLUTION SOURCES

## POINT SOURCE POLLUTION



## NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION



# POINT SOURCE POLLUTION

- Comes from a specific source, like a pipe
- Factories, industry, municipal treatment plants
- Can be monitored and controlled by a permit system (NPDES)





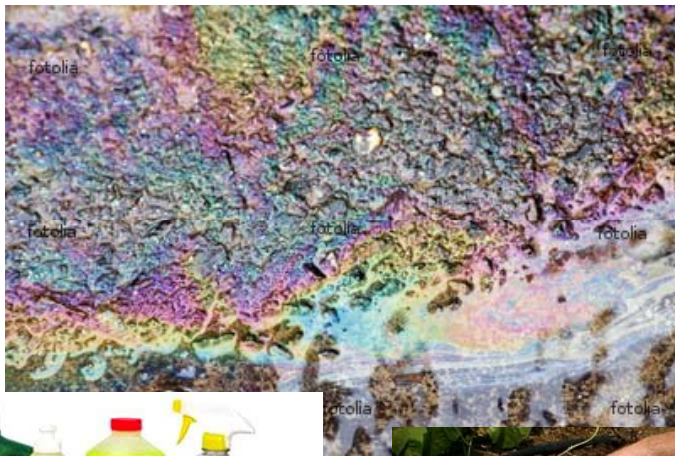
# Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS)

- Associated with stormwater runoff
- Runoff collects pollutants on its way to a sewer system or water body
- It cannot be traced to a direct discharge point such as a wastewater treatment facility



# EXAMPLES OF NPS

- Oil and grease from cars
- Fertilizers
- Animal waste
- Grass clippings
- Septic systems
- Sewage leaks
- Household cleaning products
- Litter
- Agriculture
- Sediment



# Impacts from Changing the Landscape

## *Hydrologic* Effects:

- Disruption of natural water balance
- Increased flood peaks
- Increased stormwater runoff
- More frequent flooding
- Increased bankfull flows
- Lower dry weather flows



# History of Stormwater Management



# 1<sup>st</sup> Attempt at Stormwater Management

*Capture all runoff, pipe it, and send it directly to the river . . . prior to mid 1970's*



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration of Stormwater Management

*Capture runoff, detain it, release it slowly to the river...mid 1970's to 2004*

- Detain peak flow during large storm events for 18 hours (residential) or 36 hours (commercial)
- Reduce downstream flooding during major storms
- Use concrete low flow channels to minimize erosion, reduce standing water, quickly discharge low flows
- Does not manage runoff from smaller storms allowing stormwater to pass through the system
- Directly discharges stormwater runoff to nearby stream, waterway, or municipal storm sewer system (at a controlled/managed rate)



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation of Stormwater Management

- Reduce stormwater runoff volume
- Reduce peak flows and flooding
- ...and....
- Maintain infiltration and groundwater recharge
- Reduce pollution discharged to local waterways



*abc Action News, August 27, 2012*



# How NJ's regulations change the way we manage stormwater

ASLA VIDEO

Video by the American Society of Landscape Architects

[Play](#)

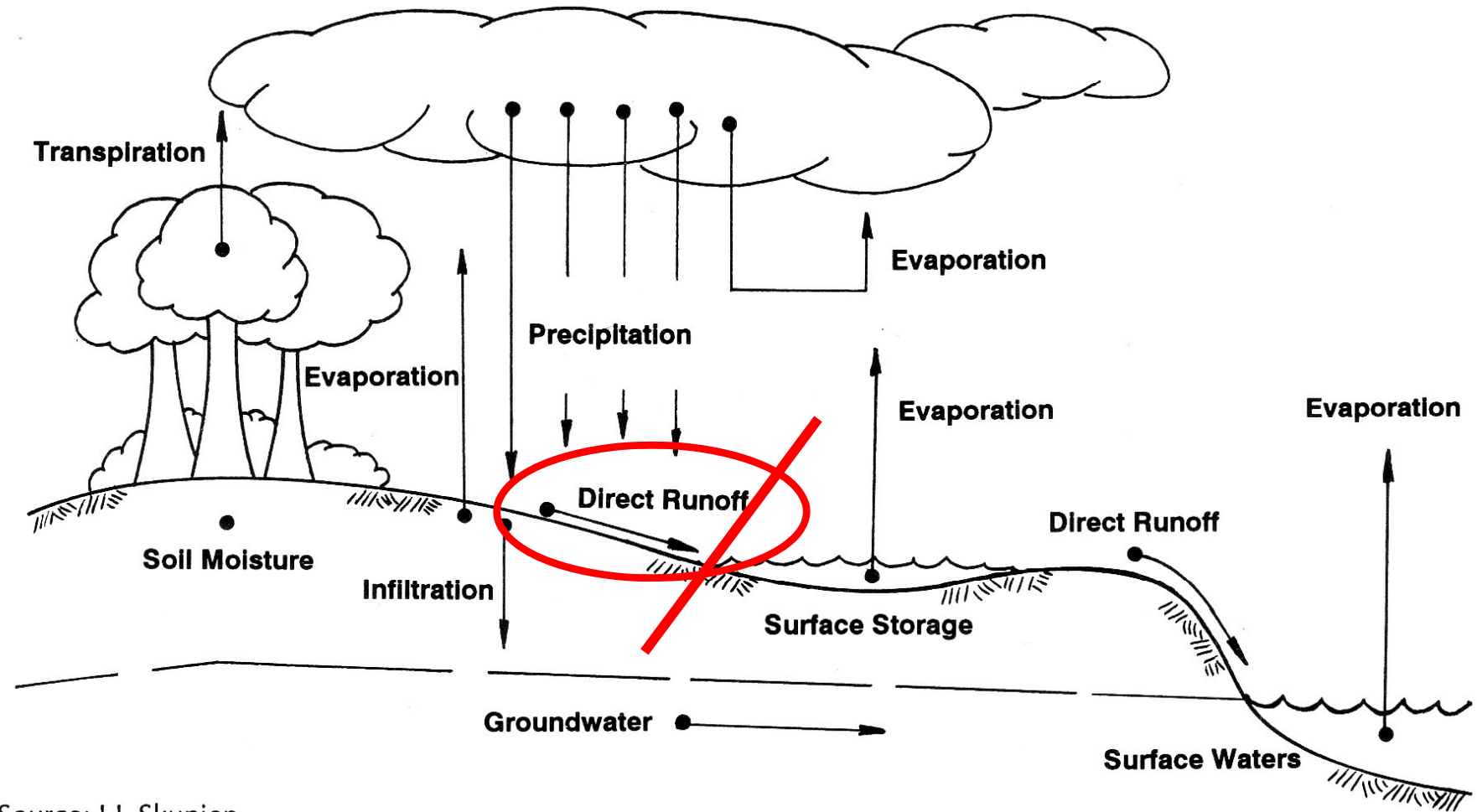


# Stormwater Management

# It is all about controlling runoff from impervious surfaces



# The Hydrologic Cycle



Source: J.J. Skupien.

# **We must deal with impacts from impervious cover**



**Are there impervious surfaces that you can eliminate?**



**If we can't eliminate it, can we reduce it?**



**If we can't eliminate or reduce it, can we disconnect it?**



**Are there impervious surfaces that you can harvest rainwater for reuse?**



**Are there conveyance systems that can be converted to bioswales?**

# Eliminate it!



# Reduce It!

## Pervious Pavements

- Underlying stone reservoir
- Porous asphalt and pervious concrete are manufactured without "fine" materials to allow infiltration
- Grass pavers are concrete interlocking blocks with open areas to allow grass to grow
- Ideal application for porous pavement is to treat a low traffic or overflow parking area

