
New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	i
Forward.....	ii
Preface	iii
Chapter 1. Introduction	
1.1 Purpose of the Manual.....	1-1
1.2 How to Use the Manual.....	1-1
1.3 Symbols and Acronyms.....	1-5
Chapter 2. Impacts of New Development	
2.1 Declining Water Quality.....	2-2
2.2 Diminishing Groundwater Recharge and Quality	2-7
2.3 Impacts to the Stream Channel.....	2-9
2.4 Increased Overbank Flooding	2-11
2.5 Floodplain Expansion.....	2-13
2.6 Impacts to Aquatic Organisms	2-14
Chapter 3. Stormwater Permit Requirements	
3.1 Applying for a Stormwater Permit.....	3-1
3.2 Filing Other Permit Applications	3-4
Chapter 4. Unified Stormwater Sizing Criteria	
4.1 Introduction.....	4-1
4.2 Water Quality Volume (WQv)	4-2
4.3 Stream Channel Protection Criteria (Cpv).....	4-5
4.4 Overbank Flood Protection Criteria (Qp).....	4-10
4.5 Extreme Flood Control Criteria (Qf)	4-12
4.6 Conveyance Criteria	4-14
4.7 Downstream Analysis	4-14
4.8 Stormwater Hotspots.....	4-16
Chapter 5. List of Acceptable Stormwater Management Practices	
5.1 Practice List	5-1
5.2 Structural Practices Acceptable for Pretreatment or as Supplemental Practices Only.....	5-4
5.3 Criteria for Practice Addition	5-4
Chapter 6. Performance Criteria	
6.1 Stormwater Ponds	6-3
6.2 Stormwater Wetlands	6-22
6.3 Stormwater Infiltration.....	6-31
6.4 Stormwater Filtering Systems	6-44
6.5 Open Channel Systems.....	6-59
Chapter 7. SMP Selection Matrices	
7.1 Land Use.....	7-3
7.2 Physical Feasibility Factors	7-5
7.3 Watershed/Regional Factors	7-7
7.4 Stormwater Management Capability	7-11
7.5 Community and Environmental Factors.....	7-13

Chapter 8. Stormwater Design Example

8.1	Sizing Example	8-2
8.2	Pond Design Example	8-11
8.3	Filter Design Example	8-27
8.4	Infiltration Design Example	8-36
8.5	Bioretention Design Example	8-42
References		R-1
Glossary.....		G-1

Appendices

A.	The Simple Method to Calculate Urban Stormwater Loads.....	A-1
B.	Hydrologic Analysis Tools	B-1
C.	SMP Construction Specifications	C-1
D.	Infiltration Testing Requirements.....	D-1
E.	Plan Review Checklist	E-1
F.	Construction Inspection Checklist.....	F-1
G.	Maintenance Inspection Checklists	G-1
H.	Landscaping Guidance/ Plant Lists	H-1
I.	Cold Climate Sizing Examples	I-1
J.	Geomorphic Assessment.....	J-1
K.	Miscellaneous Details	K-1
L.	Critical Erosive Velocities.....	L-1

List of Tables

Table 1.1 Key Symbols and Acronyms Cited in Manual	1-5
Table 2.1 National Median Concentrations for Chemical Constituents in Stormwater	2-3
Table 2.2 Runoff and Pollutant Characteristics of Snowmelt Stages.....	2-7
Table 2.3 Impacts to Stream Habitat.....	2-11
Table 2.4 Recent Research Examining the Relationship of Urbanization to Aquatic Habitat and Organisms	2-14
Table 3.1 Survey of Environmental Permits Issued by DEC that May Apply to New Development.....	3-6
Table 4.1 New York Stormwater Sizing Criteria	4-1
Table 4.2 Land Use and Impervious Cover	4-3
Table 4.3 Classification of Stormwater Hotspots	4-16
Table 5.1 Stormwater Management Practices Acceptable for Water Quality	5-3
Table 6.1 Water Quality Volume Distribution in Pond Designs	6-11
Table 6.2 Guidelines for Filter Strip Pretreatment Sizing	6-51
Table 7.1 Land Use Selection Matrix.....	7-4
Table 7.2 Physical Feasibility Matrix	7-6
Table 7.3a Watershed/Regional Selection Matrix-1	7-8
Table 7.3b Watershed/Regional Selection Matrix-2	7-10
Table 7.4 Stormwater Management Capability Matrix	7-12
Table 7.5 Community and Environmental Factors Matrix	7-14
Table 8.1 Summary of General Storage Requirements for Stone Hill Estates.....	8-11
Table 8.2 Summary of Controls Provided	8-22
Table 8.3 Site Hydrology	8-29
Table 8.4 Site Design Hydrology.....	8-37
Table 8.5 Site Specific Data.....	8-38
Table 8.6 Infiltration Feasibility	8-38
Table 8.7 Design Hydrology	8-43

