

# Swales and Rain Gardens



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*Seminars for land-savvy developers*



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# Swales and Rain Gardens: Introduction

Mike Faha

GreenWorks



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# TRENDS / Sustainable Site & Urban Design



# ISSUES / LIDA Components

- Differences between LIDA Facilities
- Functions (conveyance, infiltration, overflow)
- Benefits
- Siting
- Soils
- Planting
- Access

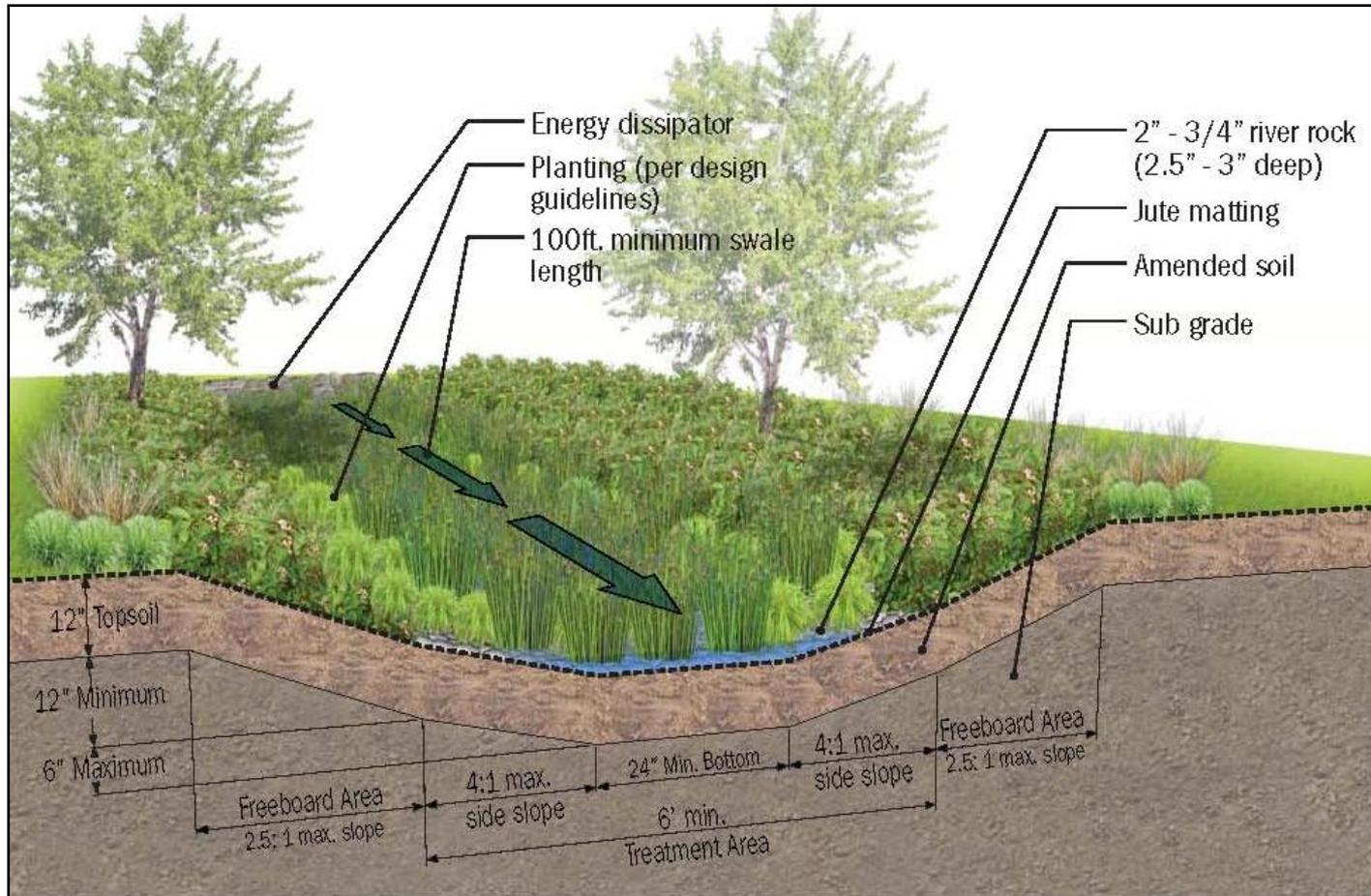


# 1991 – Columbia Trailer Swale



Vegetated Swale

# Vegetated Swale



# 1992 – OMSI Parking Lot



Vegetated Swale

# 1993 – Gabriel Park



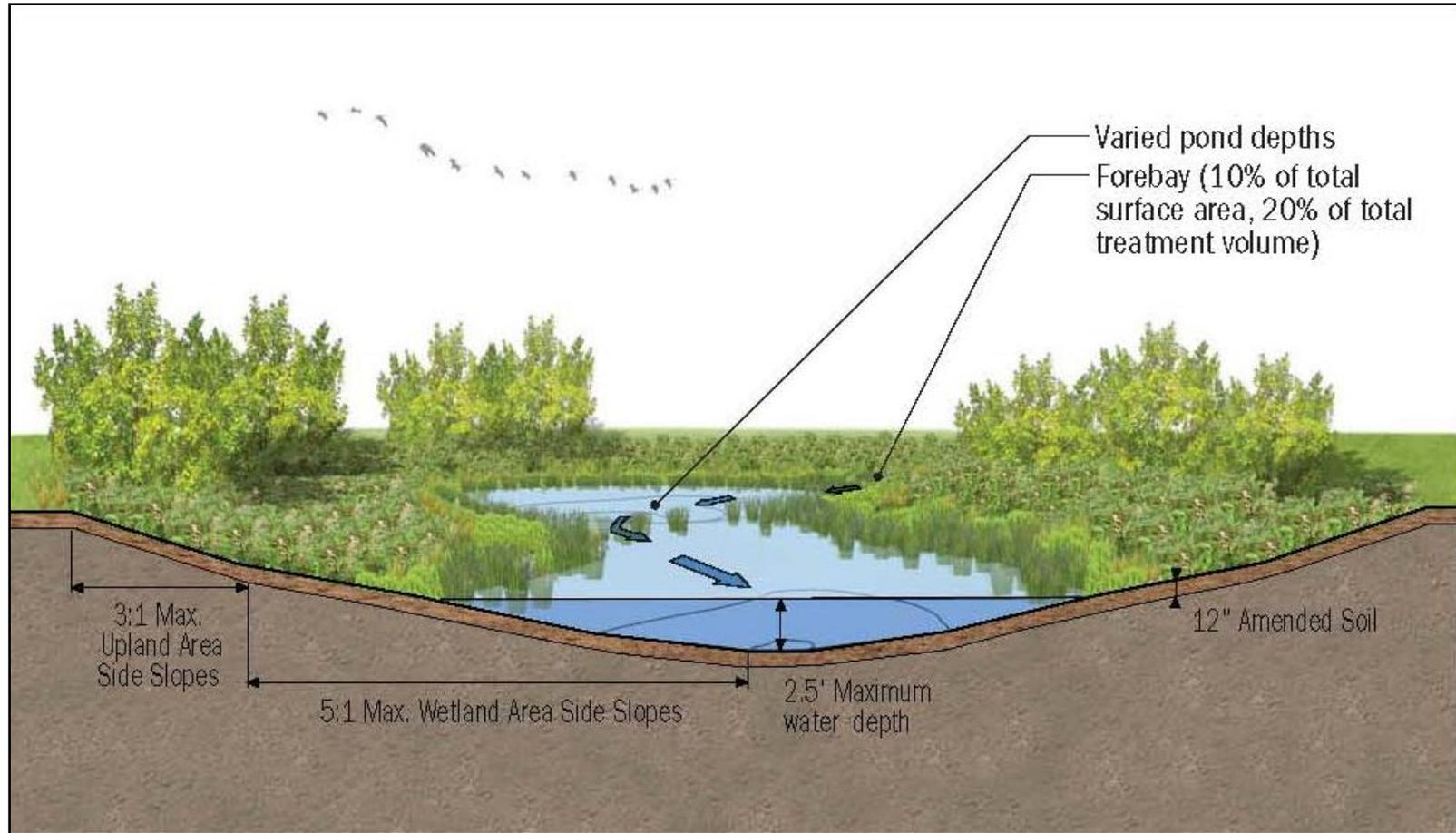
Vegetated Swale

# 1994 – 107<sup>th</sup> Ave Wetland Facility



Constructed Water Quality Wetland

# Constructed Water Quality Wetland



# 1997 – Portland B.E.S. Water Quality Laboratory



Conveyance/Stormwater Art



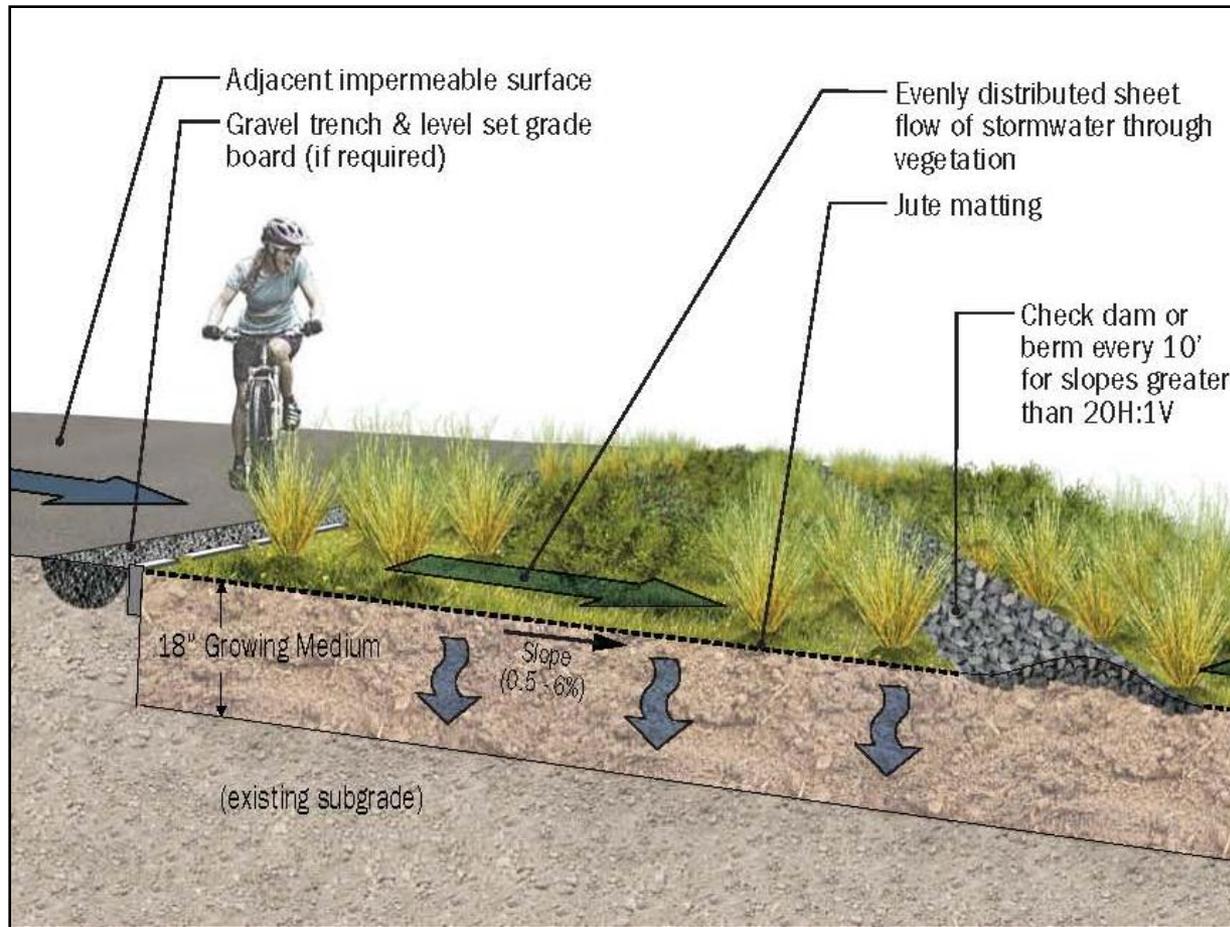
Water Quality Pond