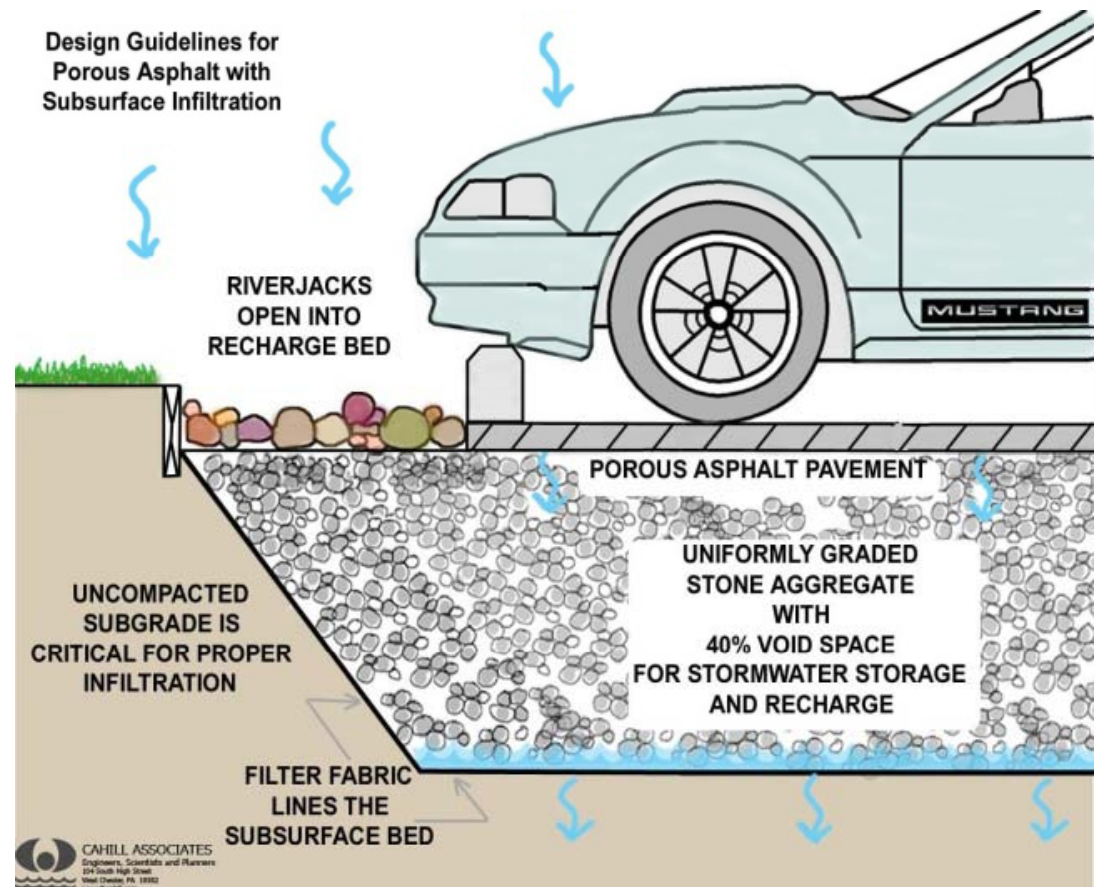


# Pervious Pavements

## FUNCTIONS

- Manage stormwater runoff
- Minimize site disturbance
- Promote groundwater recharge
- Low life cycle costs, alternative to costly traditional stormwater management methods
- Mitigation of urban heat island effect
- Contaminant removal as water moves through layers of system

