

# Bioretention Hydrologic Modeling

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## Presentation Overview

- Hydrologic Modeling
- Performance Standards
- Modeling Guidelines, Tools, Concepts
- Bioretention Types
- Applications
  - Flow Control
  - Water Quality Treatment
  - Combined Sewer Overflow Reduction
  - Wetland Protection



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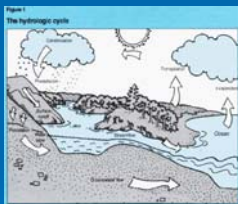
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## Hydrologic Modeling



Source: <http://www.und.nodak.edu/>

- Q: What is hydrologic modeling?
- A: Use of mathematical equations to estimate runoff based on:
  - weather patterns
  - landuse
  - soil
  - topography

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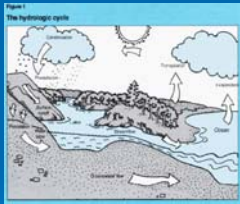
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## Hydrologic Modeling



➤ Q: Why do we use hydrologic models?

➤ A1: Characterize hydrologic conditions

- Predeveloped
- Current
- Post-project

➤ A2: Design mitigation

➤ A3: It's fun!

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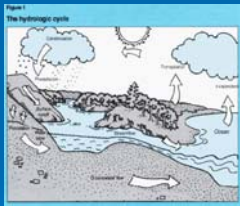
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## Hydrologic Modeling



➤ Q: When does hydrologic modeling enter into your project?

➤ A: Start to finish

- preliminary design (sizing)
- final design (optimization)
- demonstrate requirements met (permit submittals)

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## Performance Standards

➤ On-site Stormwater Management (MR #5) (NEW 2012)

- Use BMP List (rain garden)  
or
- Meet LID Performance Standard (match flow durations to pre-developed condition from 8% to 50% of the 2-year peak flow )

➤ Runoff Treatment (MR #6)

- Infiltrate 91 percent of the total runoff volume through soil meeting Ecology treatment criteria (for infiltration BMPs)

➤ Flow Control (MR #7)

- Match flow durations to pre-developed condition from 50% of the 2-year to the 50-year peak flow

➤ Other Flow Control Standards

- Combined Sewer or Capacity Constrained Basins (peak-based standards)

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## Hydrologic Modeling Methods

- Single-event models
  - May be appropriate for conveyance sizing
- Continuous models
  - Required for sizing flow control (MR7) and treatment (MR6) BMPs
- Simplified sizing tools
  - Will be covered in class exercise

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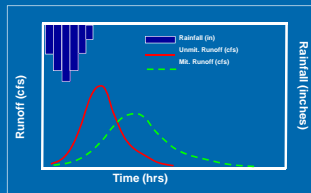
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## Hydrologic Modeling Single-Event Methods

- Input single storm event
- Output peak flow rates
- Typical methods
  - SCS
  - SBUH
  - StormShed
  - SWMM
  - HEC-HMS




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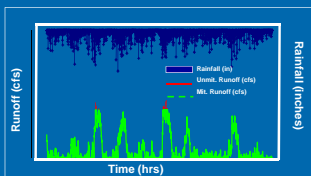
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## Hydrologic Modeling Continuous Models

- Input long-term rain and evaporation
- Output continuous runoff, peak flow, & duration
- Typical programs
  - HSPF
  - WWHM
  - MGS Flood
  - KCRTS
  - SWMM
  - SUSTAIN
  - InfoWorks




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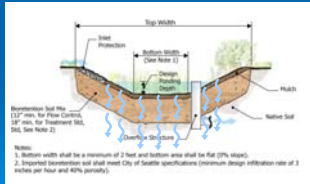
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## Bioretention Types

### Without Underdrain

- Relies on infiltration to native soil
- Can meet on-site list requirement
- Can provide effective WQ treatment for some pollutants
- Can provide effective flow control and meet duration standard for many soil conditions




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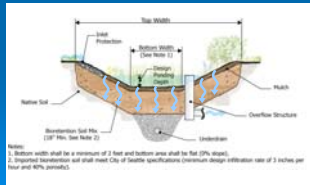
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## Bioretention Types