# 1999 – Arata Creek School



Vegetated Filter Strip

# Vegetated Filter Strip

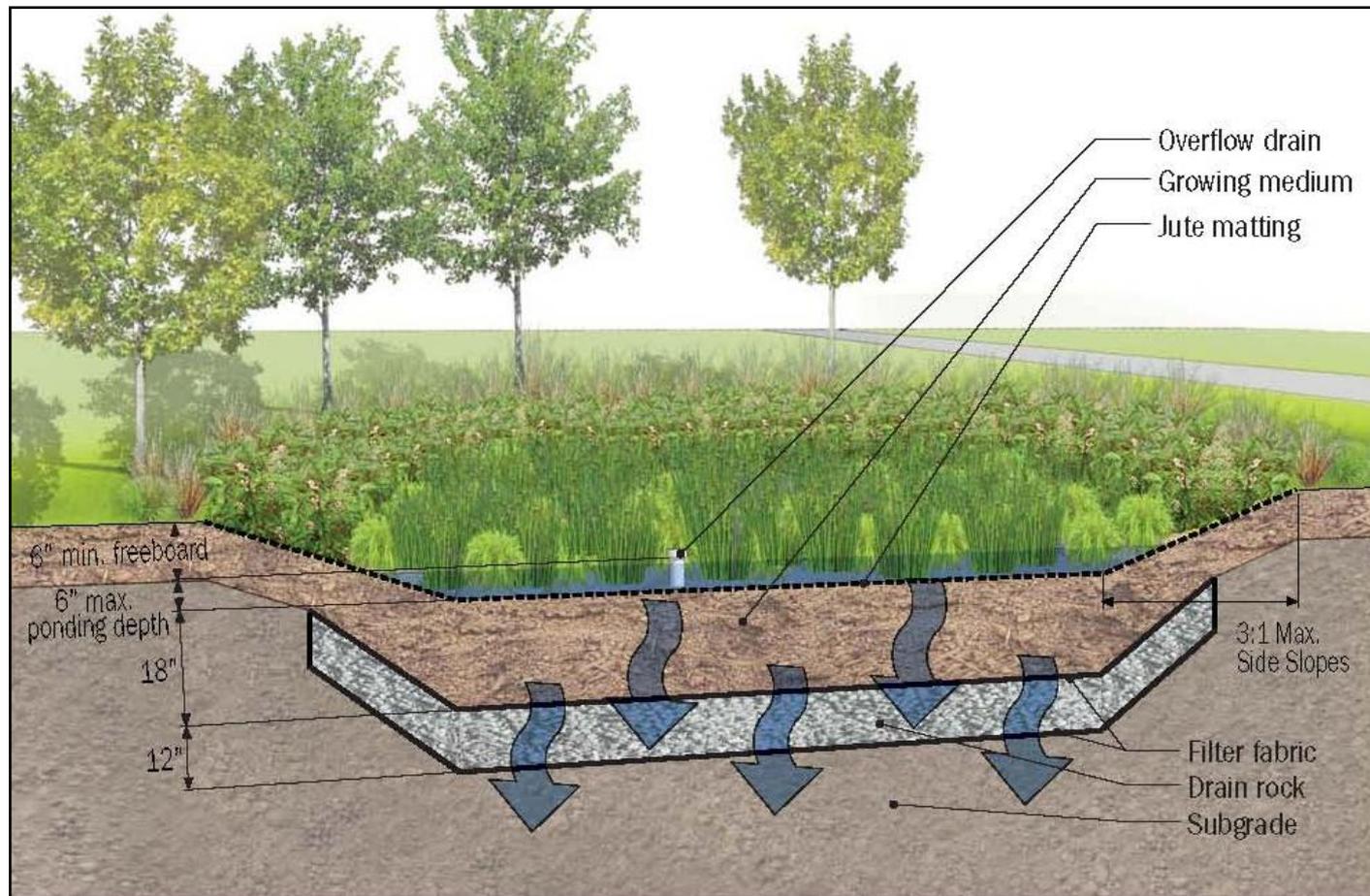


# 1999– Buckman Heights Apartments



Infiltration Planter

# Infiltration Planter/Rain Garden



# 2000 – Tanasbourne Office Building



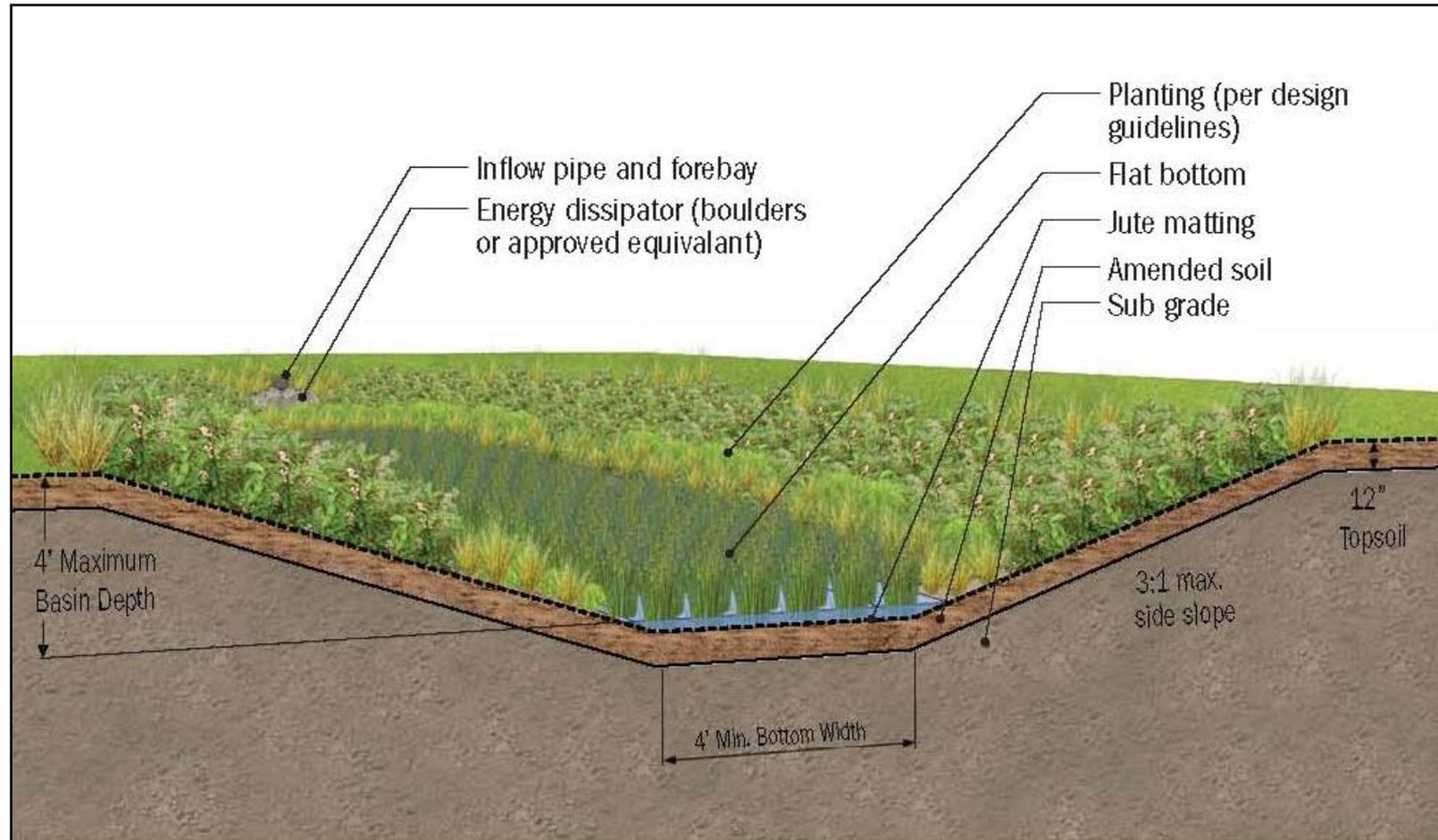
Vegetated Swale

# 2000 – Novellus



Extended Dry Basin

# Extended Dry Basin



# 2002 – Airport Employee Parking



Vegetated Swale

# 2002 – Intel Ronler Acres



Constructed Water Quality Wetland

# 2003 – PSU, Epler Hall

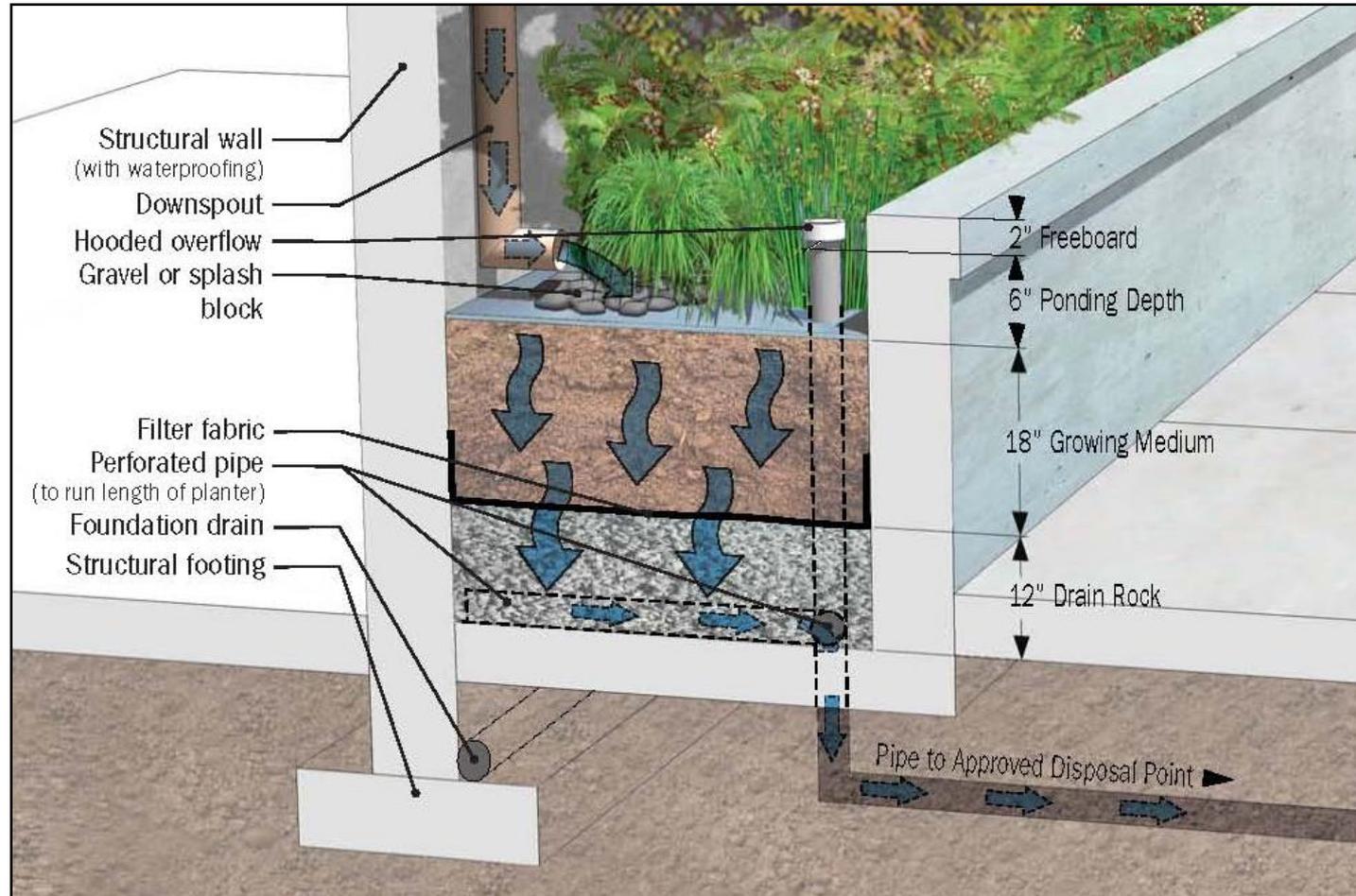


Flow Through Planter



Conveyance/Stormwater Art

# Flow-Through Planter



# 2004 – Oregon Zoo Retrofit



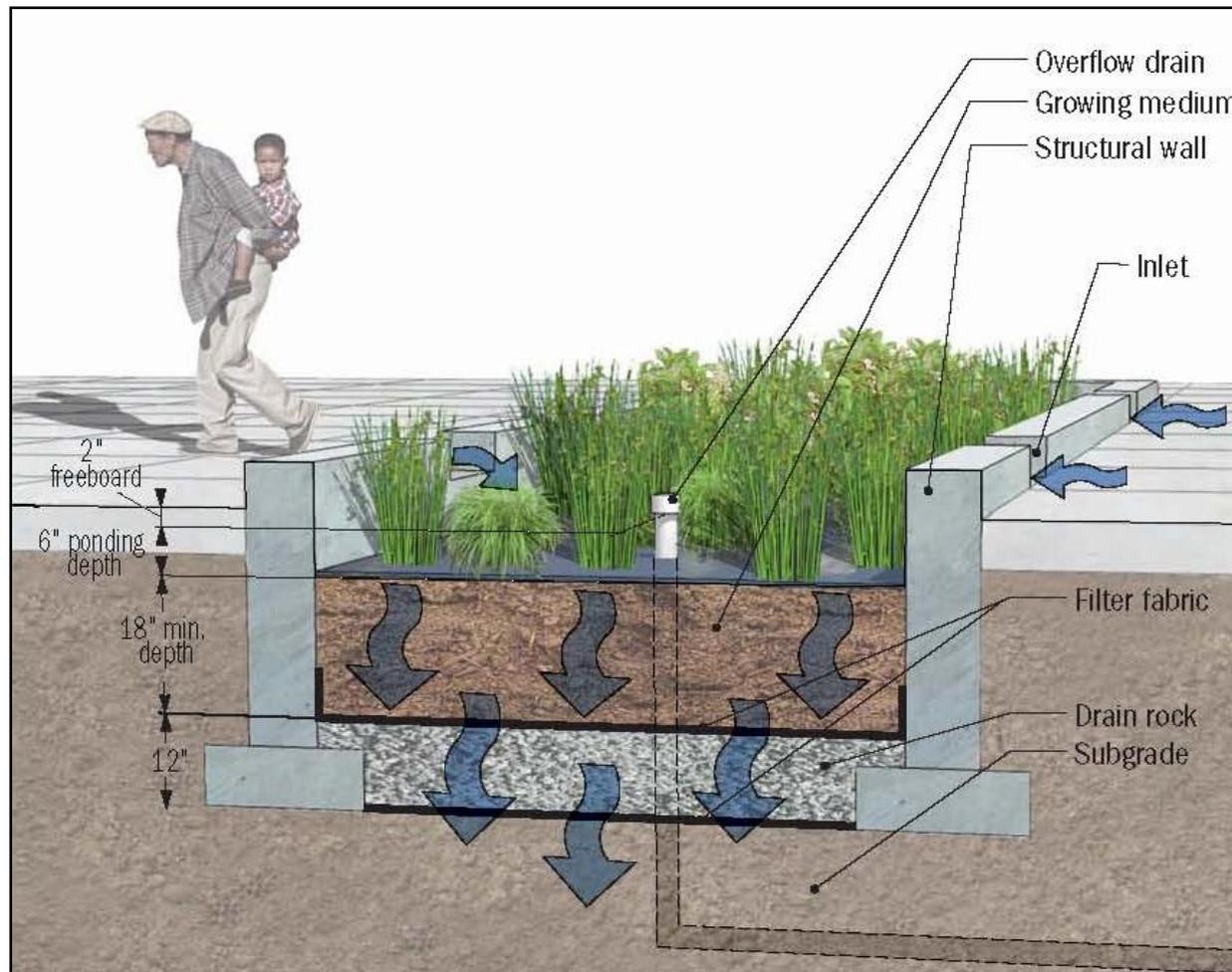
Vegetated Filter Strip

# 2004 – Mississippi Commons



Infiltration Planter

# Infiltration Planter/Rain Garden

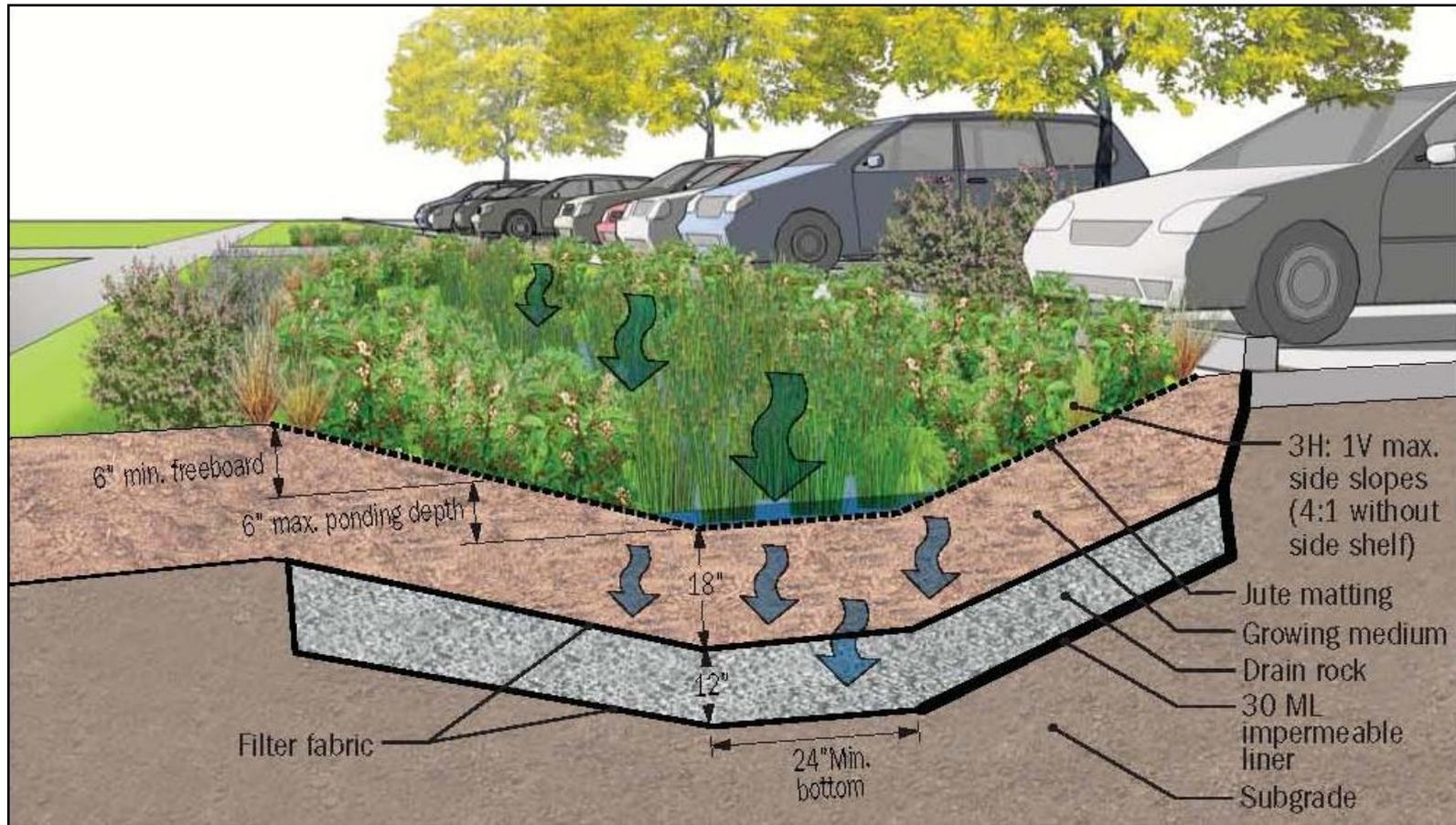


# 2005 – NE Siskiyou Street



LIDA Swale

# LIDA Swale



# 2005 – Estacada Library



Infiltration Planter and Vegetated Swale

# 2005 – Local 49



Conveyance/Stormwater Art

