Stormwater Infiltration Basin Design

Design Considerations and Example Projects
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Overview of Webinar

- Background Information
- Regulatory requirements
 - Legal outlining
 - Guidance
- Advantages and Disadvantages
- Design Considerations
- Design volume determination
- Basin location and site constraints
 - Examples
- Maintenance Requirements

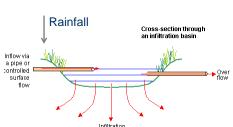


http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Rendition-760907/index.htm

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Definition and Purpose

- Open -shallow basin
- Temporarily store design runoff volume
- Treatment via exfiltration through bottom (and sides)
- Variations of design include
 - Infiltration trenches
 - Underground infiltration systems
 - Dry wells
- Pollutant removal via physical, chemical and biological processes
- Peak flows are reduced
- Highly efficient treatment
- Typically aggressively vegetated bottom

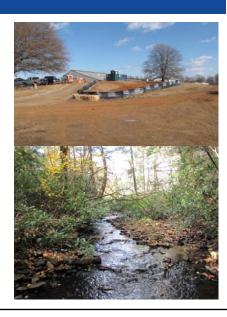


http://www.ciria.com/suds/infiltration_devices.htm

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Advantages

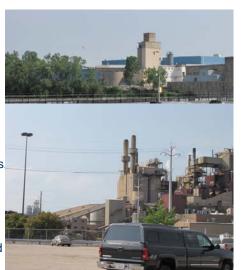
- Very effective pollutant removal
- Mimics natural hydrology
 - Increase in groundwater recharge
 - Promotes base flow in streams
- Net runoff volume is lower
- Reduced peak flows
- Helps to manage thermal impacts from runoff
- Good BMP in urban settings
- Stand alone or treatment chain
- Can be aesthetic
- No standing water if working properly



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Disadvantages

- DA limitations in many states
- Best use on more permeable soils
- Clearance from confining layers required
- Very high permeability and high pollutant loads – groundwater contamination without pre-treating
- Not for industrial pollutants, pesticides petroleum, etc.
- High sediment loads may limit their use – clogging of pore space
- Relatively high failure rates compared to other BMPs



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Regulatory Requirements

- Regulations vary by state and municipality
 - Soil requirements/ LSS
 - Site inspection check list
 - Permeability specs
- Legal outlining to break out defining parameters
- Suggests scoping meetings with agency
- Projects presented here are in NC
 - Requirements even different now



tp://itd.idaho.gov/enviro/storm%20water/BMP/PDF%20Files%20for%20BMP/Chapter%205/PC-28%20%20Infiltration%20Basin.pdf



Legal Outlining - Example

- Statutory Code
- Administrative Code
- Agency interpretation
 - Manuals interpret for you but check the law itself
 - Some Codes specifically call out the BMP manual
- Broad to Narrow

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION LAW 2008-211 SENATE BILL 1967

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF STORMWATER IN THE COASTAL COUNTIES IN ORDER TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION L(a) Disapprove Rule. – Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3(b1), 15A NCAC 02H
.1005 (Stormwater Requirements: Coastal Counties), as adopted by the Environmental Management
Commission on 10 January 2008 and approved by the Rules Review Commission on 20 March 2008,
is disapproved.

vegetative conveyance means a permanent, designed waterway inted with vegetation that is used to convey stormwater runoff at a non-crosive velocity within or away from a developed area.

SECTION 2.6b Requirements for Certain Nonresidential and Residential Development in the Coastal Counties. — All nonresidential development activities that occur within the Coastal Counties that will add more than 10,000 square feet of built upon area or that require a Sedimentation and Erosion Control Plan, pursuant to G.S. 113A-75 or a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Major Development Permit, pursuant to G.S. 113A-18 and all residential development activities within the Coastal Counties that require a Sedimentation and Erosion Control Plan full manages to the control of the Company of the Company of the Company of the Company of the Control Plan full calcivity or project disturbs one acre or more of land, including an activity or project that disturbs less than one

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/sessions/2007/bills/senate/html/s1967v4.html

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Design Considerations – Examples From Various States