List of Figures

Figure 2.1 Water Balance at a Developed and Undeveloped Site	2-1
Figure 2.2 Relationship Between Impervious Cover and Runoff Coefficient	2-2
Figure 2.3 Declining Baseflow in Response to Development.....	2-8
Figure 2.4 Increased Frequency of Erosive Velocities After Development	2-9
Figure 2.5 Relationship Between Impervious Cover and Channel Enlargement	2-10
Figure 2.6 Hydrographs Before and After Development.....	2-12
Figure 2.7 Floodplain Expansion with New Development	2-13
Figure 3.1 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Component Requirements	3-3
Figure 3.2 New York State Regional Contact Information.....	3-11
Figure 4.1 90% Rainfall in New York State	4-2
Figure 4.2 Example of a Conventional Stormwater Detention Pond	4-7
Figure 4.3 Example of Stormwater Detention Provided by Underground Pipe System	4-8
Figure 4.4 One-Year Design Storm	4-9
Figure 4.5 10-Year Design Storm.....	4-11
Figure 4.6 100-Year Design Storm	4-13
Figure 4.7 2-Year Design Storm.....	4-15
Figure 6.1 Micropool Extended Detention Pond	6-4
Figure 6.2 Wet Pond.....	6-5
Figure 6.3 Wet Extended Detention Pond	6-6
Figure 6.4 Multiple Pond System	6-7
Figure 6.5 Pocket Pond.....	6-8

Figure 6.6 Seasonal Operation Pond	6-18
Figure 6.7 Shallow Wetland	6-23
Figure 6.8 Extended Detention Shallow Wetland.....	6-24
Figure 6.9 Pond/Wetland System	6-25
Figure 6.10 Pocket Wetland	6-26
Figure 6.11 Infiltration Trench.....	6-32
Figure 6.12 Infiltration Basin	6-33
Figure 6.13 Dry Well.....	6-34
Figure 6.14 Seasonal Operation Infiltration Facility.....	6-41
Figure 6.15 Surface Sand Filter	6-45
Figure 6.16 Underground Sand Filter.....	6-46
Figure 6.17 Perimeter Sand Filter	6-47
Figure 6.18 Organic Filter.....	6-48
Figure 6.19 Bioretention	6-49
Figure 6.20 Dry Swale	6-60
Figure 6.21 Wet Swale	6-61
Figure 7.1 Sole Source Aquifers in New York State	7-7
Figure 8.1 Stonehill Estates Site Plan.....	8-2
Figure 8.2 Stonehill Pre-Development Conditions	8-4
Figure 8.3 Stonehill Post-Development Conditions	8-5
Figure 8.4 Stonehill Ultimate Buildout Conditions	8-6
Figure 8.5 Detention Time vs. Discharge Ratios	8-7
Figure 8.6 Approximate Detention Basin Routing For Rainfall Types I, IA, II, and III.....	8-9
Figure 8.7 Pond Location on Site	8-13
Figure 8.8 Plan View of Pond Grading	8-14
Figure 8.9 Storage Elevation Table/Curve	8-15
Figure 8.10 Stage-Storage-Discharge Summary	8-20
Figure 8.11 TR-20 Model Input and Output	8-23
Figure 8.12 TR-20 Model Input and Output for Ultimate Buildout Conditions.....	8-25
Figure 8.13 Profile of Principle Spillway	8-26
Figure 8.14 Lake Center Site Plan.....	8-27
Figure 8.15 Available Head Diagram.....	8-30
Figure 8.16 Flow Diversion Structure	8-32
Figure 8.17 Plan and Profile of Surface Sand Filter	8-35
Figure 8.18 Lake Center Site Plan.....	8-36
Figure 8.19 Schematic Infiltration Trench Cross Section.....	8-41
Figure 8.20 Lake Center Site Plan.....	8-42
Figure 8.21 Typical Section of Bioretention Facility	8-45