# 2006 – Headwaters at Tryon Creek



Infiltration Planter

# 2006 – Headwaters at Tryon Creek

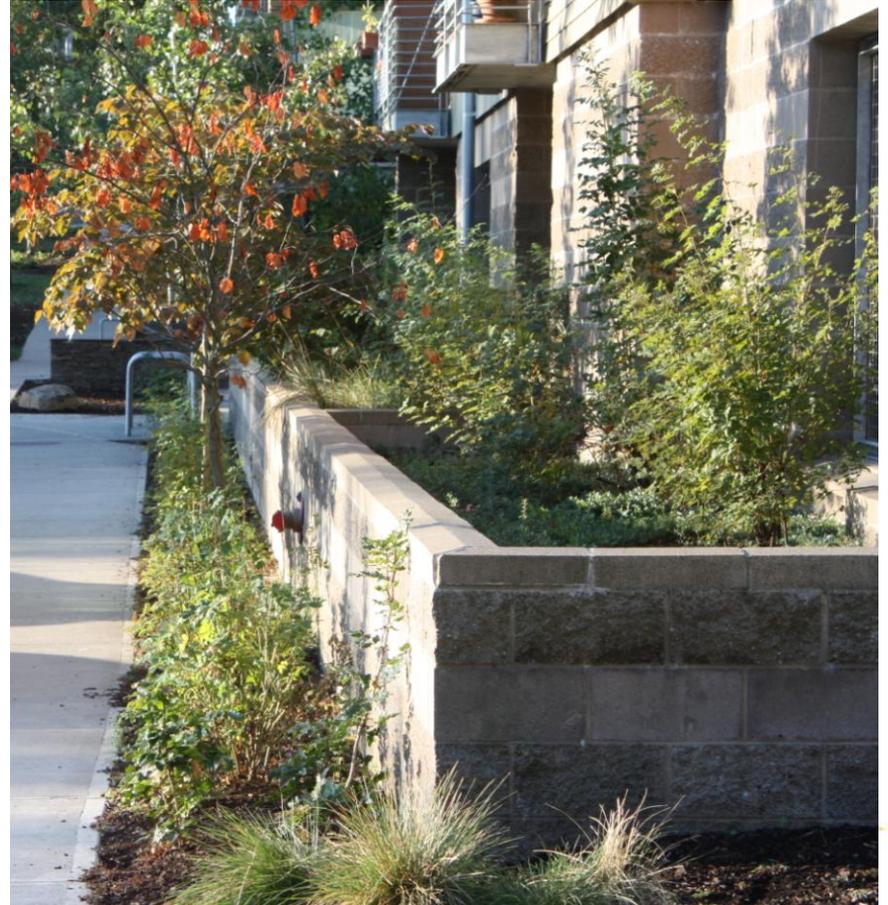


Infiltration Planter

# 2006 – Headwaters at Tryon Creek



Flow-Through Planter



# 2006 – Mt. Tabor Middle School



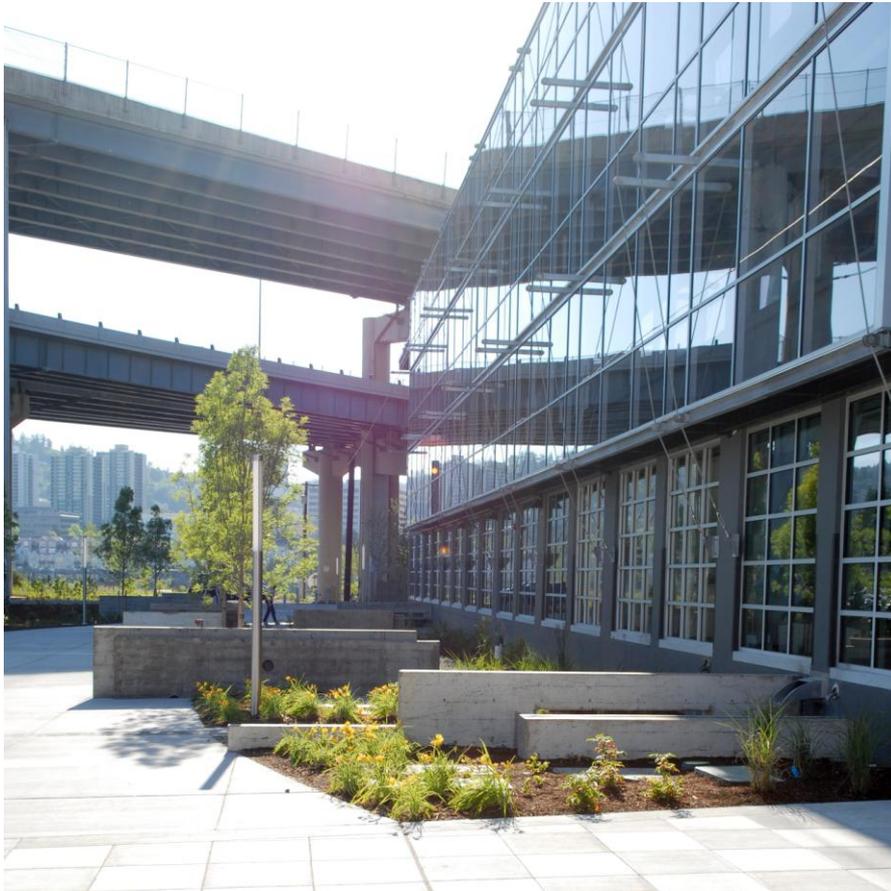
Infiltration Planter

# 2006 – Mt. Tabor Middle School



Infiltration Planter

# 2007 – RiverEast Center



Flow Through Planter



# 2007 – RiverEast Center



LIDA Swale

# 2007 – Team Estrogen



Conveyance/Stormwater Art

# 2007 – Beaumont Village Lofts



Infiltration Planter

# 2007 – Washougal Town Center



Conveyance/Stormwater Art



Flow-Through Planter

# 2007 – Portland Community College, Rock Creek Campus



Vegetated Swale

# 2008 – Beranger Condominiums Greenroof



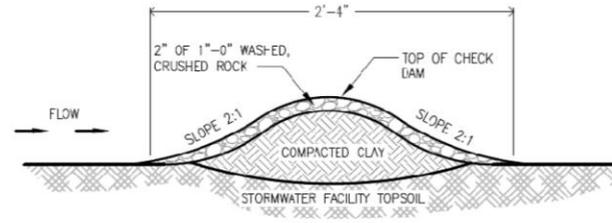
Flow-Through Planters and Green Roof

# 2008 – Taralon Community



Vegetated Swale

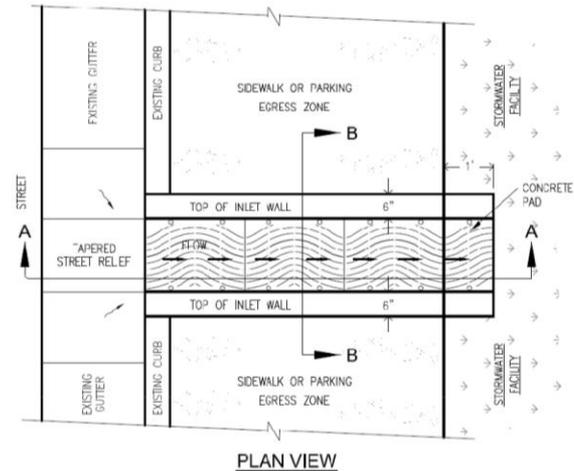
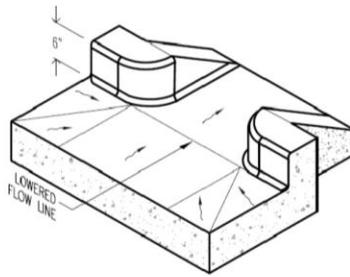
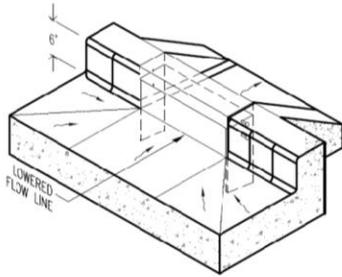
# Weirs