	Max	Infiltration -	Soil		Drawdo)
State	DA	Ksat	Parameters	Clearence	wn	Other Comments
			clay max	4' SHWT or		
Michigan	<50 ac	0.52	30%	Bedrock	48 hrs	Pre-treatment and in a chain
Idaho	< E ac	Unspecified	USC A or B	4'	48 hrs	Dewatering system normally regd
iuano	\ J ac	Offspecified	H3G A OI B	4	40 1115	Referenced Maryland manual
	5 - 50			3' SHWT or		
Minnesota	ac	0.2 in/hr		Confining	72 hrs	r
						Must have cold climate suitability
Riverside			Not on C and	5' SHWT or		
Co, CA	50 ac	0.5 in/hr	D HSG	Confining	48 hrs	Underdrain required
			HSG A and B			Different regs for GW recharge, SS and
New Jersey	NA	0.5 in.hr	only		72 hrs	Surface, vs. WQ needs Field or lab soil test required
						Setbacks for basement seeepage and flooding considered
						6" sand layer must be placed on bottom



Design Considerations – Cold Climates

- Frost Line may render infiltration basins not feasable
- Some proprietary sub-grade systems will work when others do not (MN BMP Manual)
- Chloride problems → High salt runoff
- Spring snowmelt → high runoff volume
- Problems with freeze
 - Ice forming on top of & within the system
 - MN suggest keeping basin dry prior to freeze in fall

http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/stormwater/stormwater-management/minnesota-s-stormwater-manual.html



Design Considerations - Overview

- Design Storm
 - SA Coastal NC 1.5" P
- Siting is critical due to:
 - Limitation of soils
 - Clearance from SHWT
 - Building foundations, creation of seeps, potential slope failures
- Maximum drainage area
 - NC 2.0 Ac In Volume
- Targeted sediment and pollutant efficiency
- Longitudinal and cross slope



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Site Inspection - Desktop

- Aerial photos
 - Provide a wealth of information on veg ty
- Topographic Map
 - Best locations for basin often on the breagrade
 - Stay away from artificial/ altered areas
- Soil Maps
 - NRCS Web Soil Survey
 - Soils Maps (if you have them)
 - Saturated soils tell you NO from the desk
 - Utility interactioins
 - As-builts
- Other sources
 - Utility interactioins
 - As-builts



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Appropriate Soils

- Soils should be well drained
- No underlying confinement layers
- Sandy soils in coastal zones are ideal – avoid clay
- Minimum 0.52"/ hr value (more on Ksat later)
- Any foreign smell in soils must be investigated before siting basin
- Extremely high permeability avoided depending on source of runoff



http://slowwatermovement.blogspot.com/2010/09/urban-seep-soil-science.html

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Hydraulic Conductivity

- Darcy's Law Ksat values
 - NC Min. 0.52"/hr rate
- Constant head permeability test
- NC LSS required and Soils Report
- Double ring infiltrometer test
- We use lowest value to be conservative

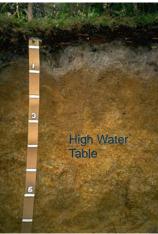
Water	change in	Chamber	clock	Elapse	d Time	Q	K	K	K
Reading	water level	C.F.	time (min)	(min)	(hr)	(cm3/hr)	(cm/hr)	(in/hr)	gal/ft2/day
21.8	0.0	105.0	0.0						
21.2	0.6	105.0	1.0	1.00	0.017	3780.0	5.4284	2.1372	31.975
20.7	0.5	105.0	2.0	1.00	0.017	3150.0	4.5236	1.7810	26.646
20.3	0.4	105.0	3.0	1.00	0.017	2520.0	3.6189	1.4248	21.317
20.1	0.2	105.0	4.0	1.00	0.017	1260.0	1.8095	0.7124	10.658
19.7	0.4	105.0	5.0	1.00	0.017	2520.0	3.6189	1.4248	21.317
19.4	0.3	105.0	6.0	1.00	0.017	1890.0	2.7142	1.0686	15.988
19.1	0.3	105.0	7.0	1.00	0.017	1890.0	2.7142	1.0686	15.988
18.8	0.3	105.0	8.0	1.00	0.017	1890.0	2.7142	1.0686	15.988
								_	
						Final Keat	2.714	1,069	16,888

Water	change in	Chamber	clock	Elapse	d Time	Q	K	K	K
Reading	water level	C.F.	time (min)	(min)	(hr)	(cm3/hr)	(cm/hr)	(in/hr)	gal/ft2/day
30.5	0.0	105.0	0.5						
30.3	0.2	105.0	1.5	1.00	0.017	1260.0	1.7123	0.6741	10.086
30.1	0.2	105.0	2.5	1.00	0.017	1250.0	1.7123	0.6741	10.086
29.9	0.2	105.0	3.5	1.00	0.017	1260.0	1.7123	0.6741	10.086
29.8	0.1	105.0	4.5	1.00	0.017	630.0	0.8562	0.3371	5.043
29.6	0.2	105.0	5.5	1.00	0.017	1250.0	1.7123	0.6741	10.086
29.5	0.1	105.0	6.5	1.00	0.017	630.0	0.8562	0.3371	5.043
29.4	0.1	105.0	7.5	1.00	0.017	630.0	0.8562	0.3371	5.043
29.3	0.1	105.0	8.5	1.00	0.017	630.0	0.8562	0.3371	5.043
						Final Keat	0.858	0.337	5.043