## COMPONENTS



# Pervious Pavement





# Pervious Pavements



# Disconnect It!

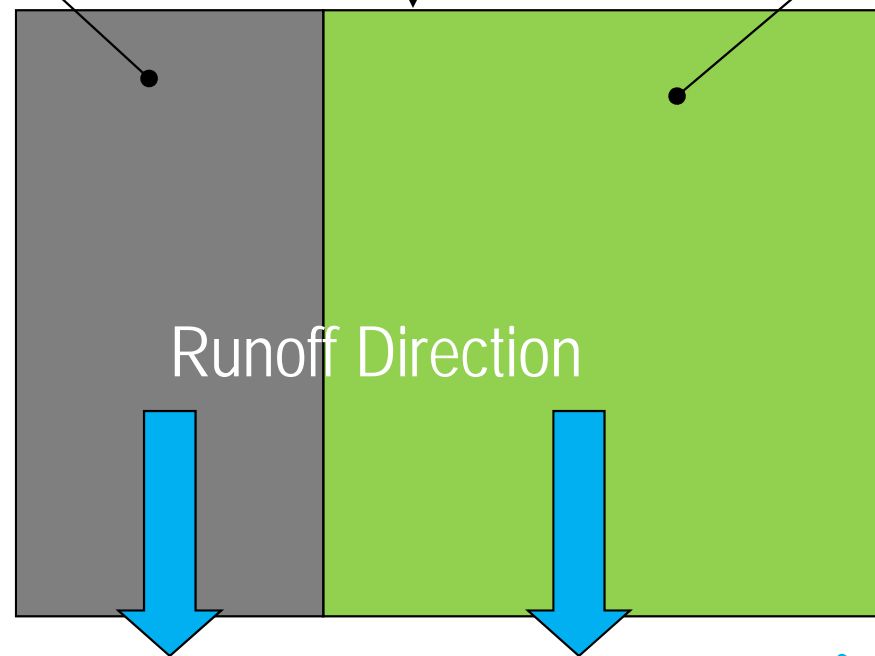


For 1.25 inch storm, 3,811 cubic feet of runoff = **28,500 gallons**

Total drainage area = 3 acres

1 acre directly  
connected  
impervious cover

2 acres  
pervious cover



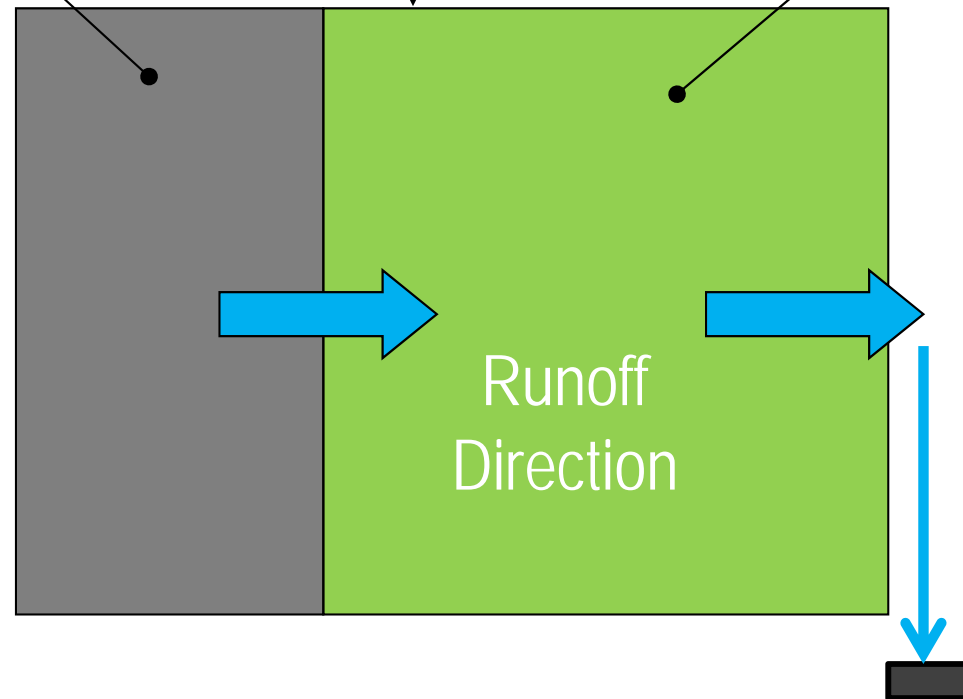
Stormwater  
Inlet

For 1.25 inch storm, 581 cubic feet of runoff = **4,360 gallons**

Total drainage area = 3 acres

1 acre directly  
connected  
impervious cover

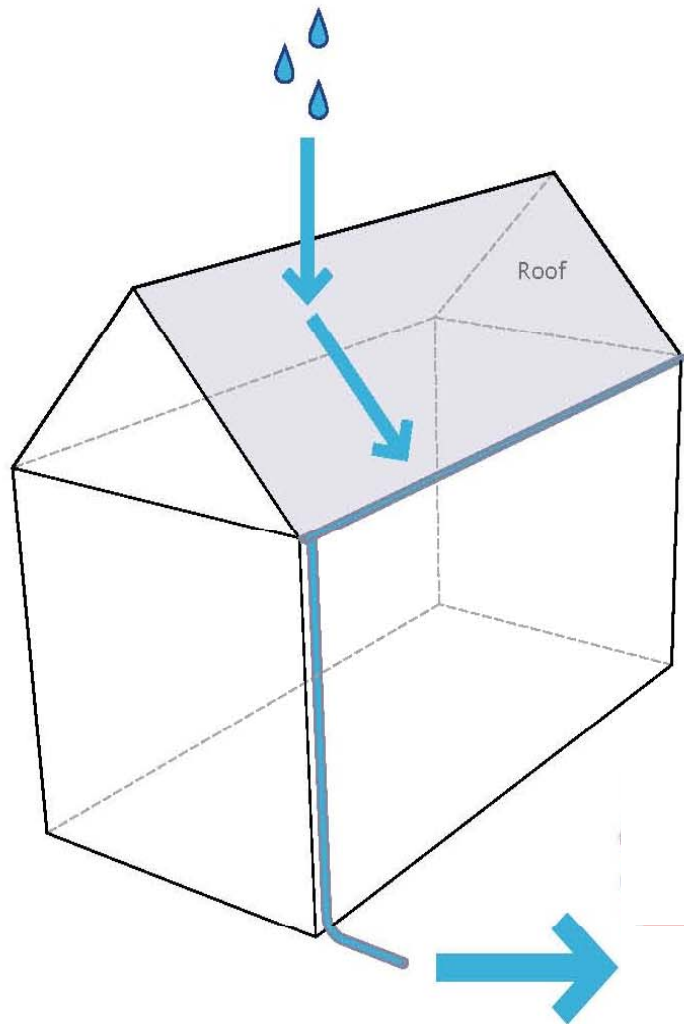
2 acres  
pervious cover



Stormwater  
Inlet

	<b>Volume of Runoff</b>		
<b>Design Storm</b>	<b>Connected (gallons)</b>	<b>Disconnected (gallons)</b>	<b>Percent Difference</b>
1.25 inches (water quality storm)	28,500	4,360	85%

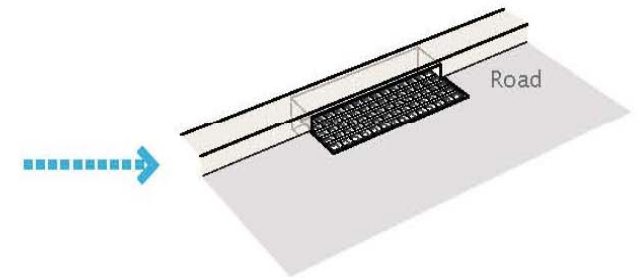
# Disconnection with Rain Water Harvesting



Disconnect your  
downspout by installing a  
rain barrel



REDUCE THE AMOUNT  
OF RUNOFF ENTERING  
STORM SEWERS



Impervious area is now **"disconnected"** from flowing directly into the storm sewer system

# So Many Barrels to Choose From...

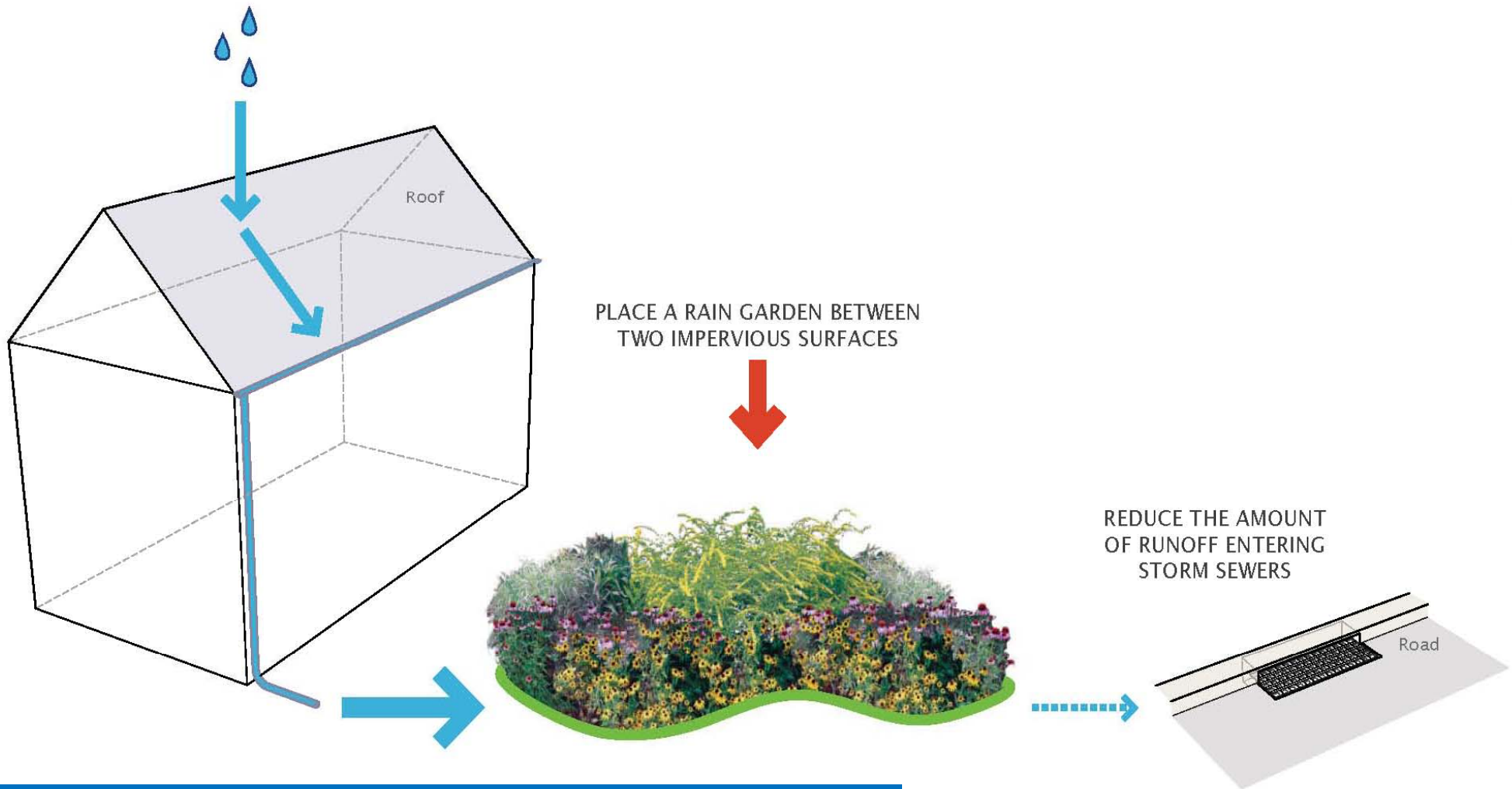


# Or Larger Rainwater Harvesting Systems...



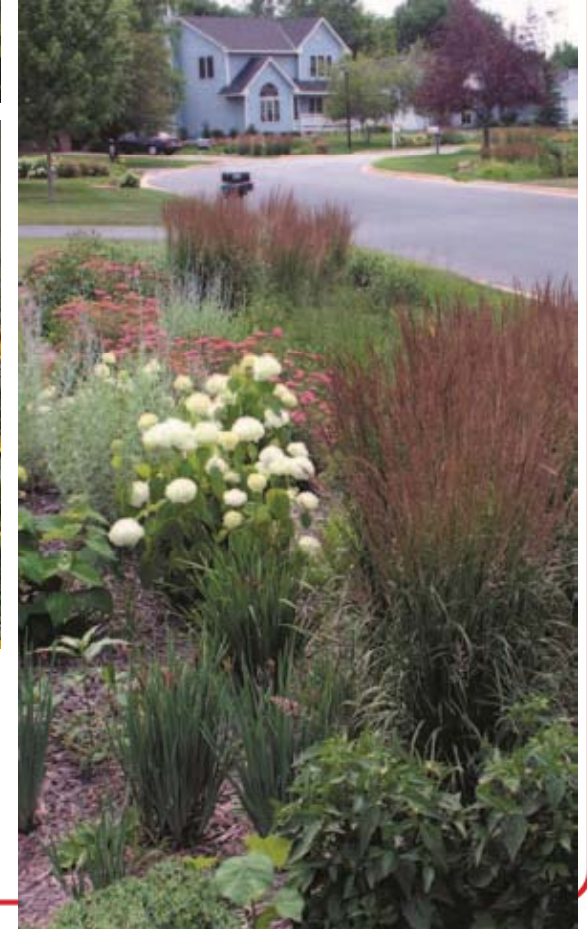


# Disconnection with Rain Gardens



Rooftop runoff is now ***“disconnected”*** from flowing directly into the storm sewer system

# Lots of Rain Gardens



# Green Infrastructure is ...

...an approach to stormwater management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly.