CHECK DAM



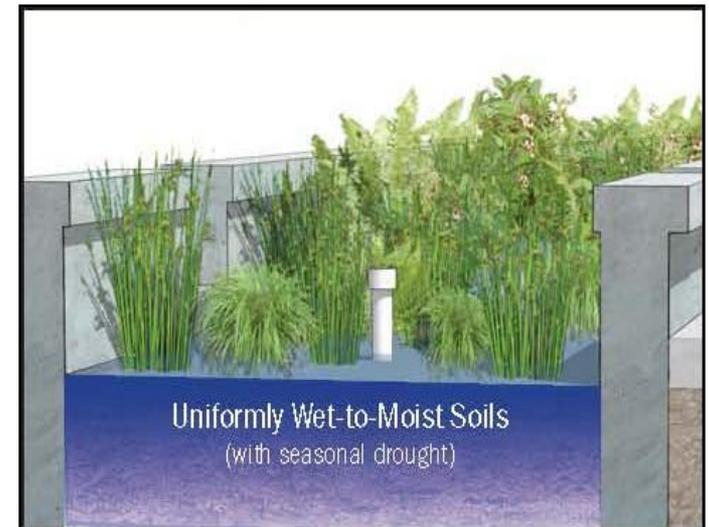
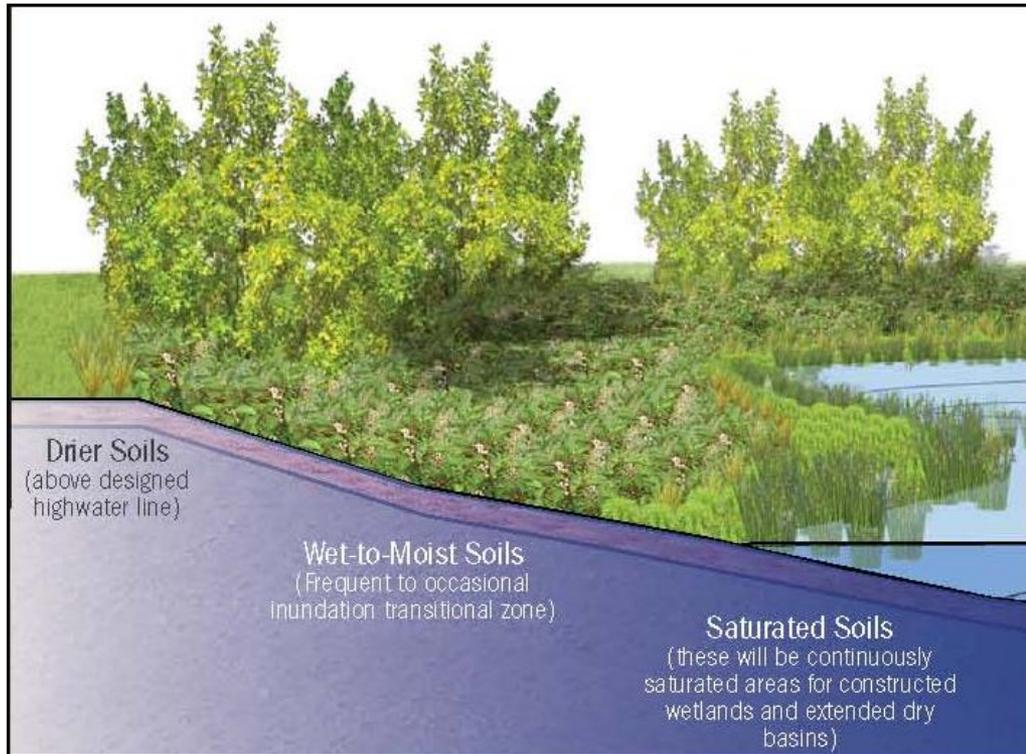
# Inlets



# Planting



# Planting



# LIDAs In Parking Areas



Connect planters for greater capacity and/or to convey overflows to receiving drainage system

Locate planters at end of parking aisles

Overflow inlet

Curb cuts

LIDA swales

Porous paving drains to planters or LIDA swales

Porous pavement

# LIDAs for Streets



Porous pavement  
in parking lanes

Catch basin  
receives overflows

Flow-through or  
infiltration planters  
at corners

Street trees for shading and  
stormwater interception

LIDA swales, flow-through  
planters or infiltration planters

Pedestrian crossing  
over swale

# LIDAs for Buildings and Adjacent Areas



Flow-through planters  
(next to building) as  
needed for non-green  
roof areas

Infiltration planter  
(minimum 10' setback  
from building) or flow-  
through planter

Stormwater art  
(sculptural  
downspout)

Green roof

Disconnected downspout  
and splash basin

Infiltration or flow-  
through planters for  
street, parking areas  
or sidewalk runoff

# The Civil Engineer's Perspective

Paul Dedyo, PE, LEED AP



KKPFF Consulting Engineers



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# Overview of Presentation



- Applicability
- Sizing & Design
- Regulatory Permitting (UICs)
- Construction

# Common Considerations

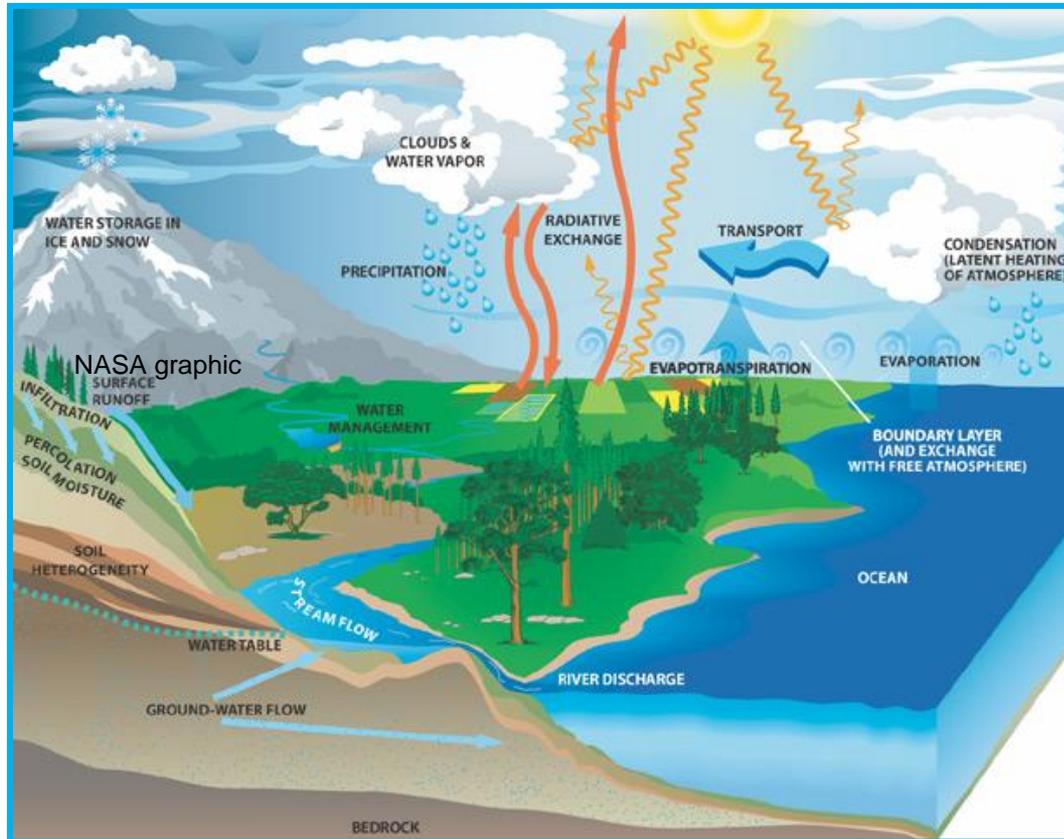
- Topography
- Overflow Path
- Geotechnical Evaluation
  - Native Infiltration Rates
  - Groundwater or Impermeable Strata
- Slopes
- Structures with Habitable Space
- Code Setback Requirements
- Existing Vegetation

# Overview of Presentation



- Applicability
- Sizing & Design
- Regulatory Permitting (UICs)
- Construction

# What is it? The Hydrologic Cycle

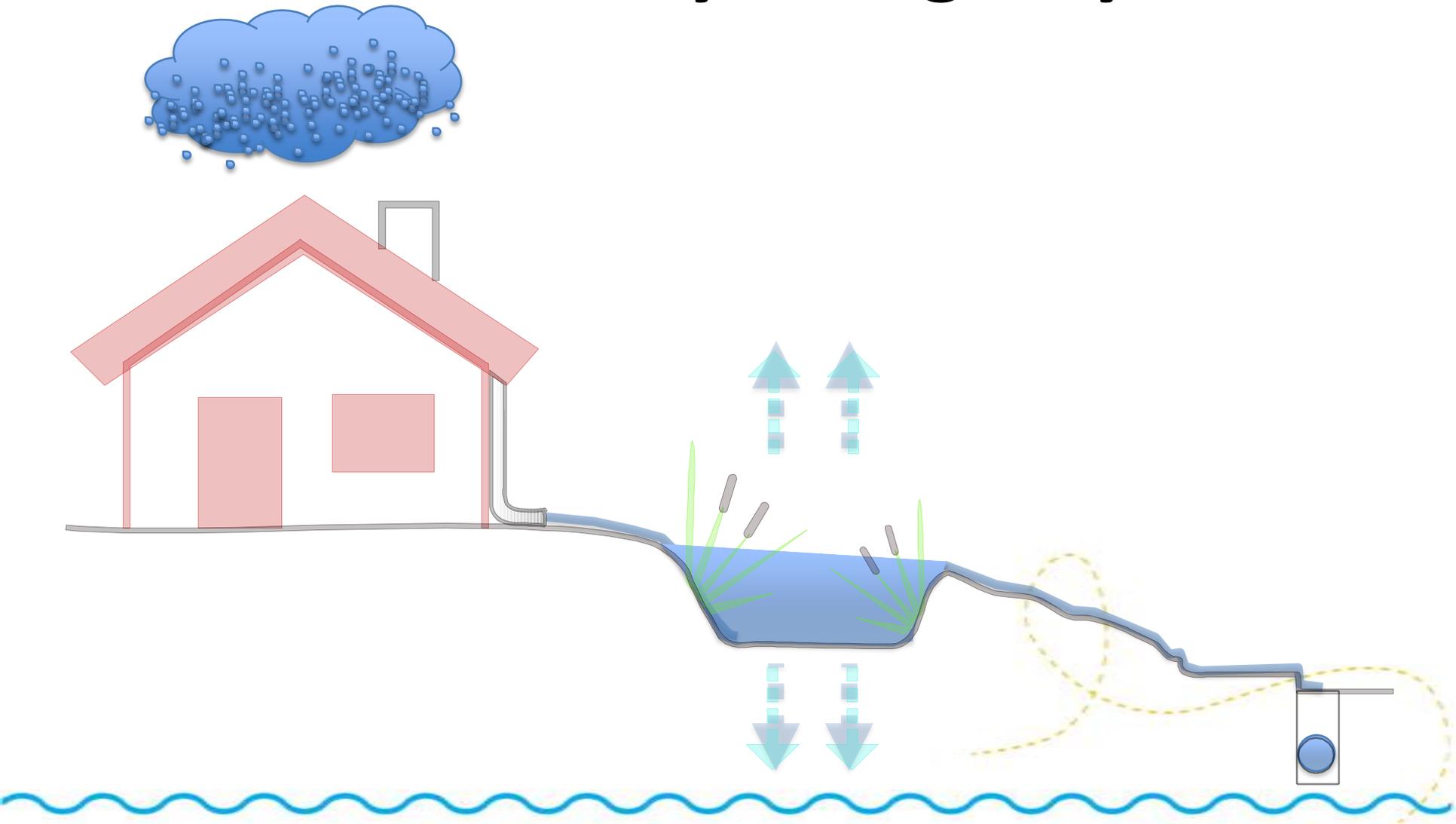


NASA graphic

NASA graphic

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# Mimic the Hydrologic Cycle

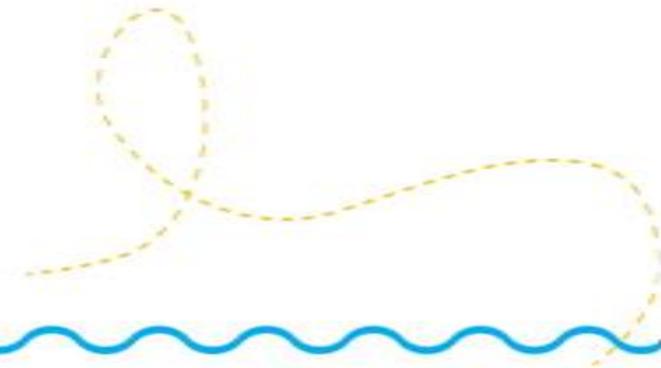


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# Goals



- Local Regulatory Jurisdiction
- Mitigation
- Mimic the Hydrologic Cycle



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# Critical Criteria for Sizing

- Storm Catchment Area and Event



Credit: Flickr

- Native Soil Infiltration Rate
- Importing Growing Medium Infiltration Rate
- Facility Type and Size

# Sizing for Site Conditions

- Sizing Ratio
- Multiple Smaller Facilities or Combined
- Plumbing/Conveyance
- Maximum Catchment Area