### With Underdrain

- Some infiltration to native soil
- Can meet on-site list requirement
- Can provide effective WQ treatment for some pollutants
- May not be able to meet duration standard alone, but can contribute as part of a system to achieve flow control goals (raised underdrain and orifice improve performance)




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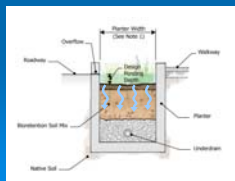
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## Bioretention Types

### With Underdrain & Liner/Impermeable Container

- No infiltration to native soil
- Can meet on-site list requirement
- Can provide effective WQ treatment for some pollutants
- Cannot meet duration standard alone, but can contribute as part of a system to achieve flow control goals (orifice improves performance)




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## Current Modeling Guidelines

### ➤ Implicit Method (2005 LID Manual)

- Lump surface ponding and storage in BR soil
- Effective depth = ponding depth + BR soil depth x void ratio (%)
- MGS Flood and WWHM3
- Neglects movement of water through layers

### ➤ Explicit Method

- Explicitly represents:
  - Surface ponding
  - Infiltration into BR soil and native soil
  - Storage in BR soil
  - Overflow
  - Underdrain flow
- MGSFlood4, WWHM4, WWHM2012

## WWHM/MGSFlood Basics

### Model Inputs

#### ➤ Meteorological Data

- Rainfall (5-min, 15-min, hourly)
- Evaporation (daily)

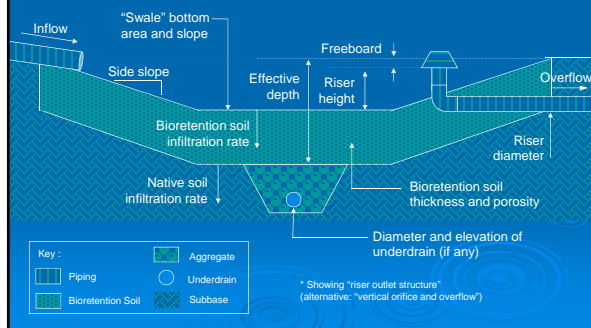
#### ➤ Land Cover Types

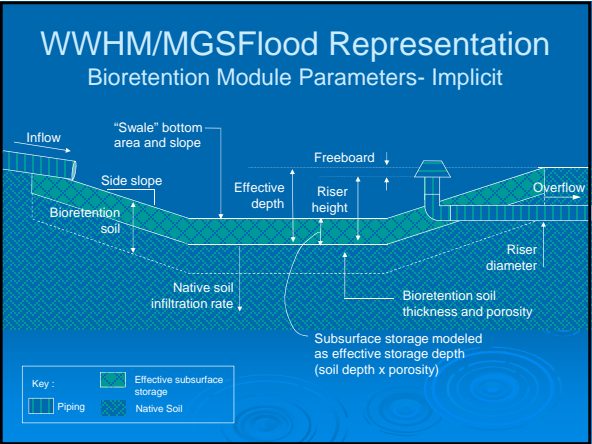
- Impervious areas
  - Slope
- Pervious areas
  - Vegetation
  - Soil type (A, B, C/D)
  - Slope
- Regional calibrated parameters (Dinicola 1990)

#### ➤ BMP Configurations

## WWHM/MGSFlood Representation

### Bioretention Module Parameters- Explicit






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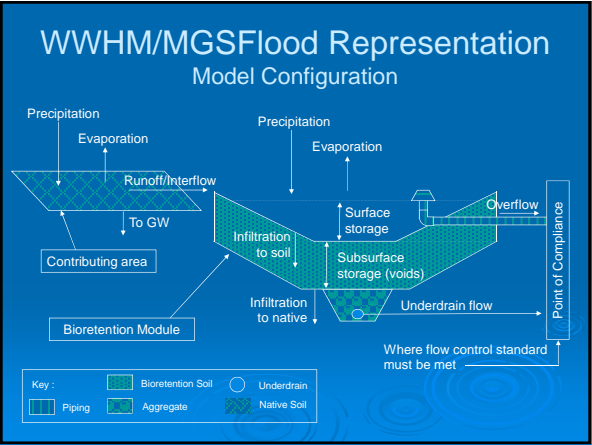
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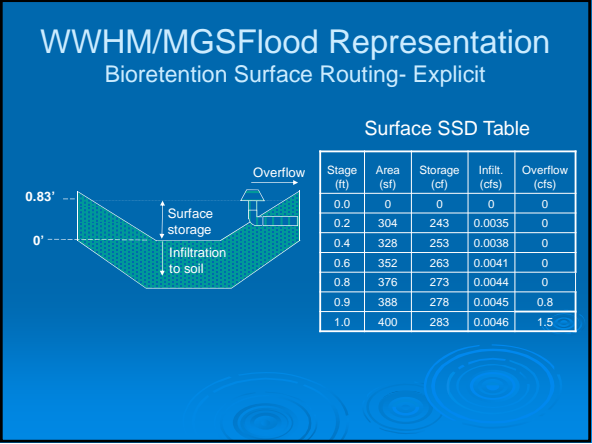
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## Bioretention Sizing Examples