Green Infrastructure projects:

- capture,
- filter,
- absorb, and
- reuse

stormwater to maintain or mimic natural systems and treat runoff as a resource.



# Green Infrastructure includes:

Green Roofs

Rainwater Harvesting

Planter Boxes

Rain Gardens

Permeable Pavements

Vegetated Swales

Natural Retention Basins

Trees & Urban Forestry

Brownfield Redevelopment



Natural Retention Basins



Rain Gardens



Green Roofs



Permeable Pavements



Rainwater Harvesting

# Rainwater Harvesting

## FUNCTIONS

- Collecting, filtering and storing water from roof tops, paved and unpaved areas for multiple uses.
- Harvested water can be used for nonpotable or potable purposes after testing and treatment.
- Surplus water after usage can be used for recharging ground water.
- Systems can range in size from a simple PVC tank or cistern to a contractor designed and built tank/sump with water treatment facilities.



# Rainwater Harvesting



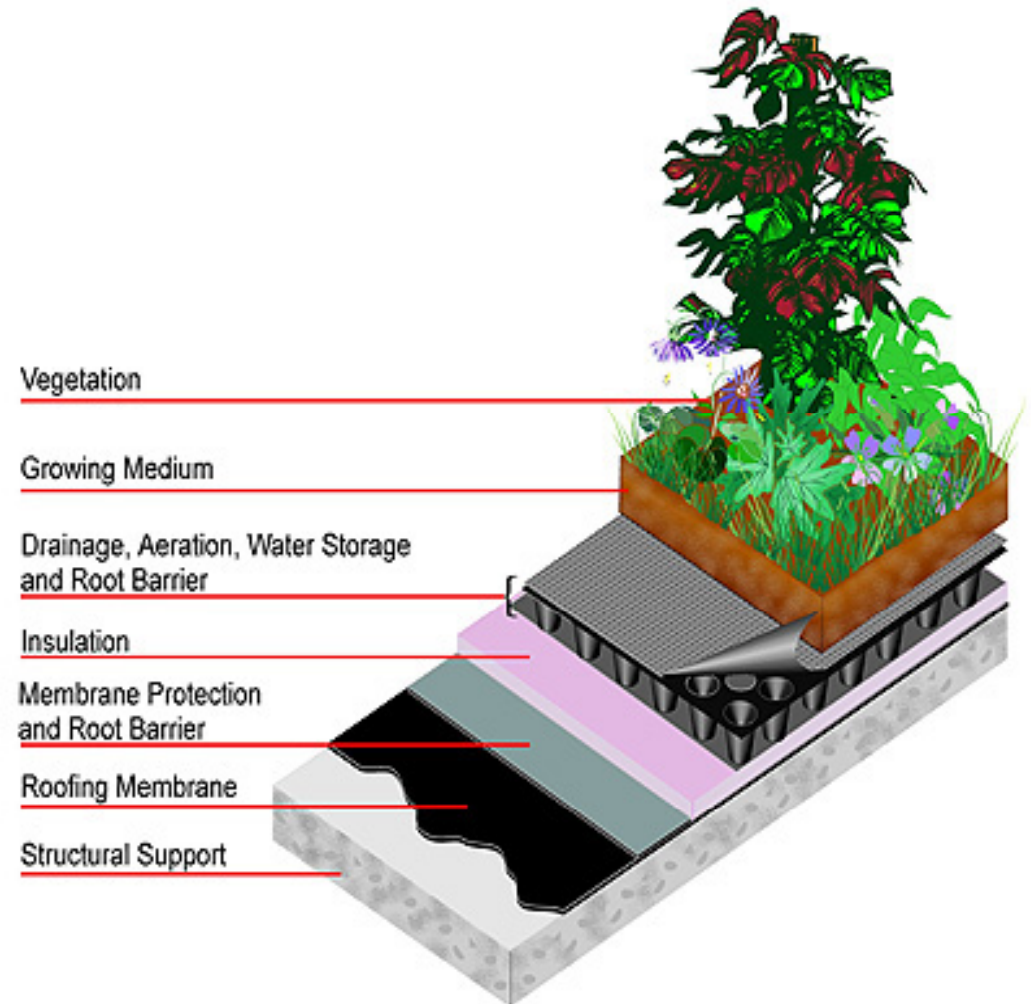
Samuel Mickle School Rainwater Harvesting System

# Green Roofs

## FUNCTIONS

- Improves stormwater management
- Improves air quality
- Temperature regulation (moderation of Urban Heat Island Effect)
- Carbon dioxide/oxygen exchange
- Increased urban wildlife habitat