# Infiltration Testing



Credit: Earth Engineers



Credit: Flickr

- Type of Tests
- Number of Tests
- Depth of Tests

## Falling Head



Credit: University of Sydney

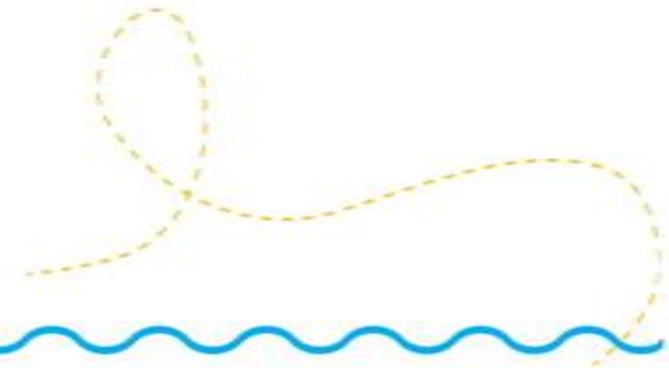
## Double Ring Infiltrometer

# Growing Medium



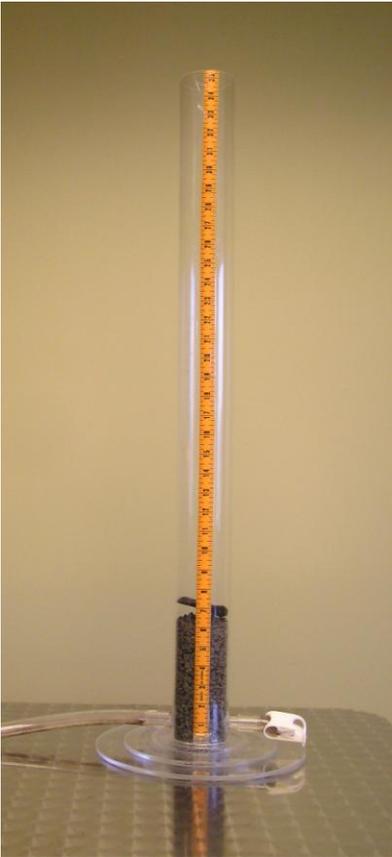
## Three-part Mix

- Loamy Sand
- Compost
- Sand



# Testing of Growing Medium

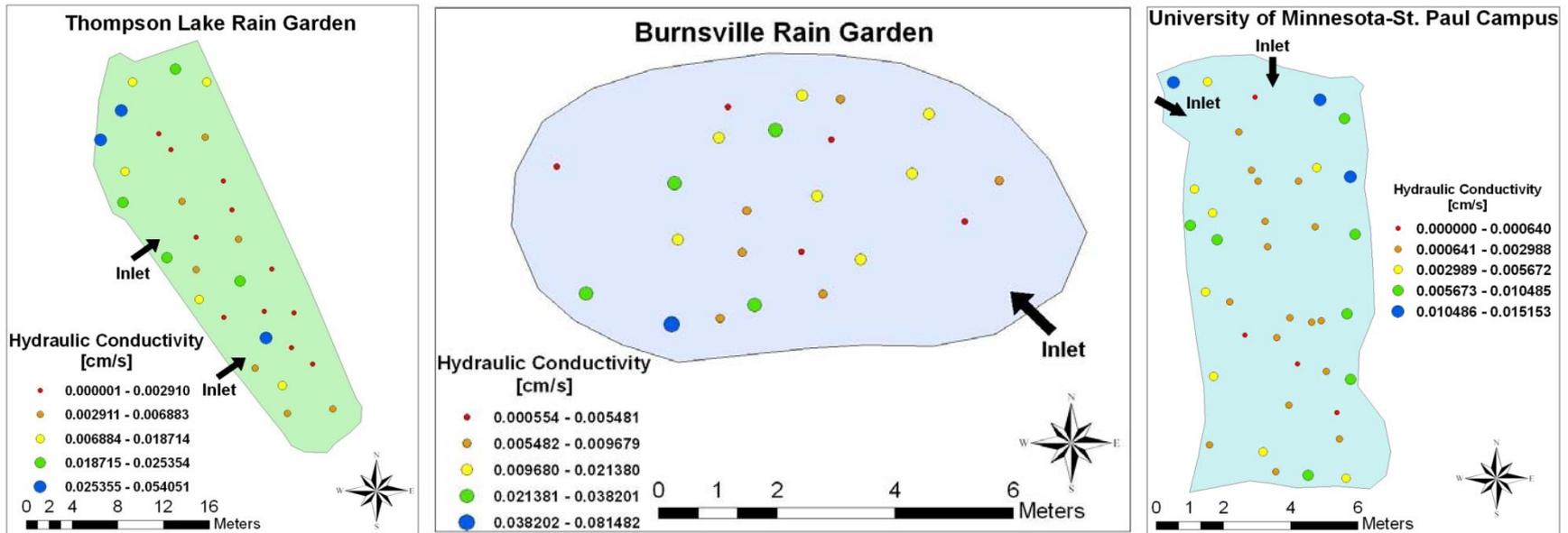
Developing the best blend ratio



Falling Head Perco-Meter

- Laboratory ASTM Testing
- Informal Falling Head Testing
- Mock-up Garden Testing

# Variable Performance



Credit: University of Minnesota

# Facility Type and Size

- Available Space
- Topography



Credit: Flickr



Credit: Virginia Department of Forestry



Credit: Vivian Felton, NRCS



Credit: Rain Gardens of West Michigan

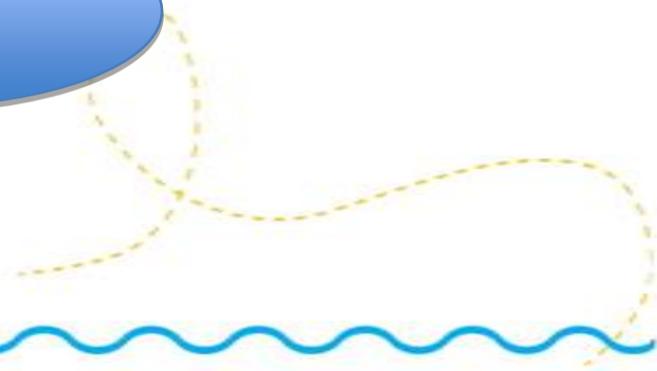
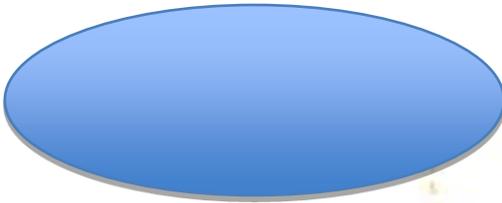
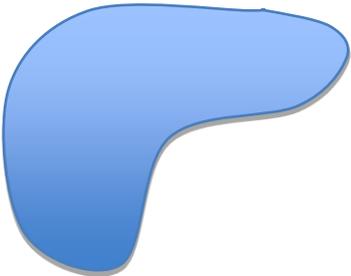
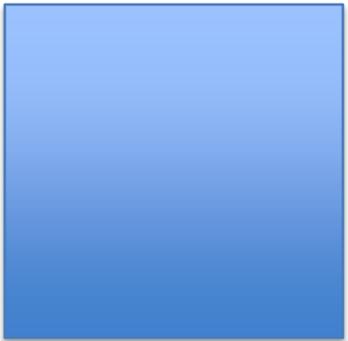
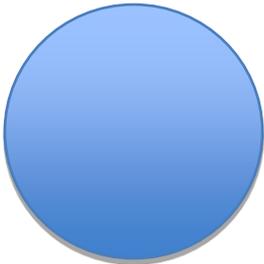


Credit: Maplewood MN Rain Gardens



Credit: Flickr

# Geometry



# Overflow Scenarios



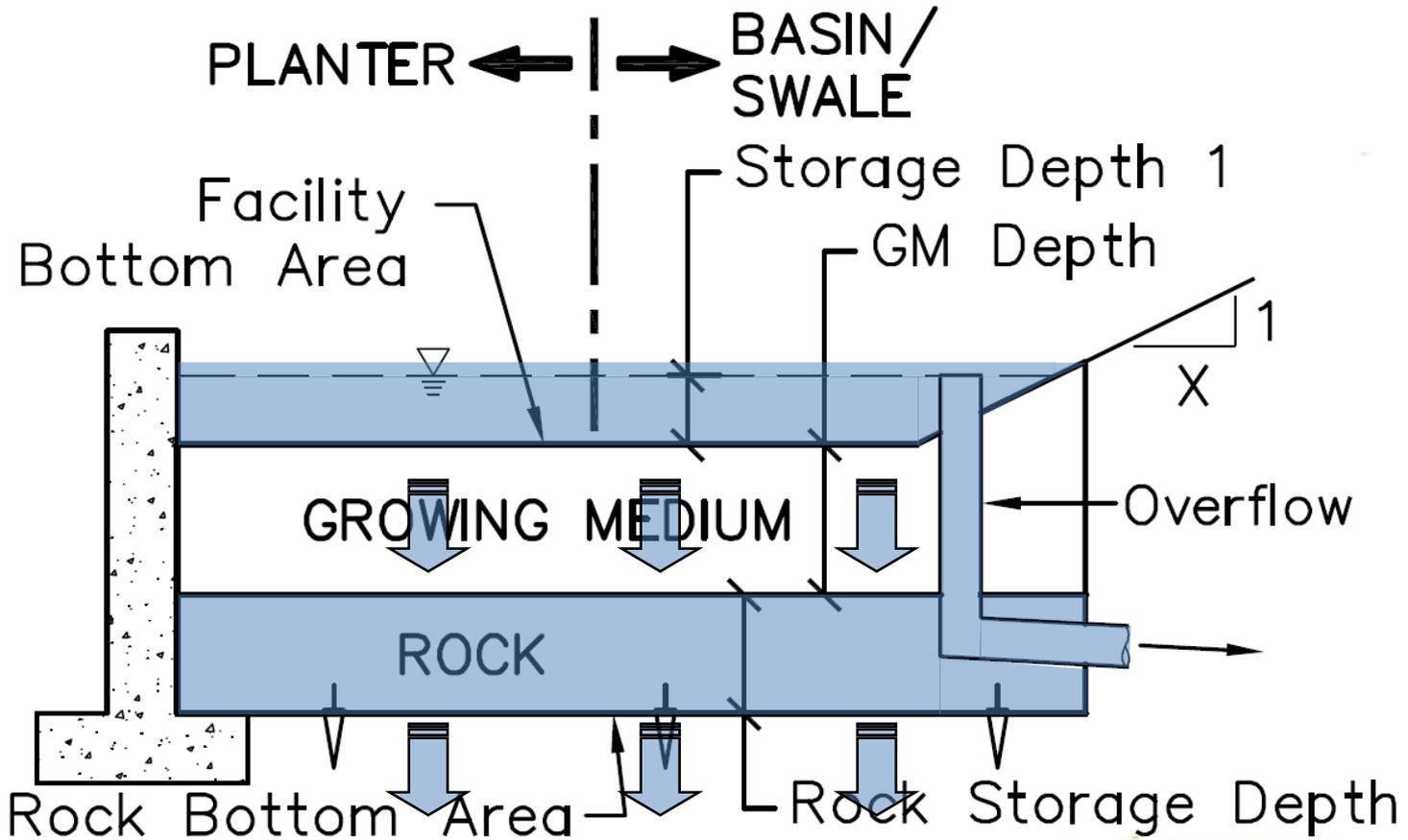
Credit: Flickr

**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Facility Function

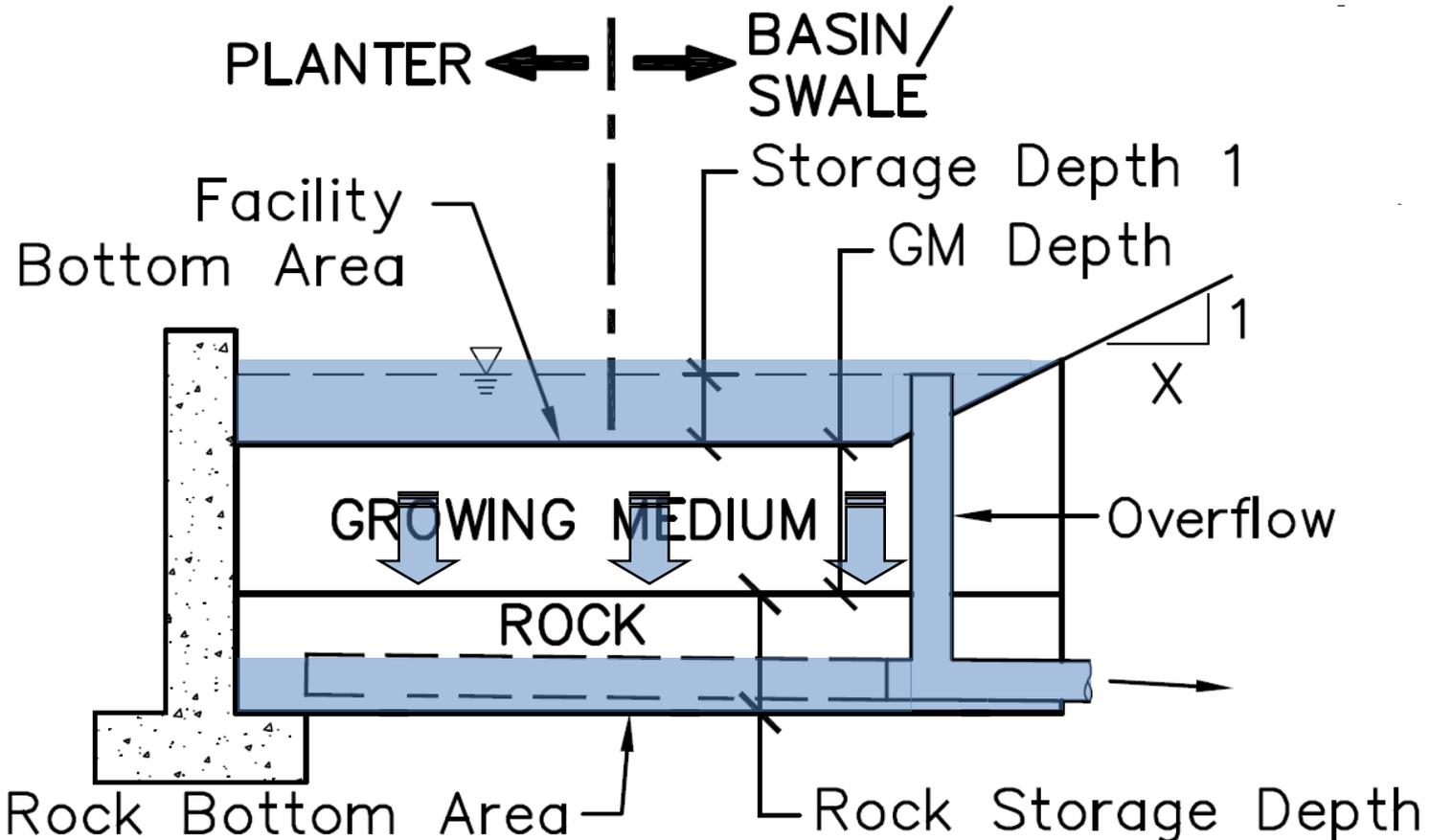
- Surface Infiltration Facility
  - With or Without Gravel Storage Bed
  - No Underdrain Pipe
  - Controlled Overflow
- Flow Through Facility
  - With Underdrain Pipe in Gravel
  - Assumed Little to No Infiltration
  - Controlled Overflow

