



CONSIDERATIONS

- Soils
- Area Required
- Slope
- Water Availability
- Aesthetics
- Hydraulic Head
- Environmental Side Effects

DESCRIPTION:

Minimizing directly connected impervious areas (DCIAs) is a structural BMP strategy that requires a basic change in drainage design philosophy. The basic principle is to direct stormwater runoff to landscaped areas, grass buffer strips, and vegetated swales to slow down the rate of runoff, reduce runoff volumes, attenuate peak flows, and encourage filtering and infiltration of stormwater.

APPLICATION:

It can be made an integral part of drainage planning for any development.

INSTALLATION/APPLICATION CRITERIA:

- ▶ Use on sites with general terrain slopes flatter than 3-4%.
- ▶ Design the site drainage flowpath to maximize flow over vegetated areas before leaving a site.
- ▶ Minimize ground slopes to limit erosion and slow down water flow.
- ▶ Select vegetation that will not only survive, but also enhance water quality.

LIMITATIONS:

- ▶ Potential increase in site open space requirements over the traditional development systems.
- ▶ Introduction of a nonconventional development design strategy.
- ▶ Infiltration of water near building foundations and parking lots is a concern.
- ▶ Will likely result in increased maintenance along the swales.

MAINTENANCE:

- ▶ Maintain grass and other vegetation.
- ▶ Pick up debris.
- ▶ Conduct ongoing inspections for potential erosion problems and changes in drainage patterns.
- ▶ Remove sediment buildup and replace damaged grass cover.



TARGETED POLLUTANTS

- Sediment
- Nutrients
- Heavy Metals
- Toxic Materials
- Oxygen Demanding Substances
- Oil & Grease
- Floatable Materials
- Bacteria & Viruses

- High Impact
- Medium Impact
- Low or Unknown Impact

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- Capital Costs
- O&M Costs
- Maintenance
- Training

- High Medium Low