Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual



Public Workshop QPA Requirements/Credits March 22, 2011



Low Impact Development (LID)

Community Planning





LID BMPs

Larger Conventional BMPs



LID Site Design



Receiving Waters





LID Stormwater Credits

LID Site Design Credit: Disconnected Rooftop Runoff Disconnected Non-Rooftop Runoff

Credit can be used to reduce or eliminate Re, and WQ, storage requirements.





Rainfall Frequency Spectrum

(55 Years of Precipitation Data from Logan International Airport, Boston, MA)



Rainfall Depth (inches)





Infiltration Rates in Disturbed Sandy Urban Soils





Infiltration Rates in Disturbed Clayey Urban Soils





Qualified Pervious Areas?

Clarification: QPAs can be over a flow length (concentrated flow) or across an area (sheet flow).

- For concentrated flow: Calculate the required minimum length.
- For sheet flow: Calculate the required minimum length and width.



QPA Definition

- Fully stabilized natural or landscaped vegetated area;
- Correlated with NRCS Curve Numbers for "good hydrologic condition"
- Minimum of 4 inches of top soil or organic material;
- Located outside of regulated wetland areas and buffer areas (i.e, not permitted with the 50 ft perimeter wetland);
- Lawn areas seeded with low-maintenance grassed adapted to New England.



LID Stormwater Credits

- Still need to meet other Standards;
- Must maintain engineering "standard of care" and "good drainage design;"
- Direct runoff over qualifying pervious areas (QPAs); and
- LUHPPL runoff not eligible for credit.







Which lot looks like it might qualify for a QPA?



Credit Restrictions

- Qualifying Pervious Area (QPA) located 10 ft from bldg foundation;
- Every 1,000 sq ft of impervious area must have at least 75 linear feet pervious flow and be longer than the contributing flow length (min length = 1,000 sf/75' = 13.3'/sq ft); and
- Can be no overlap for QPA (i.e., can't direct 2 different areas to the same QPA);





Credit Restrictions (Continued)

- Res Lots > 6,000 ft²;
- Slope of QPA < 5.0%;
- QPAs located over A or B soils;
- No construction traffic over QPA;
- O&M Plan required;
- QPA cannot be a wetland resource; and
- QPA must be controlled by the owner/applicant



Example Calculation

Given: a 40' x 60' gable single family rooftop, with 4 downspouts at each corner:

- What is the minimum QPA as Sheet flow?
- What is the minimum QPA length through a vegetated Swale?





For Sheet Flow: Minimum width is the longer of the two dimensions: i.e., 30 feet.

For Shallow Concentrated Flow: Minimum length = $A/13.3 = 600 \text{ ft}^2/13.3 = 45 \text{ feet}.$



Stormwater Credit (Recharge; Re_v)

• Two Methods:

- Percent Volume storage provided based on volume required for Re_v and/or WQ_v
- Percent Area (Re_a) required impervious area to drain to a QPA based on:
- $Re_a = (F)(I)$, where
 - F = Recharge Factor based on soils (dimensionless)
 - I = Impervious area (in acres or ft²)



Recharge Methods

% Volume versus % Area Methods

- 1. Calculate volume based on HSG (Re_v)
- 2. Calculate area method: Re_a = (F)(I); where F = recharge factor and I site impervious area.
- 3. Site area draining to a QPA is subtracted from Re_a
- 4. Divide new Re_a by Re_v: (Re_a / Re_v)
- Multiply fraction by original Re_v to obtain volume that must be treated by conventional structural practice.





Example Calculation

Given: non-rooftop impervious area = 1.9 ac lying over HSG A soils, 0.9 ac are disconnected to discharge to QPAs :

- What is the required Re_v to be managed by a structural practice?
 - $\text{Re}_v = 1'' (F)(I)/12 = 1'' (0.60)(1.9 \text{ ac})/12 = 0.095 \text{ ac-ft}$ (4,138 ft³)
 - $\text{Re}_{a} = (F)(I) = (0.60)(1.9 \text{ ac}) = 1.14 \text{ ac}$

Answer: 1.14 ac - 0.9 ac = 0.24 ac New Re_v = 0.24 ac/1.14 ac (4,138 ft³) = 871 ft³