# Infiltration Facility



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# Flow Through Facility



# Overview of Presentation

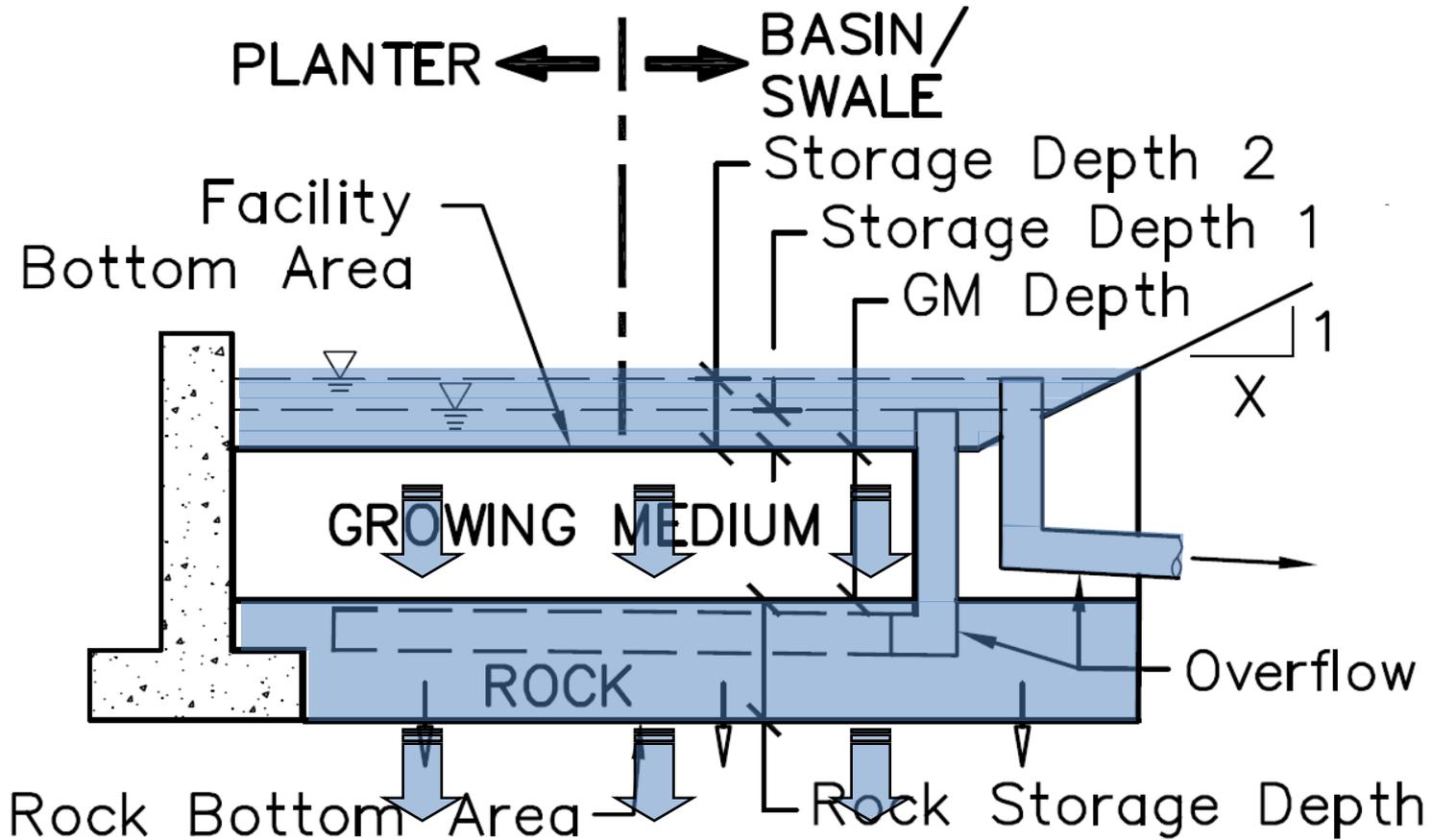


- Applicability
- Sizing & Design
- Regulatory Permitting (UICs)
- Construction

# Facility Function

- Surface Infiltration Facility - UIC
  - Direct Connection to Underdrain Pipe in Gravel
  - Controlled Overflow

# Underground Injection Control



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# Oregon DEQ UIC Registration

<p><b>DEQ USE ONLY</b></p> <p>Received: _____</p> <p>Amount Received \$ _____</p>	<p><b>UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL REGISTRATION</b>  <b>Stormwater Drainage Systems</b>  <i>(Submit two copies. See following pages for detailed instructions.)</i></p> <p>Return form with your payment to:  <b>Oregon Department of Environmental Quality</b>                  Attn: Business Office                  811 SW Sixth Avenue                  Portland OR 97204</p>	<p><b>DEQ DATE STAMP</b></p> <p>Registration # _____</p>
<p><b>A. FACILITY NAME, LOCATION &amp; CONTACT</b></p>		
1. Facility's Legal Name:	2. Common Name:	
3. Facility Physical Address: City, State, Zip Code:	4. Facility Mailing Address: City, State, Zip Code:	
5. Latitude (decimal): _____	Longitude (decimal): _____	
6. Consultant Contact Name: Consultant Telephone #: Fax #:	7. Responsible Official/Owner Name: Address: City, State, Zip Code:	
<p><b>B. FACILITY DESCRIPTION (ATTACH DOCUMENTS AS NEEDED)</b></p>		
1. SIC code: _____ or NAICS code: _____ Secondary SIC/NAICS code: _____		
2. Briefly describe the nature of business at this facility: _____		
3. Briefly describe the types of materials, products, and wastes handled at the facility: _____		
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing soil/groundwater contamination (brownfield) plan Nearest cleanup site within 1/2 mile: _____ (attach map)		
5. Provide the number of projected trips per day from the traffic report for the site: _____		
6. Land use zoning of facility: <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
7. Drinking water source: <input type="checkbox"/> Public water <input type="checkbox"/> Private Well		
8. Process water source: Monthly average usage (gal./day): _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Public water <input type="checkbox"/> Private Well <input type="checkbox"/> Recycled or Reclaimed		
9. Indicate if present and submit a copy of: <input type="checkbox"/> UIC spill prevention/response plan <input type="checkbox"/> Employee training on spill plan <input type="checkbox"/> Plug(s) or block(s) for UIC system <input type="checkbox"/> Spill clean up supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Containment structures <input type="checkbox"/> Retrofit sampling data <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance program and schedule for UIC system(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Marshall survey/MSDS sheets (soluble) <input type="checkbox"/> UIC storm water plan attached <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring plan attached		
10. Does an adequate confinement barrier or filtration medium exist at the site to protect groundwater? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know If "YES," attach relevant DHS/USGS documentation.		
11. Is connection to or construction of a surface discharging storm sewer feasible? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "NO," provide relevant documentation as to why a swale or other green options cannot be used: _____		
12. Note if the location is a sensitive site: <input type="checkbox"/> Steep slope or hazard area <input type="checkbox"/> Groundwater Management Area <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
13. Sign and attach a UIC non-exposure certificate. <input type="checkbox"/> Attached (Not required if land use is residential.)		
14. List any other DEQ or public agency permits applied for or issued to this facility: _____		
15. Will these UICs be turned over to a municipality once developed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do not know		
<p><b>C. UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL INFORMATION - Go to next page of this form.</b></p> <p><b>To expedite the registration of your facility, please fill out this form in its entirety.</b></p>		
<p><b>D. SIGNATURE OF LEGALLY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that the information contained in this registration is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p>		
Name of Legally Authorized Representative (Type or Print)		Title
Signature of Legally Authorized Representative		Date

**UIC REGISTRATION FOR STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS**  
 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
*(Submit two copies of this form to DEQ. See following pages for detailed instructions.)*

<b>LEGAL NAME:</b> _____	
<b>C. UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL INFORMATION</b>	
<i>Attach a facility map that clearly identifies the location of each UIC system by name or number. Provide the information requested below for each UIC storm water drainage system. Attach additional copies of this sheet if necessary.</i>	
<b>UIC SYSTEM # or NAME:</b> _____	<b>INSTALLATION YEAR:</b> _____
1. Latitude (decimal): _____ Longitude (decimal): _____	2. Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Dry well/sump <input type="checkbox"/> Drill hole <input type="checkbox"/> Drainfield <input type="checkbox"/> Infiltration trench <input type="checkbox"/> Other discharge
3. Drainage Area: <input type="checkbox"/> Roof drain only <input type="checkbox"/> Parking area only <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify: _____	4. Distance to nearest: Domestic/public water well: _____ Wetland: _____ Surface water(s): _____ Depth to winter high water table: _____ feet If not available, average depth to groundwater: _____ feet Attach well log(s) for the nearest water wells. <input type="checkbox"/> Attached
5. Status: (see instructions for status definition) <input type="checkbox"/> Planning stage <input type="checkbox"/> Under construction <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Not in use or Temporarily Abandoned <input type="checkbox"/> Permanently Abandoned/Decommissioned (date & method): <i>(Submit 30-Day Pre-Closure Form UIC 1000-CLO.)</i>	6. Characteristics: Depth: _____ ft Diameter: _____ ft Design drainage rate: _____ Size of impervious area drained: _____ Type of treatment prior to discharge: _____
7. <input type="checkbox"/> Located in a delineated source water area	
<b>UIC SYSTEM # or NAME:</b> _____	<b>INSTALLATION YEAR:</b> _____
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# Overview of Presentation