- Flow Control in Creek Basins (WWHM)
- Water Quality Treatment (WWHM)
- Flow Control for CSO Reduction (SWMM)

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## Flow Control in Creek Basin

WWHM4 Example- Explicit Method

- Site in Seattle
- Size bioretention cell to meet creek protection goal (Ecology flow duration standard)
- Predeveloped condition = forest on till
- Native soil is till (0.25 inch/hour design infiltration rate)
- Bioretention cell (12" ponding depth, no underdrain)
- Receiving runoff from 2,000 sf of impervious area (0.046 acres)
- Using bioswale module in WWHM4
- 15 minute time-step

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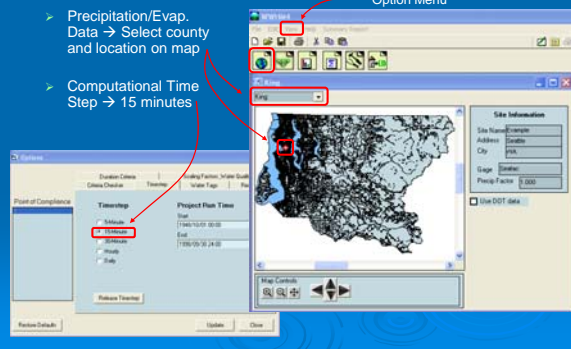
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## Sizing for Flow Control

- Precipitation/Evap. Data → Select county and location on map

- Computational Time Step → 15 minutes



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## Predeveloped Basin → Select area, soil type, land cover and slope



## Predeveloped Basin → Point of Compliance



Developed Mitigated Basin → Impervious with same area and slope....



## Developed Mitigated Basin Continued: Route to Bioswale Module



## Developed Mitigated Basin Continued: Characterize Bioretention



### Stage Storage Discharge Table

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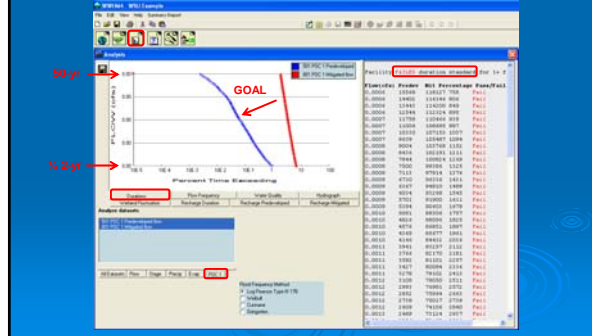
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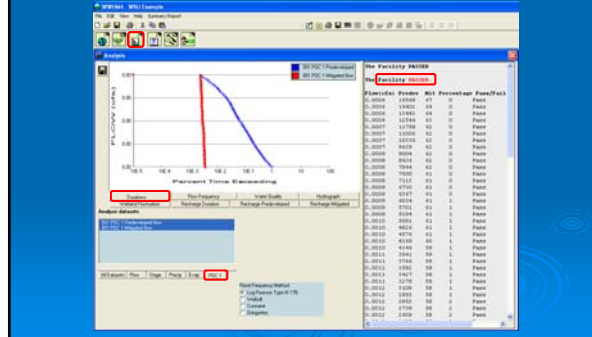
## Sizing for Flow Control

Flow Duration Curve- Developed Unmitigated (Impervious)