## COMPONENTS

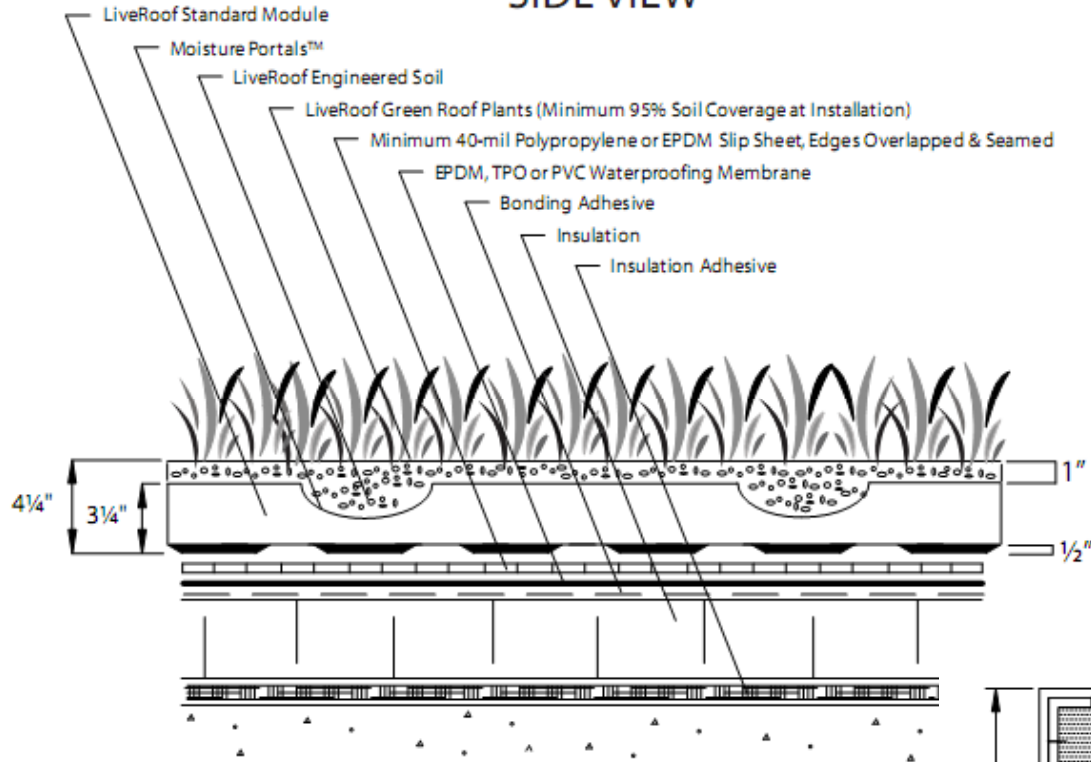




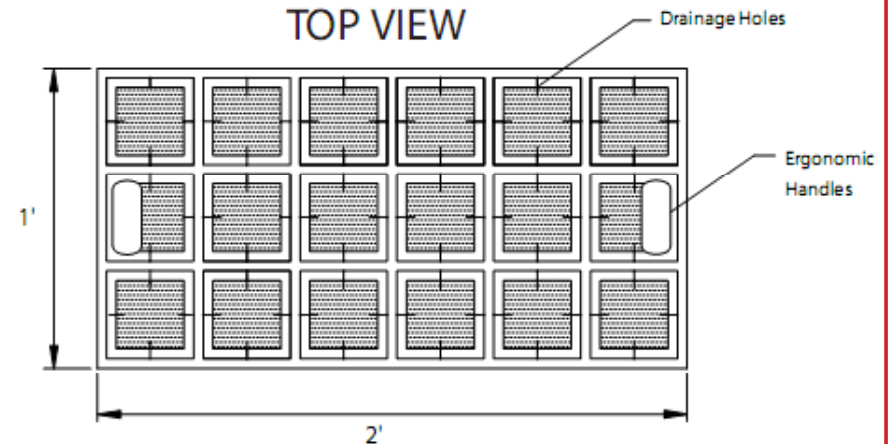
# Green Roof Design

## Modular System Specifications:

### SIDE VIEW

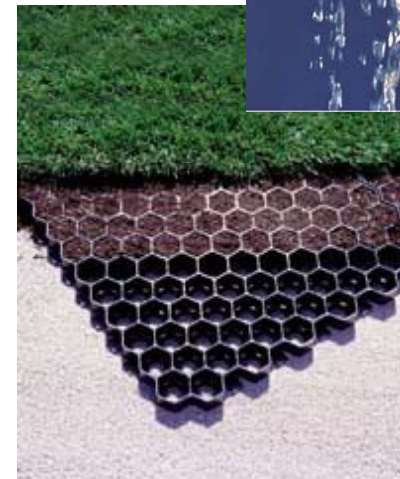


### TOP VIEW



# Pervious Pavements

- Underlying stone reservoir that temporarily stores surface runoff before infiltrating into the subsoil
- Porous asphalt and pervious concrete are manufactured without "fine" materials, and incorporate void spaces to allow infiltration
- Grass pavers are concrete interlocking blocks or synthetic fibrous grid systems with open areas designed to allow grass to grow within the void areas
- Ideal application for porous pavement is to treat a low traffic or overflow parking area

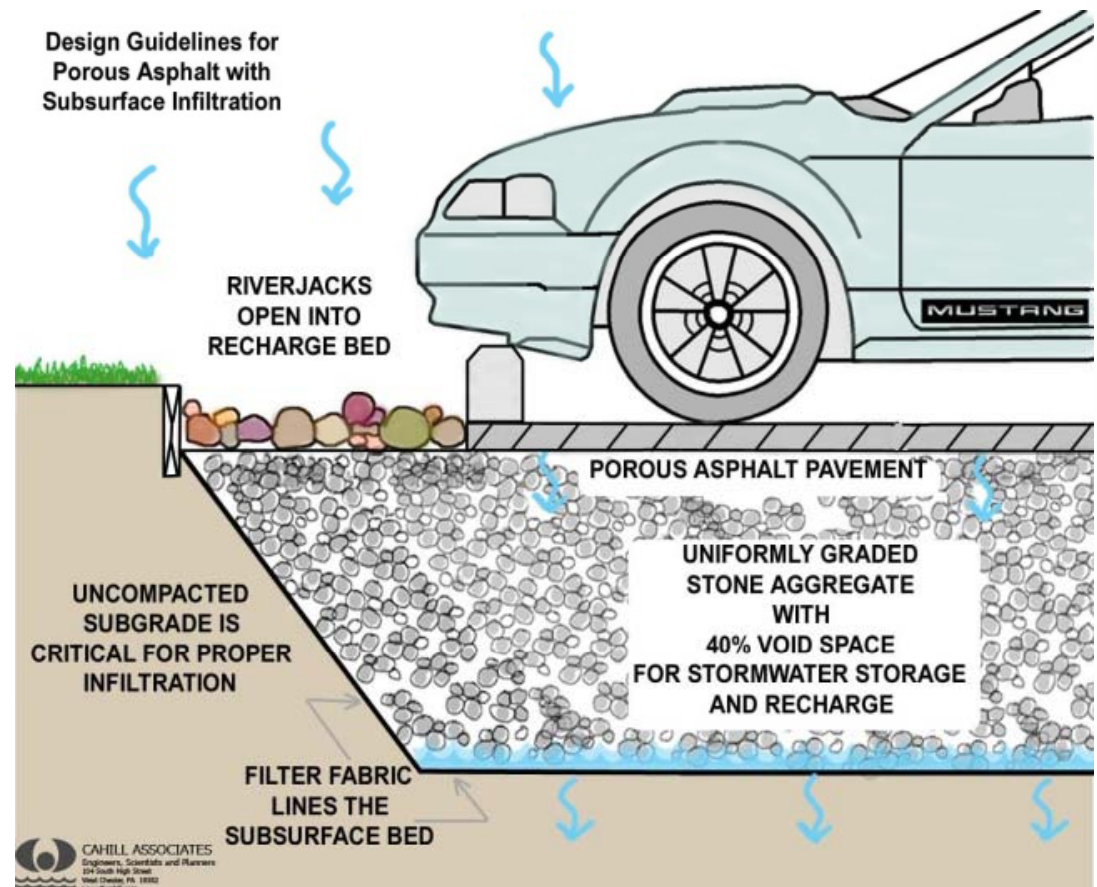


# Pervious Pavements

## FUNCTIONS

- Manage stormwater runoff
- Minimize site disturbance
- Possibility of groundwater recharge
- Low life cycle costs, alternative to costly traditional stormwater management methods
- Mitigation of urban heat island effect
- Contaminant removal as water moves through layers of system

## COMPONENTS



# Pervious Pavement



# Pervious Pavements



# Bioretention Systems & Rain Gardens

## Traditional Approach

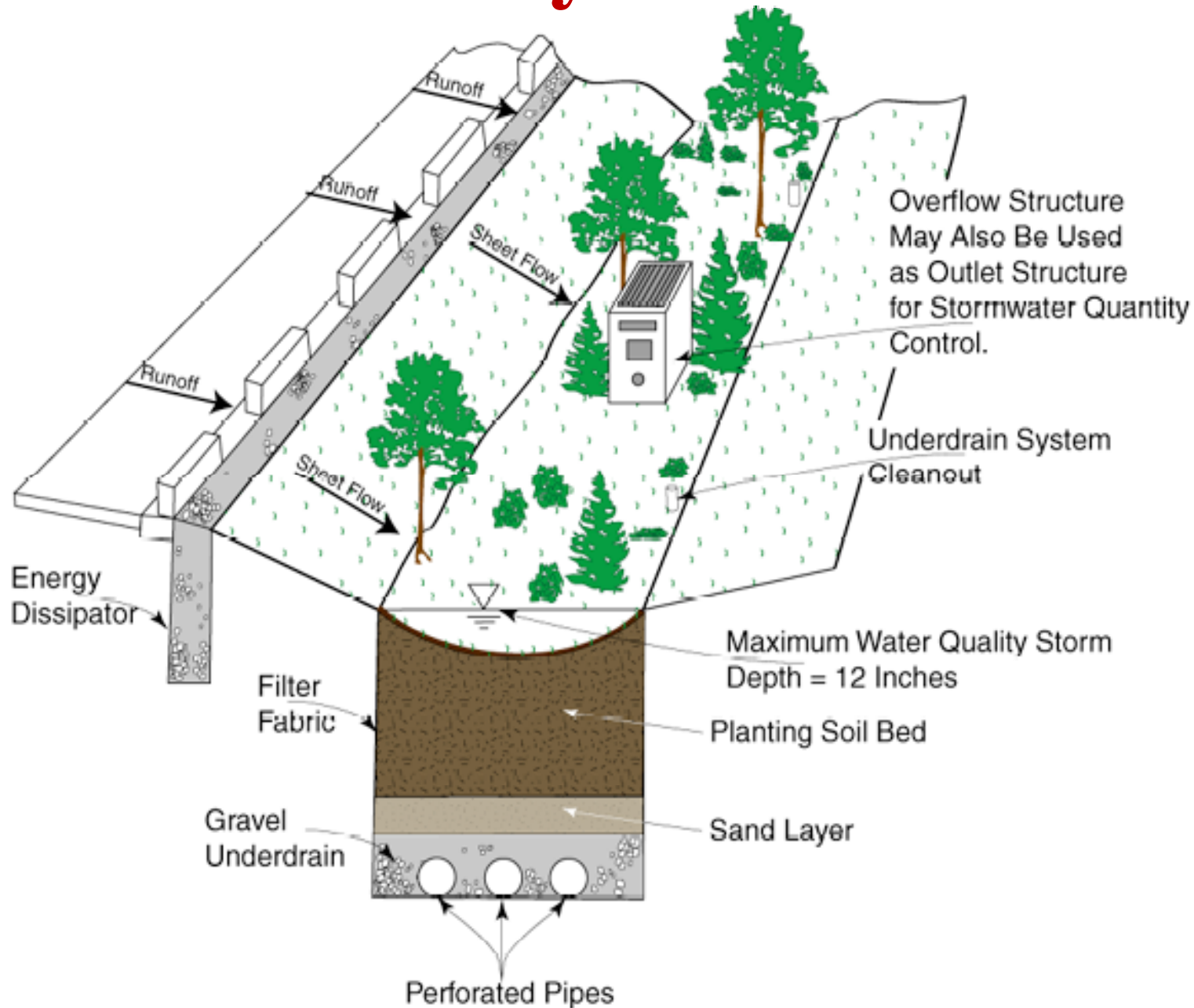
Design Dry Detention Basin:

- Treat Water Quality Storm (1.25" rain over 24 hours)
- Detain for 18 hours (residential) or 36 hours (commercial)
- Minimum outflow orifice = three inches
- Use Concrete Low Flow Channels to Minimize Erosion

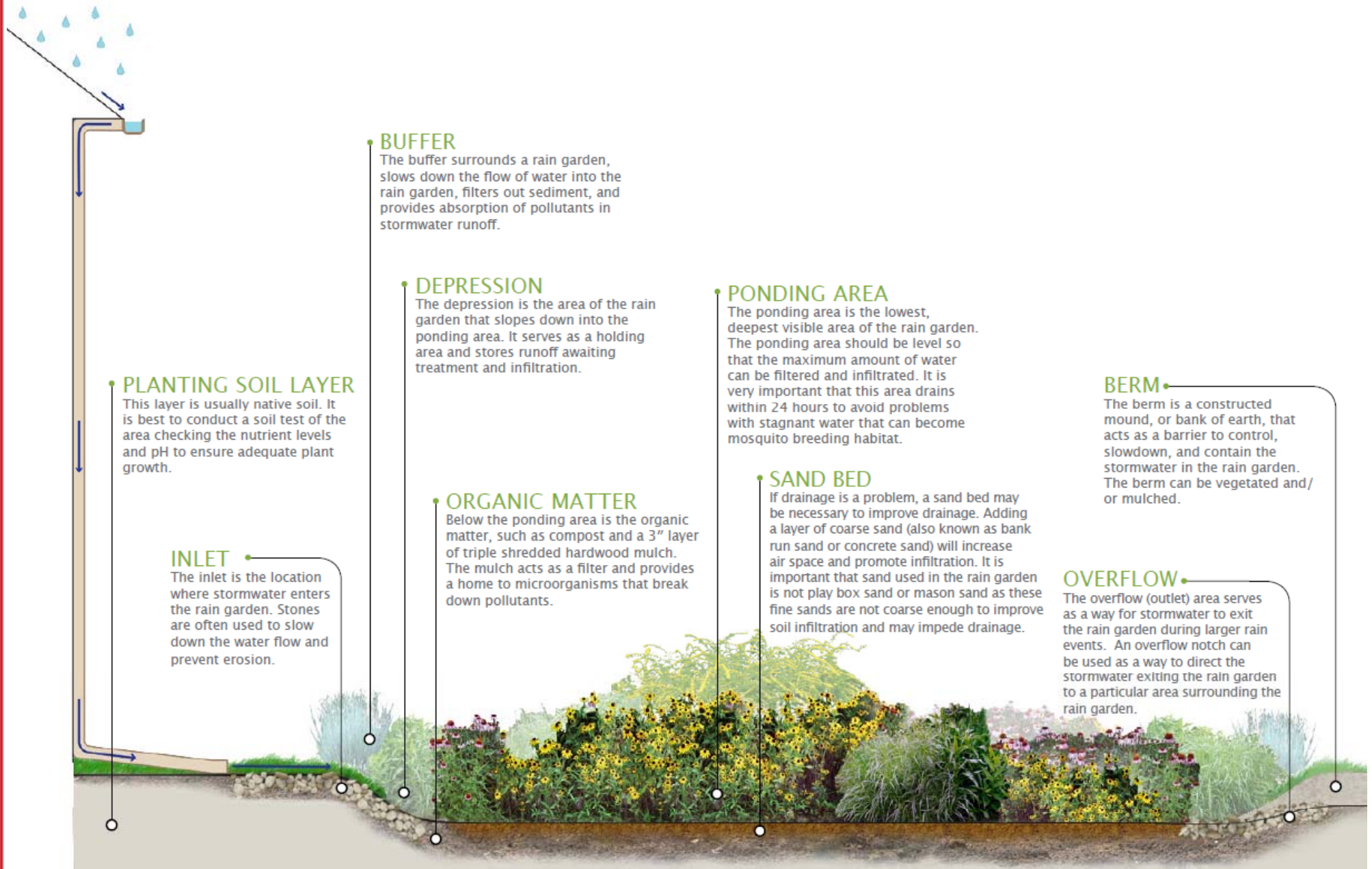
## New Approach

- Combines settling of detention basin with physical filtering and absorption processes
- Provides very high pollutant removal efficiencies
- More aesthetically pleasing than conventional detention basins
- Can be incorporated into the landscapes of individual homes

# Bioretention Systems & Rain Gardens



# Bioretention Systems & Rain Gardens





# Curb Extensions/Green Streets



Curb extension with a planted swale that captures stormwater from the gutter.  
Portland, OR (Credit: Abby Hall)

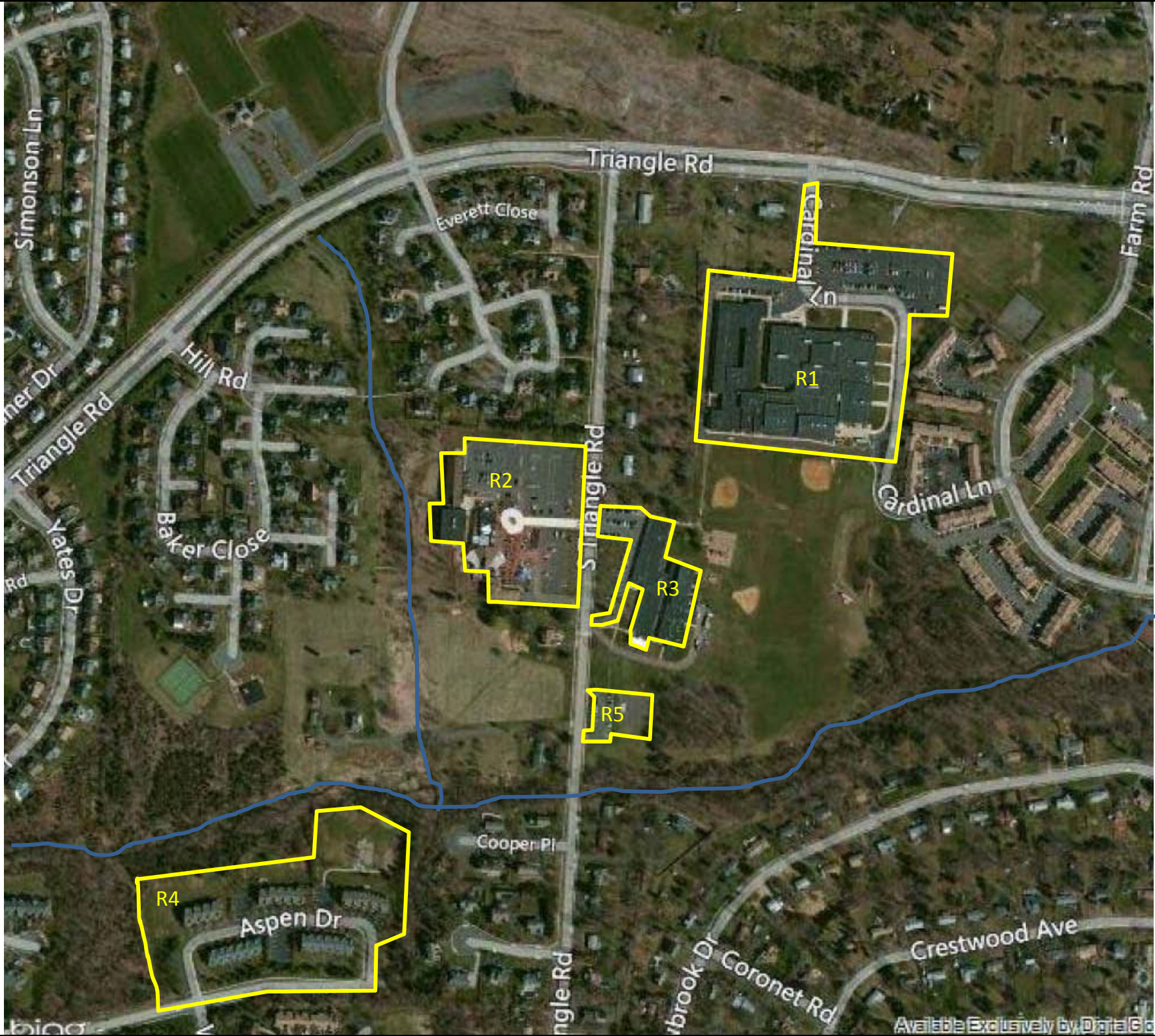




# Paraprofessionals

**Here is what you're gonna do!**

# Desktop Analysis



bing south triangle road, hillsborough, nj

Sign in 0 of 5

Road Bird's eye Traffic Fullscreen Print Share

World • United States • NJ • Somerset Co. • Hillsborough Township



50 feet 10 m

© 2013 Microsoft Corporation Pictometry Bird's Eye © 2012 Pictometry International Corp