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Forward

On November 16, 1990, the initial federal NPDES stormwater regulations were established. These required certain industrial activities to obtain permit authorization in order to discharge site runoff. DEC, as the NPDES permit issuing authority in this State, promulgated two SPDES general permits for stormwater runoff in 1993, GP-93-05 for the more traditional industrial sites and GP-93-06 for construction sites.

GP-93-06 requires that an operator who is covered under the permit implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) that has been developed for the particular site. The minimum components of the SWPPP include a variety of requirements, including both structural and non-structural practices, inspections, contractor certifications, compliance with narrative water quality standards and other conditions. The attention, concern and efforts being directed at stormwater management practices at construction sites are constantly growing as new technologies emerge and experiences with older ones is gained. Additionally, construction site runoff is gaining wider attention as the federal NPDES stormwater program progresses. There is an ever-growing need to disseminate information concerning practices that are acceptable in New York.

The scope of attention is broadening on a national scale to smaller construction sites as evidenced by the APhase 2" stormwater regulations. Phase 2 lowers the threshold to one or more acres of disturbance, the runoff from which requires NPDES authorization for discharges to surface waters. Permitting will be required beginning on March 10, 2003. It's becoming more evident as time passes that there is a greater need for stormwater management practices that are technically effective and viable in New York State. "Spreading the word" to engineers, municipal officials, and the general public is crucial to the success of DEC's efforts in implementing the federal NPDES stormwater regulations and reducing incidences of water quality impairments.

Accordingly, permits that are issued in the future for construction site runoff will rely heavily on this new manual and the practices that are described therein. When properly designed and maintained, the implementation of these practices will become an important component of New York's overall stormwater management program. Adherence to the criteria and practices described will better ensure a successful implementation of stormwater controls and compliance with the SPDES general permit(s) issued for construction site runoff and maintaining water quality.



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Preface

The New York State Stormwater Design Manual is prepared to provide standards for the design of the Stormwater Management Practices (SMPs) to protect the waters of the State of New York from the adverse impacts of urban stormwater runoff. This manual is intended to establish specifications and uniform criteria for the practices that are part of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

This manual is intended primarily for engineers and other professionals who are engaged in the design of stormwater treatment facilities for new developments. Users are assumed to have a background in hydrology, hydraulics, and runoff and pollutant load computation. It is not intended to be a primer on any of these subjects. The manual may also be used by reviewing authorities to assess the adequacy of SWPPPs.

The manual is limited to the design of structures. It does not address the temporary control of sedimentation and erosion from construction activities, nor the development of Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans. The reader is referred to the documents *“Reducing the Impacts of Runoff from New Development”* and *“New York State Guidelines for Urban Erosion and Sediment Control”* for guidance with these subjects.

Recommended Standards, consisting of proven technology, are intended to serve as a guide in the design and preparation of plans and specifications for Stormwater Management Practices, to suggest limiting values for items upon which an evaluation of such plans and specifications may be made by the reviewing authority, and to establish, as far as practicable, uniformity of practice. As statutory requirements and legal authority pertaining to stormwater management are not uniform across the State, and since conditions and administrative procedures and policies also differ, the use of these Standards must be adjusted to these variations.