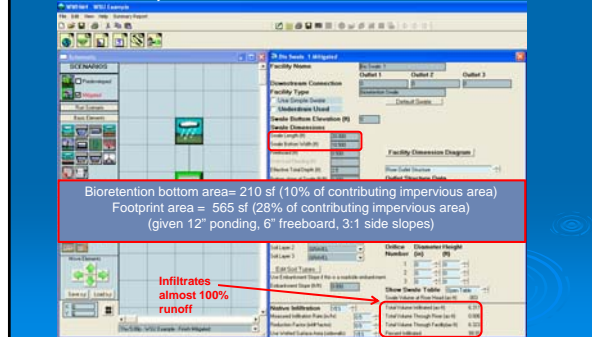
## Sizing for Flow Control

Flow Duration Curve- Developed Mitigated (Impervious to Bioretention)



## Sizing for Flow Control

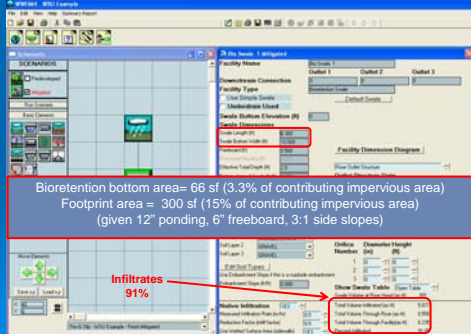
Iteratively Sized Bioretention Area to Meet Duration Standard





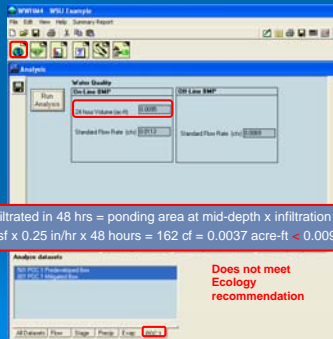
## Sizing for Treatment

Iteratively Size to Infiltrate 91% Runoff File



## Sizing for Treatment

Check Drawdown Criterion- WQ volume infiltrated through facility in 48 hours

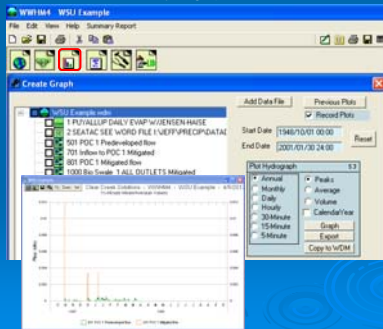


## Further Analysis

WWHM4 Example

## Further Analysis

### Hydrograph



## Further Analysis

### Report

## Further Analysis

### Time Series Export

# SWMM Basics

## Model Inputs

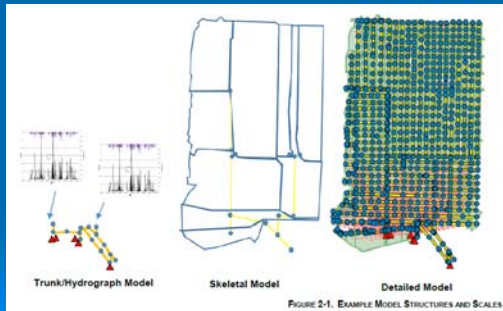
- Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Stormwater Management Model (SWMM)
- Meteorological Data Inputs
  - Rainfall and evaporation
- Land Surface Characteristics
- BMPs
  - LID controls allow explicit modeling of GSI

Table 5-1. Estimating Effective Impervious Surface Area

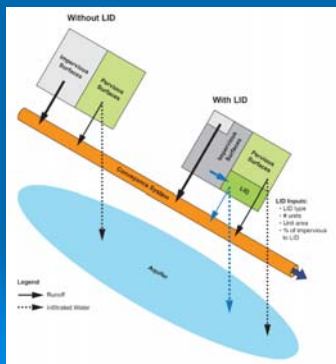
Subcatchment Type	Basis for TIA	Scaling Factor(s) (%)	Effective Impervious Surface (TIA x S)
ROW - informal	GIS or site survey	61	Calculated
ROW - curb and gutter	Site survey	95	Calculated
Parcel - existing BMP surface discharges directly to the public drainage system through a pipe or surface channel	Site survey	55	Calculated
Parcel - an existing BMP surface discharges to the private pervious surface or private drainage feature (e.g., rock pockets, large vegetated areas)	Site survey	28	Calculated