# Site Visits

**Site Photos:**





## Stormwater Best Management Practice Opportunities

### Royce Brook Watershed - Hillsborough Township

<u>Project Identifier</u>	<u>Geographic Coordinates</u>	
R5 - Parking Lot Next to Triangle School	N40° 58' 46.26"	W074° 2' 38.76"
<p><b><u>Site Description and BMP Implementation Opportunities:</u></b> This site is the overflow parking lot and paved playground lot for Triangle Elementary School on South Triangle Road. The site is adjacent to Royce Brook. The parking lot flows to a single catch basin at the south end of the parking lot, which dumps directly into the Royce Brook. The parking lot is in fair condition. The paved playground lot does not have any catch basins but rather flows onto the grassed area adjacent to the lot and ultimately into the stream. The paved playground lot is in fair condition. The flow from the parking lot can be diverted to a bioretention system bypassing the existing catch basin. There is ample area for the bioretention system. The design and construction of this bioretention basin or rain garden can be incorporated into the fourth grade science curriculum at the elementary school. The paved playground lot could be converted to pervious asphalt and serve as an outstanding demonstration project for the watershed.</p>		

# Document Recommendations

# Royce Brook Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan

## BMP Information Sheet

Project ID: R5 - Parking Lot Next to Triangle School

Location:  
South Triangle Road at Triangle Elementary School

Municipality: Hillsborough

Subwatershed: Royce Brook

BMP Description:  
Bioretention System/Rain Garden and Educational Program

Targeted Pollutants:  
Total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS) in surface runoff

### Existing Conditions and Issues:

This site is the overflow parking lot for Triangle Elementary School on South Triangle Road. The site is adjacent to Royce Brook. The parking lot flows to a single catch basin at the south end of the parking lot, which dumps directly into the Royce Brook. The parking lot surface is in fair condition. The pollutants that accumulate in the parking lot are directly discharged to Royce Brook during storm events with no level of treatment. Additionally, the stormwater runoff is quickly discharged to the stream, contributing to the stream's flashy hydrology, which cause bank erosion, downcutting, and localized flooding.

### Proposed Solution(s):

The flow from the parking lot (12,000 square feet in size) can be diverted to a bioretention system or rain garden bypassing the existing catch basin. There is ample area for the rain garden, which would be approximately 2,400 square feet in size with a depth of six to eight inches. The design and construction of this bioretention basin or rain garden can be incorporated into the fourth grade science curriculum at the elementary school. The RCE Water Resources Program has a Stormwater Management in Your School Yard program that could be incorporated into the 4th grade curriculum. The students could gain knowledge and increase their awareness of issues associated with stormwater runoff while building a BMP on the school grounds that actually helps address some of the problems.

#### Anticipated Benefits:

The rain garden would be designed to capture, treat and infiltrate the water quality design storm (1.25 inches of rain over two hours). Since 90% of the annual rainfall in New Jersey comes in storms events less than water quality design storm, the rain garden would remove 90% of the TN, TP, and TSS on an annual basis. Pathogens and Bacteria such as E. coli and Fecal Coliform will be reduced by up to 90% as well. A rain garden would also provide ancillary benefits, such as enhanced wildlife habitat and aesthetic appeal to surrounding property owners. The Triangle Elementary School is located at the proposed site. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program could present the *Stormwater Management in Your School Yard* curriculum to students and then include them in the rain garden design and planting efforts as an augmentation to the in-class lessons. It can also be used as a demo project to launch educational programming for Hillsborough Department of Public Works staff.

#### Possible Funding Sources:

319(h) grants from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
Soil Conservation District of Somerset-Union Counties  
Hillsborough Township  
Sustainable Jersey  
Triangle School Home and School Association

#### Partners/Stakeholders:

Rutgers Cooperative Extension  
Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association

## Royce Brook Watershed Restoration and Protection Plan BMP Information Sheet

Estimated Cost:

Task	Task Description			Estimated Cost
1	Complete topographic survey and soils test			\$500
2	Prepare final design			\$1,000
3	Activities for BMP installation	Unit Cost	Quantity	
	Plant materials	\$0.50/sq.ft.	2,400	\$1,200
	Soil amendments (course sand)	\$35/cu.yd.	10	\$350
	Mulch	\$25/cu.yd.	20	\$500
	Installation (assume volunteer-based effort)	\$25.22/hr*	30 people 4 hr/person	\$3,027 (no charge)
	Supervision of volunteers	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
	Educational Programs (Schools and DPW)	\$2,000		\$2,000
	Contingency (10%)	-	-	\$655
<b>Total Estimated Project Cost</b>				<b>\$7,205</b>

\*Based on New Jersey State Value for Volunteer Time as reported by the Corporation for National and Community Service