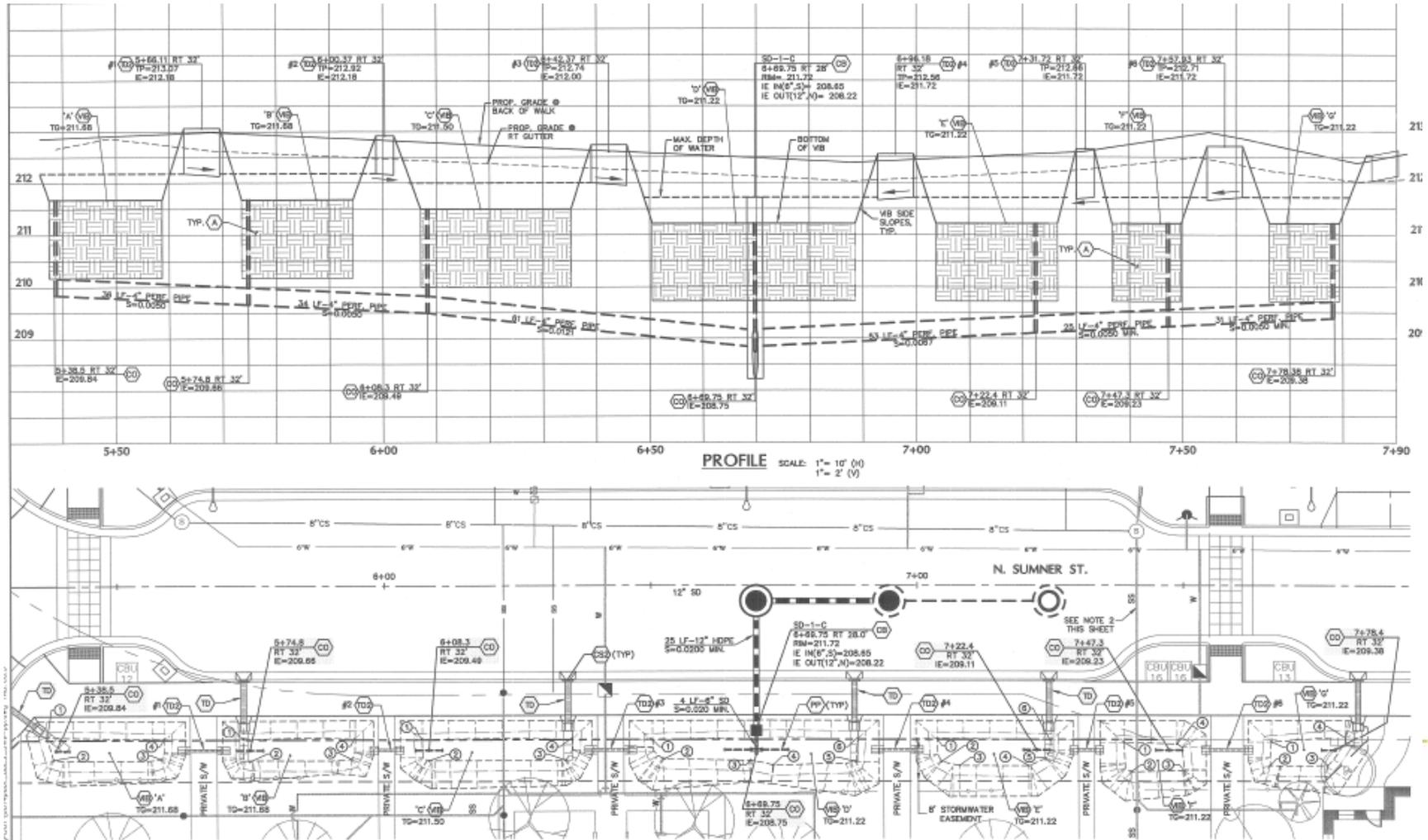


- Applicability
- Sizing & Design
- Regulatory Permitting (UICs)
- Construction

# Construction Phasing

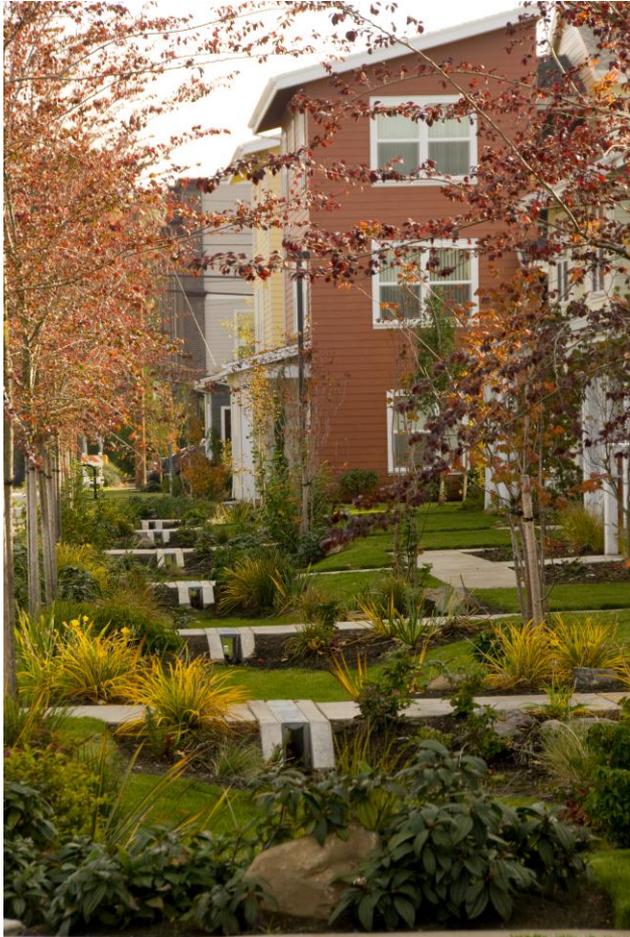
- Pre-Con with Engineer & Jurisdiction
- Many variables vulnerable during construction
- Details and Horizontal Control

# Green Streets - Sumner



**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Green Streets - Sumner

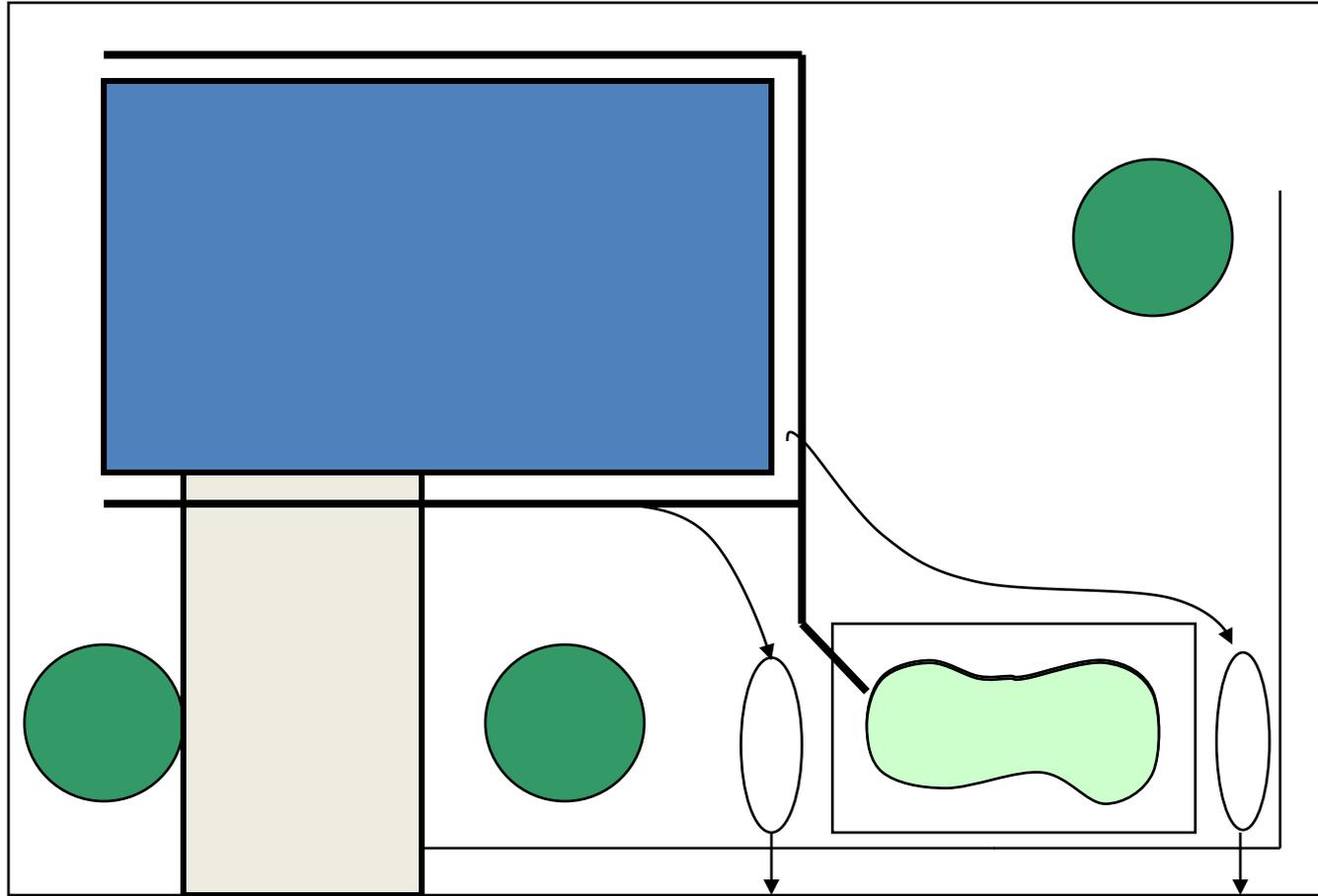


**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Construction Phasing

- Pre-Con with Engineer & Jurisdiction
- Many variables vulnerable during construction
- Details and Horizontal Control
- Installation Sequencing & Erosion Control

# Construction Sequence



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# Facility Construction

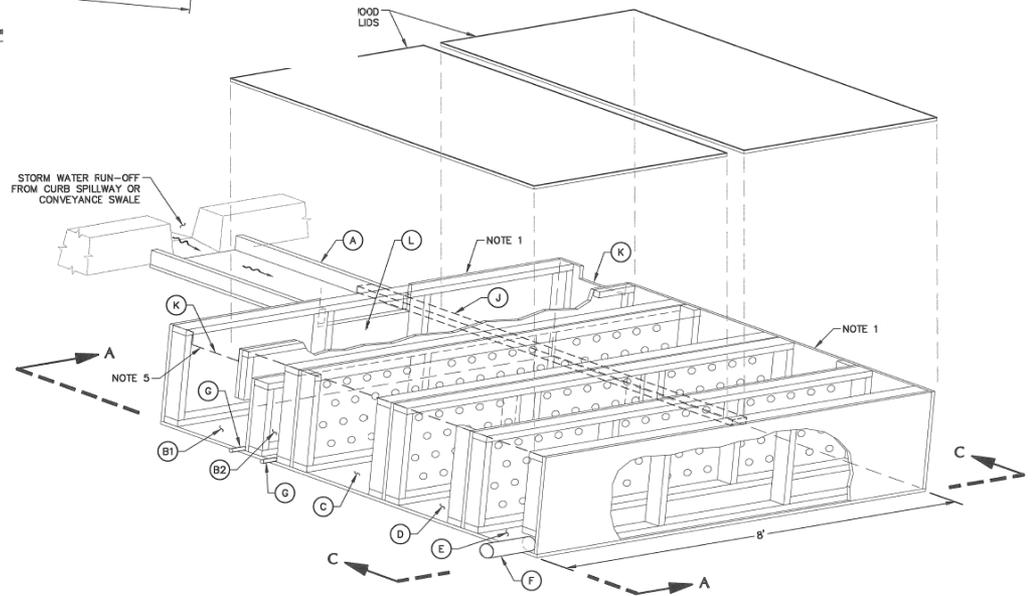
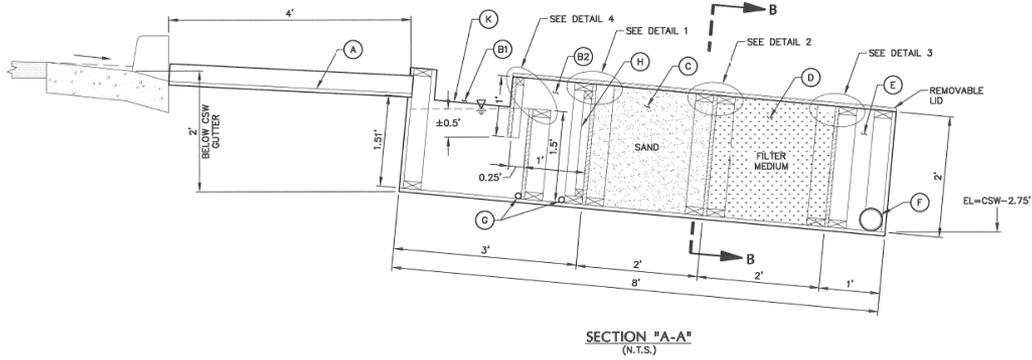
- Outline area of facility
- Remove existing sod or vegetation
- Strip surface soils to expose suitable subgrade
- Build berm if needed on prepared subgrade
- Set gravel and/or growing medium per plan
- Final grading
- Plantings and finish materials
- Establishment period
- Route drainage to facility

# In-Line Erosion Control



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# Erosion Control – Dual Filter



# Construction Phasing

- Pre-Con with Engineer & Jurisdiction
- Many variables vulnerable during construction
- Details and Horizontal Control
- Construction Sequencing & Erosion Control
- Submittals & Testing
- Anticipate Weather Conditions
- Placement and Compaction
- As-Built Verification
- Maintenance

# Construction – Gravel Bed with Underdrain



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# Construction – Initial Landscaping & Jute



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# Construction – Growing Medium and Rock Channel Bed



**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Construction – Growing Medium Replaced



**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Construction – Restored Facility



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# Summary



- Learn about site conditions and suitability
- Establish goals for facility
- Select facility type
- Facility should be designed by an experienced and knowledgeable Engineer with Detailed Grading Plan
- Permits
- Pre-Con & Construction Sequence
- Submittals & Horizontal Control
- Erosion Control
- As-Built Verification
- Maintenance

# Questions?

Paul M. Dedyo, PE, LEED AP

KPFF Consulting Engineers

[paul.dedyo@kpffcivilpdx.com](mailto:paul.dedyo@kpffcivilpdx.com)



## Presentation Topics



- ❖ Verde
- ❖ Stormwater Facility Maintenance
- ❖ Tenant & Homeowner Education
- ❖ Examples & Costs





[www.verdenw.org](http://www.verdenw.org)

5135 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR 97218 503.980.5260 (p), 866.279.8719 (f)

*The Mission of Verde, a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation, is to improve the economic health of disadvantaged communities by creating job training, employment, and entrepreneurial opportunities, fostering the connection between economic vitality and environmental protection and restoration.*

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# Activities



**Social Enterprise**



**Outreach & Education**



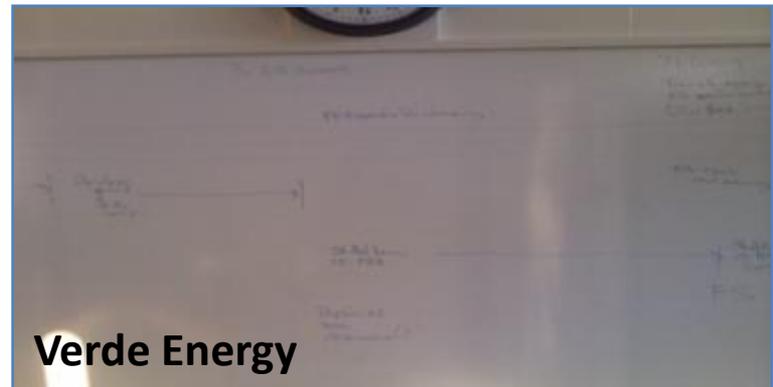
# Social Enterprise



Verde Landscape



Verde Nursery



Verde Energy

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Outreach & Education



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Friendly Maintenance Fact #1: A Stormwater Facility is Infrastructure

It's a Lot Like:



A Ceiling/Roof



Plumbing

It's Not Like:



A Lawn



Ornamental Landscaping

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



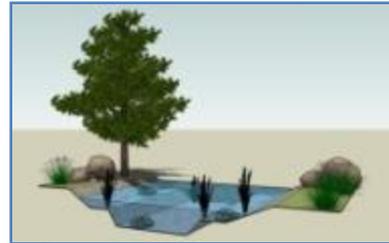
## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #2: Follow the O&M Plan