The terms “shall” and “must” are used where the practice is sufficiently standardized to permit specific delineation of requirements or where safeguarding of the public health justifies such definite action. Other terms, such as “should,” “recommend,” and “preferred,” indicate desirable procedures or methods, with deviations subject to individual consideration.

Section 4.2 Water Quality Volume (WQ_v)

The Water Quality Volume (denoted as the WQ_v) is designed to improve water quality sizing to capture and treat 90% of the average annual stormwater runoff volume. The WQ_v is directly related to the amount of impervious cover created at a site. Contour lines of the 90% rainfall event are presented in Figure 4.1.

The following equation can be used to determine the water quality storage volume WQ_v (in acre-feet of storage):

$$WQ_v = \frac{(P)(R_v)(A)}{12}$$

where:

- WQ_v = water quality volume (in acre-feet)
- P = 90% Rainfall Event Number (see Figure 4.1)
- R_v = 0.05 + 0.009(I), where I is percent impervious cover
- A = site area in acres

A minimum WQ_v of 0.2 inches per acre shall be met at residential sites that have less than 17% impervious cover.

Figure 4.1 90% Rainfall in New York State

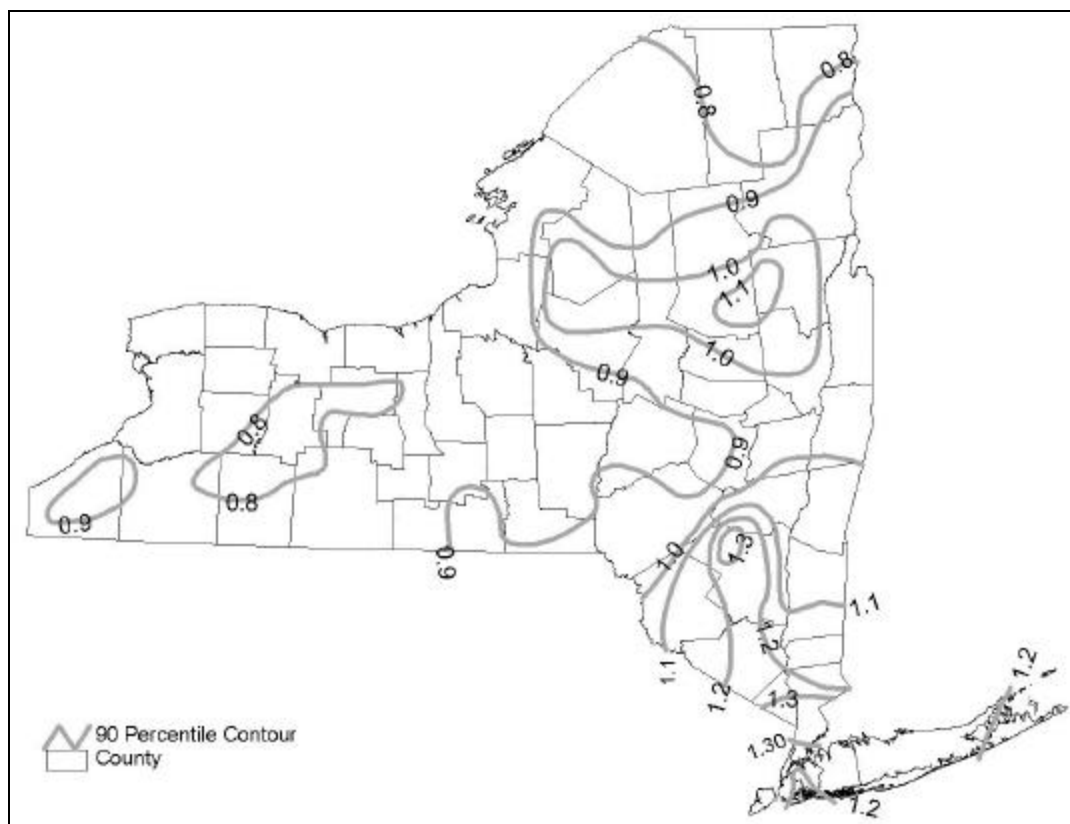


Figure 4.4 One-Year Design Storm