Picture is worth 1,000 words

# Triangle Elementary School Parking lot Stormwater Management Practice

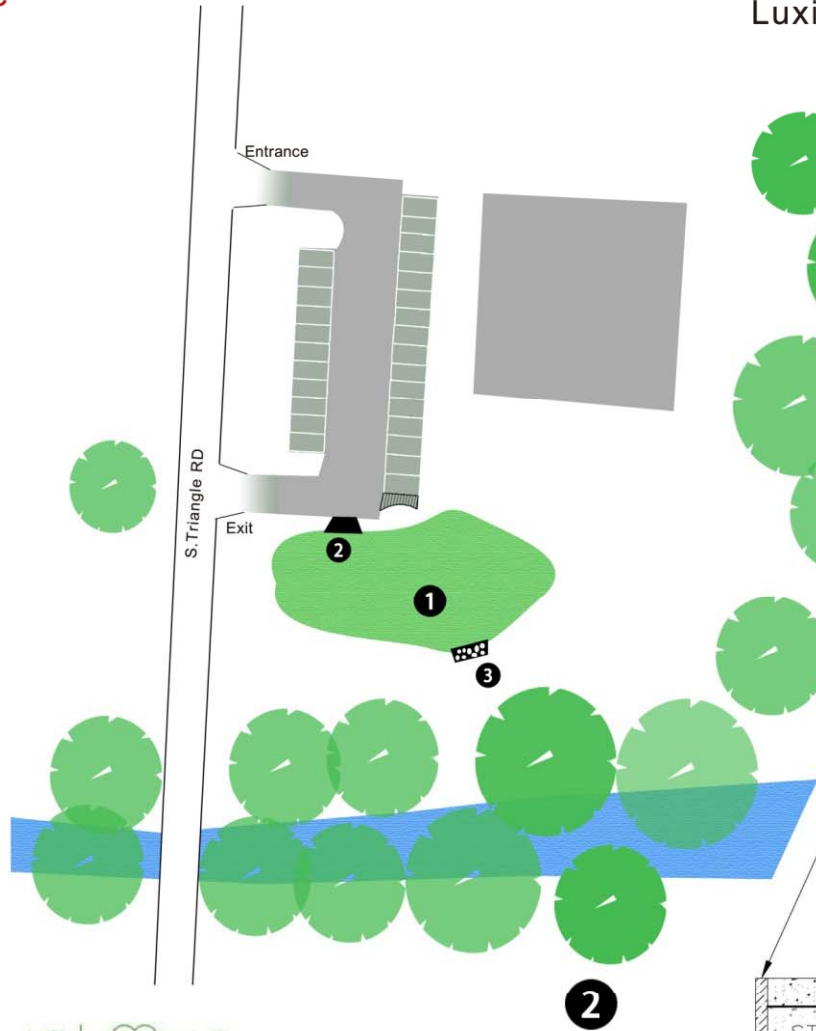
## Bioenvironmental Engineering Design

Luxin Li

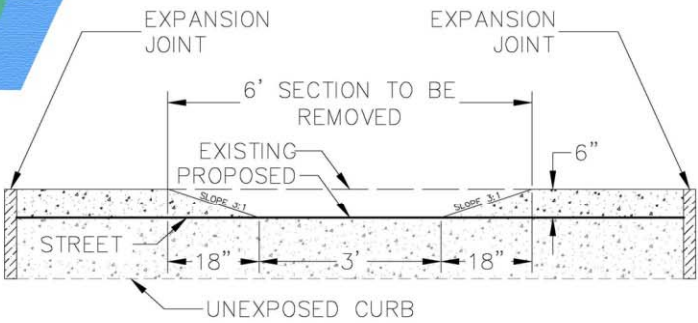
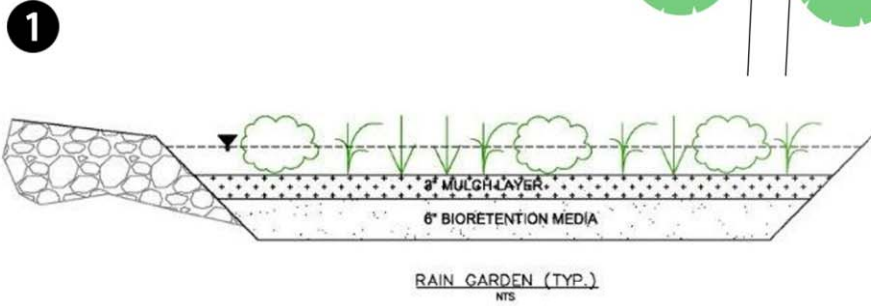
### Project location



A rain garden can be built on the green space, and we can cut the curb near the drainage inlet to lead rain water to the rain garden. One overflow stone weir can be built near the river side. Therefore, overflows from rain garden can flow to river.



SITE PHOTO



4  
DET

CURB CUT DETAIL

1:1

# Resources Available to You

- Jessica Brown  
([jess@envsci.rutgers.edu](mailto:jess@envsci.rutgers.edu))
- Lisa Galloway Evrard  
([Evrard@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:Evrard@rci.rutgers.edu))
- Steve Yergeau  
([syergeau@envsci.rutgers.edu](mailto:syergeau@envsci.rutgers.edu))
- Kyle Gourley  
([kgourley@envsci.rutgers.edu](mailto:kgourley@envsci.rutgers.edu))



# How this can be used to develop plans?

- **Develop an Impervious Cover Reduction Action Plan**
- **Develop a Watershed Restoration Plan**

# How the plans can be used to implement projects?

- Implementing community projects
- Developing local ordinances
- Identification of mitigation for new development and redevelopment

# Stormwater Mitigation Plan Online Tool

## Hamilton Township Possible Green Infrastructure Sites

A look at delineated sites that offer possibilities for implementing best management practices to mitigate flooding associated with stormwater runoff

A story map [f](#) [t](#)



Miry Run

Pond Run



1 St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church



2 Pace Charter School



3 Reynold's Middle School



4 Trenton Catholic Academy: McCorristin Campus



5 Whitehorse Plaza Shopping Center



6 Suburban Plaza



7 Greenwood Elementary School



8 Hamilton Township Building



9 Hamilton Township Library



10 Hamilton Township Police Division



11 Hamilton Golf Center



12 Hamilton Lanes



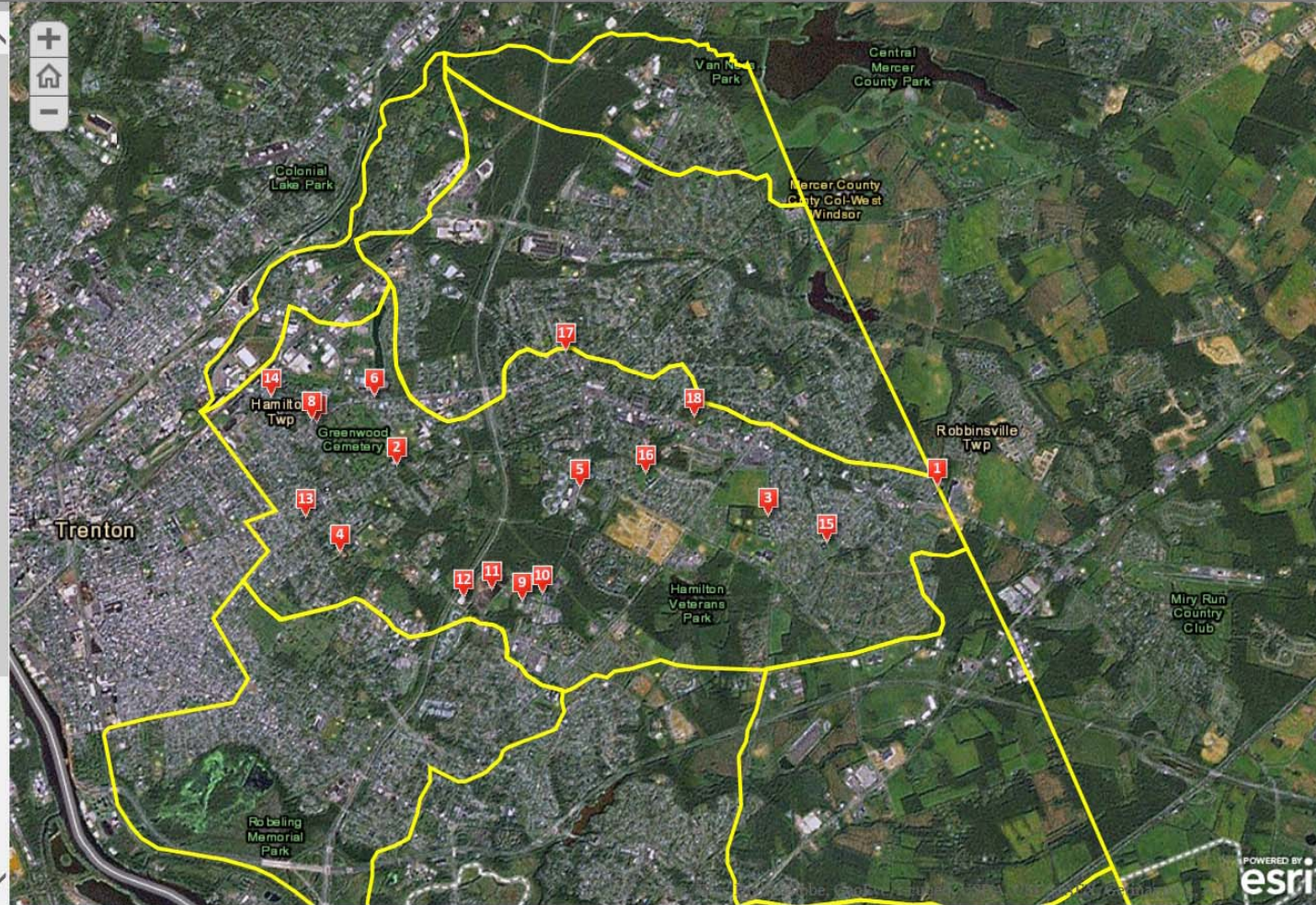
13



14



15



# Greenwood Elementary School



2069 Greenwood Avenue

Area (sq. ft.): 83,374 ; Block: 1884; Lot: 1

Impervious Cover (sq. ft.): 75, 121 ;  
Percent Impervious: 90%; Total Runoff  
from Impervious Surfaces for the 1.25"  
Quality Storm (gal): 58,536

Total Phosphorus Loads (lbs/yr): 4;  
Total Nitrogen Loads (lbs/yr): 42; Total  
Suspended Solids Loads (lbs/yr): 383

Recharge Potential: \_\_\_\_; Total  
Suspended Solids Removal  
Potential: \_\_\_\_; Stormwater Peak  
Reduction Potential: \_\_\_\_\_

Suitable for: Bioretention (with  
underdrain system), Bioretention  
(infiltration), Dry Pond, Grass Swale,  
Infiltration Trench, Porous Pavement,  
Vegetated Filter Strips





QUESTIONS?