Stormwater Management Facilities

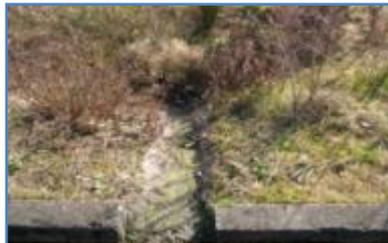
Operation  
and  
Maintenance  
for  
Private Property  
Owners



**Access**



**Structure**



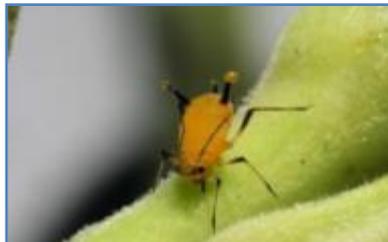
**Water Flow/Infiltration**



**Vegetation**



**Erosion**



**Pests**



**Pollution/Debris**

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



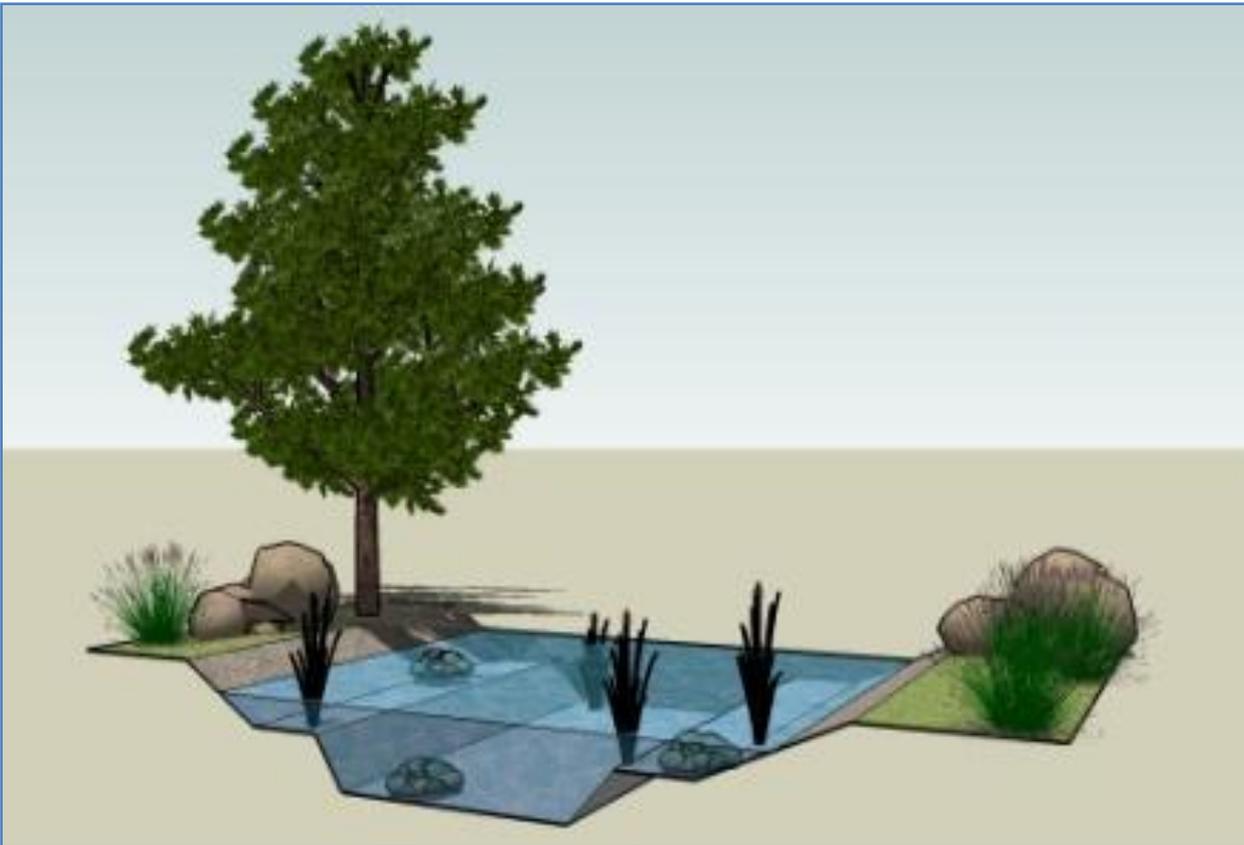
# O&M Plan: Access



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# O&M Plan: Structure



**Missing Part(s)**

**Broken Part(s)**

**Not To Design  
Standards**

**GREEN from the Ground Up**



## O&M Plan: Water Flow/Infiltration



**Blocked,  
Capacity  
Diminished**

**Uneven  
ponding or  
Stagnant-  
Standing Water**



# O&M Plan: Vegetation



**Strained  
Vegetation**

**Insufficient  
Plant Cover**

**Remove  
Invasives,  
Noxious Weeds**

**GREEN from the Ground Up**



# O&M Plan: Erosion



Scouring

Channelization

Slope Failure

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# O&M Plan: Pests



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# O&M Plan: Pollution



Debris

Off-Color, Odor

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



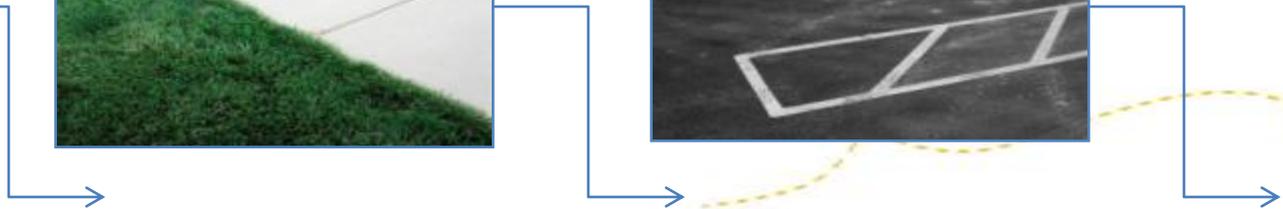
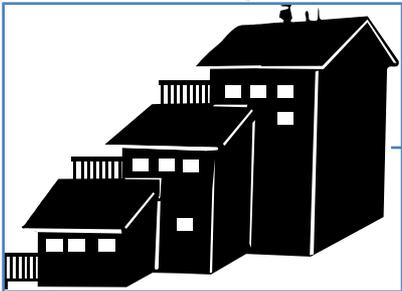
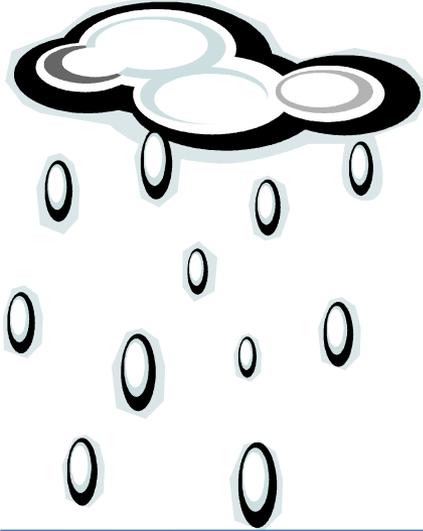
## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #3: Tenant & Homeowner Education Makes a Big Difference



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Tenant Education: Stormwater

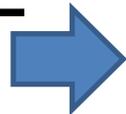


**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Tenant Education: Stormwater

**Stormwater Contains Pollution**



**Stormwater Takes Pollution To:**



**GREEN from the Ground Up**

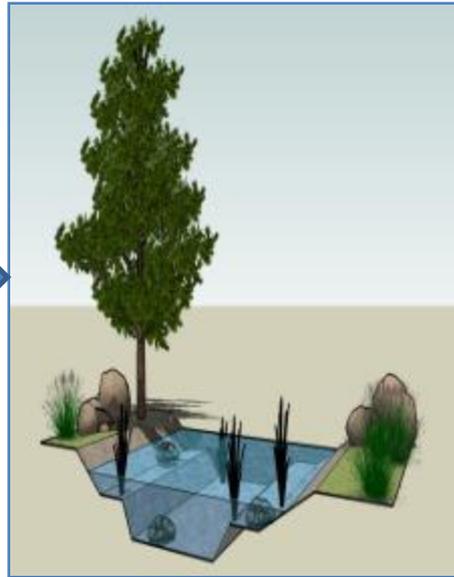


# Tenant Education: Facility Function

**Stormwater with  
Pollution**



**Stormwater  
Facility**



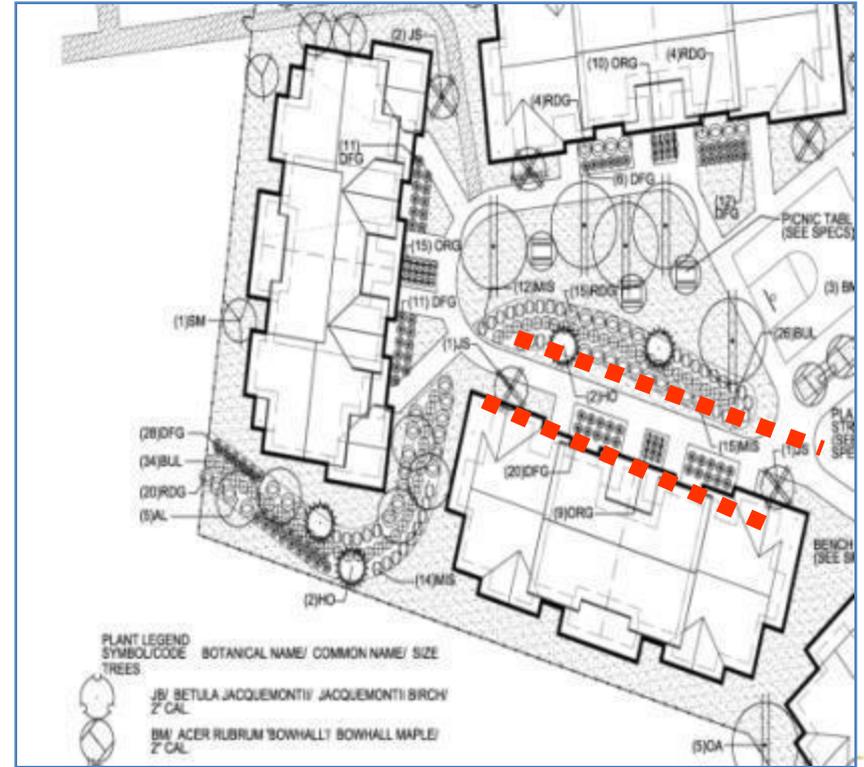
**Stormwater w/o  
Pollution**



**GREEN from the Ground Up**



# Tenant Education: Facility Locations



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Tenant Education: Plant Health

## Redtwig Dogwood

- **Function:**  
Habitat, Erosion  
Control
- **Warning:** Leaf  
color changes  
when plant is not  
receiving enough  
water

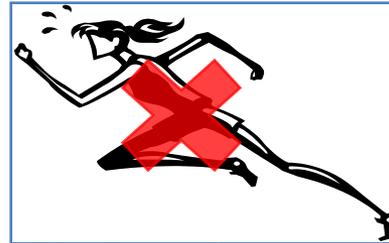




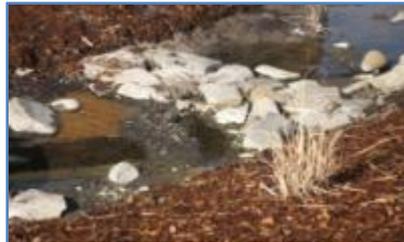
# Tenant Education: Stewardship



No Bicycling



No Running



Rocks



Tree Stakes



Watch for Plant Health



No Trash

**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #3: Tenant & Homeowner Education Makes a Big Difference



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #3: Tenant & Homeowner Education Makes a Big Difference



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #3: Tenant & Homeowner Education Makes a Big Difference



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



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**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Friendly Facility Maintenance Fact #3: Tenant & Homeowner Education Makes a Big Difference



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Example: Deferred Maintenance



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Example: Deferred Maintenance



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Example: Deferred Maintenance



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



# Example: Deferred Maintenance



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Example: Corrective Action



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Example: Corrective Action



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Example: Corrective Action



**GREEN** from the Ground Up



## Example: Corrective Action



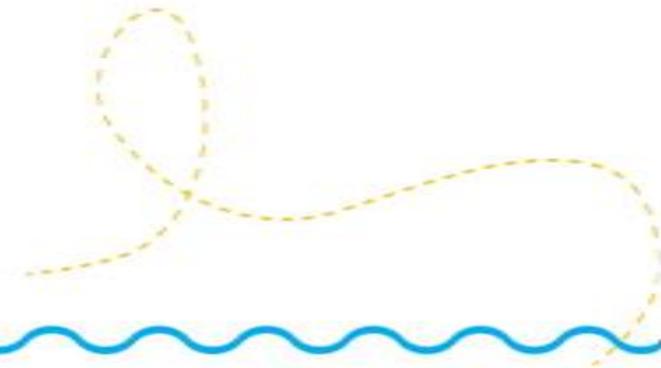
**GREEN** from the Ground Up



503.980.5260

[www.verdenw.org](http://www.verdenw.org)

[alan@verdenw.org](mailto:alan@verdenw.org)



**GREEN** from the Ground Up

# Thank you partners!

- ◆ Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- ◆ Clean Water Services
- ◆ Home Builders Association of Metro Portland
- ◆ Green Works
- ◆ KPFF Engineering
- ◆ Verde



**GREEN**

**from the Ground Up**

*Seminars for land-savvy developers*



**GREENWORKS**

**kpff**