GIS = geographic information system  
 BMP = impervious  
 ROW = right-of-way  
 TIA = total impervious area

# SWMM Basics



# SWMM Basics



# SWMM Basics

## LID Controls

Table 12-1. Composition of Vertical Layers in SWMM

GSI Type	Surface	Pavement	Soil	Storage	Underdrain
Bioretention	✓		✓	✓	○
Porous Pavement	✓	✓		✓	○
Biowall	✓		○	○	○

✓ = required  
 ○ = optional  
 GSI = green stormwater infrastructure  
 SWMM = stormwater management model

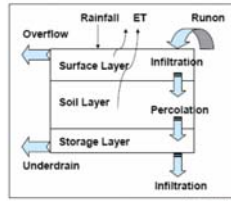


FIGURE 12-2. FLOW PATHS BETWEEN VERTICAL LAYERS BIORETENTION BIOWALLS

# SWMM Basics

## Bioretention Cell Parameters

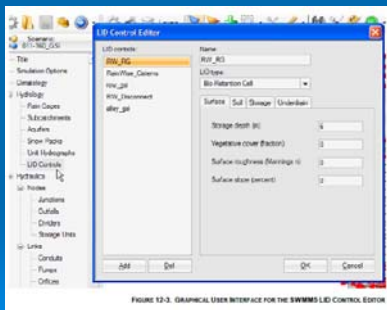


FIGURE 12-3. GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE FOR THE SWMM LID CONTROL EDITOR

# SWMM Basics

## Bioretention Cell Parameters

Vertical Layer	Property	Description	Unit, Field ID, or Data Type	Example Value	Data Source
Surface	Storage depth	Penetration depth (in) not include bioretention	inches	6	GSI design
	Vegetation volume fraction	Fraction of layer volume filled with vegetation	Fraction	0.1	GSI Design
Soil	Thickness	Thickness of the soil layer	inches	12 (without LID) 24 (with LID)	SFU
	Porosity	Volume of pore space relative to total soil	Fraction	0.8	Rose et al., 1995
Storage	Field capacity	Volume of pore water relative to total volume after the soil has drained fully to gravity	Fraction	0.13	Rose et al., 1995, for sandy sand texture
	Wilting point	Volume of pore water relative to total volume for a well-drained soil at which only bound water remains	Fraction	0.04	Rose et al., 1995, for sandy sand texture
Conductivity	Hydraulic conductivity	Hydraulic conductivity for the full saturated soil	inches/hour	3	SFU
Conductivity slope	Slope of the curve of log conductivity versus soil moisture content	Dimensionless	10		SWMM guidance, average of values for sand plus value for soil loam
Surface head	Soil capillary suction along the wetting front	inches	2.42		Assumed, sandy loam

## SWMM Basics

### Bioretention Cell Parameters

Table 12-2. SWMM Input Parameters for Bioretention Cell

Vertical Layer	Property	Description	Units, Field #s, or Data Type	Example Value	Data Source
Storage	Height	Height of a gravel layer below the soil layer	inches	1 (method LCU) 0 (with LCU)	SPU
	Void ratio	Volume of void space relative to the volume of solids in the layer	Ratio	0.507	(if dependent to C & permeability)
	Infiltration rate	Rate at which water infiltrates into the subsoil below the storage layer	Inches/hour	Depends on background soil	To be provided by SPU or geotechnical analysis
	Clipping factor	Total volume of stored runoff taken to completely plug the bottom of the layer shaded by the void volume of the layer	Dimensionless	0	Not used
Infiltration	Drain coefficient	Coefficient of the equation that calculates the flow rate through the underdrain as a function of water level above the drain height	inches <sup>3</sup> /hour	Depends on underdrain	SPU
	Drain exponent	Exponent of head in SWMM drain equation	Dimensionless	0.5 (inflow drain)	SWMM6 guidance
	Drain offset height	Height of underdrain pipe from the bottom of the layer or soil layer	inches	0	SPU

## SWMM Basics

### LID Usage Editor

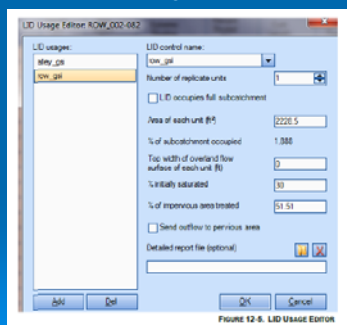


FIGURE 12-8. LID Usage Editor

## Combined Sewer Overflow Reduction SWMM Example

## Site Scale Optimization: Ballard Roadside Rain Gardens Pilot Project

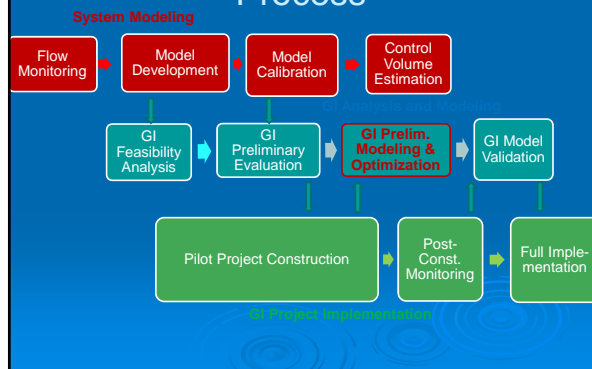


The Pilot

The Problem

The Fix

## Green Infrastructure Evaluation Process



## Green Infrastructure Modeling

### RainWise Practices

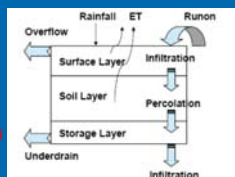
Rain Gardens → **Bio-retention Cells**

Curb Extensions → **Bio-retention Cells**  
(non-infiltrating with underdrain)

### Right-of-way CIP Practices

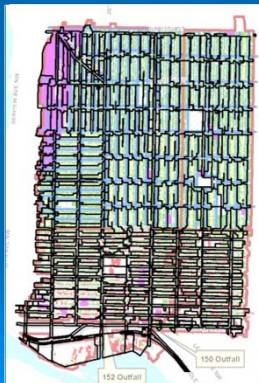
Traditional Rain Gardens → **Bio-retention Cells**

Green Roofs → **Porous Pavement**



## GI Modeling

- Modeled using EPA SWMM5
- 32-year long term simulations performed
- Feasibility Analysis overlaid with model subcatchment delineation to develop input files




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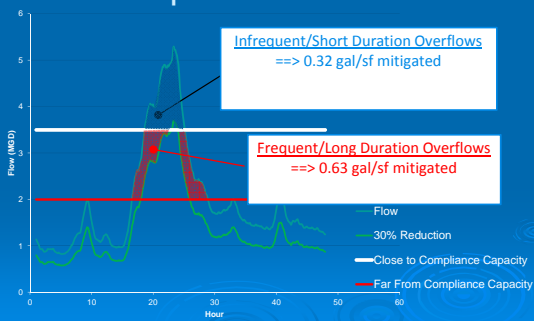
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## Basin Scale Optimization: Basin-Specific Performance




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## Other metrics besides Control Volume reduction

Basin 150	Without GI	Reduction	% Reduction
Control Volume (MG)	0.60	0.16	26%
Events/year	12.2	5.0	41%
Annual Overflow Volume (MG/year)	3.52	0.97	28%
Basin 152	Without GI	Reduction	% Reduction
Control Volume (MG)	5.35	1.04	19%
Events/year	37.5	9.8	26%
Annual Overflow Volume (MG/year)	28.75	9.58	33%

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## Resources

- LID Technical Guidance Manual  
[http://www.pierce.wsu.edu/Water\\_Quality/LID/LID\\_manual2005.pdf](http://www.pierce.wsu.edu/Water_Quality/LID/LID_manual2005.pdf)
- WWHM  
<http://www.clearcreeksolutions.com/>
- MGSFlood  
<http://www.mgsengr.com/MGSFlood.html>
- HSPF  
<http://water.usgs.gov/software/HSPF/>
- WDMUtils  
<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/basins/b3webdwn.htm>

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## Questions and Answers

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## Contact Information

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