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SHWT

- It governs site elevations in lowlands!!
- Often have to use location where planners anticipate a structure or parkign
- NC Min 2' Clearence
- Pays to perform preliminary inspection
 - Investigate all feasible locales
- Be familiar with mottling and hydric indicators
- Up to 1' can be fill on sites where you have no option



http://soils.cals.uidaho.edu/SoilORDERS/spodosols_07.htm



Proximity to Wetlands

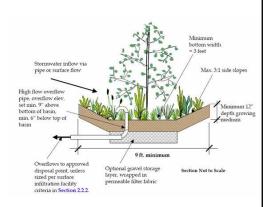
- Check the regulatory guidance in your State/municipality
- Generally challenging to locate near wetlands
 - Wetland soils not normally high enough permeability
 - Lack clearance of SHWT



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Basin Sizing

- Treatment volume or Capture volume
 - State and local BMP manuals require various methods
 - Typically size for entire volume
- Drawdown considerations
 - Varies by state and local regs
 - Use minimum Ksat or half value
 - Some regs require drawdown device for maintenance
- Max 2.0 ac-in per basin for our projects in (NC)

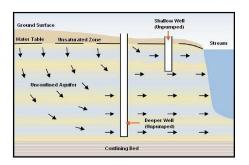


http://www.cityofsandy.com



Other limiting factors

- Proximity to Buildings
 - foundation stability
 - Saturation of basements (not a problems in lowlands)
- Karst/limestone geology
- Challenges in cold climates

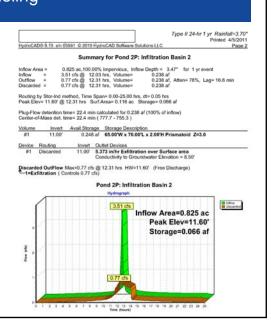


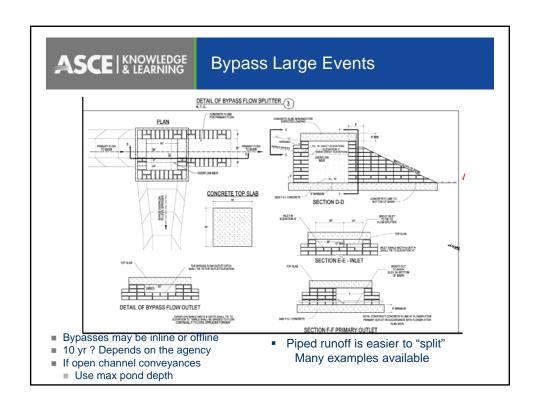
http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/environment/facts/06-113.htm

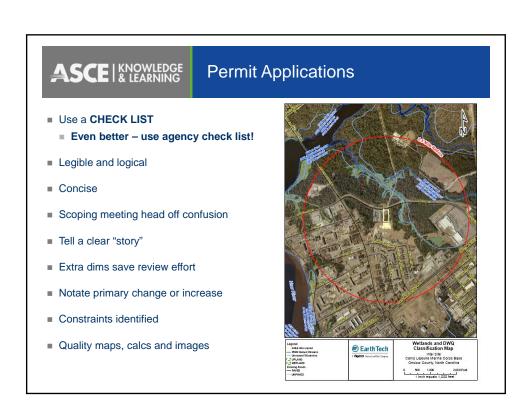
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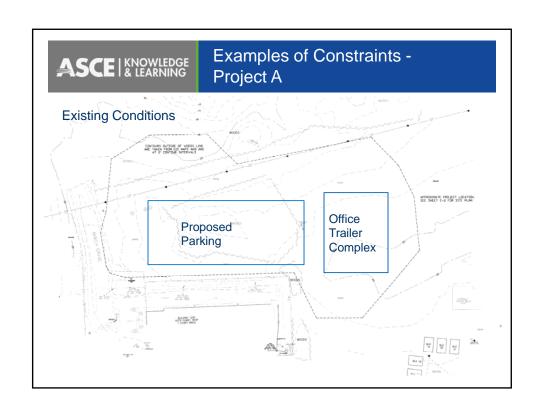
Modeling

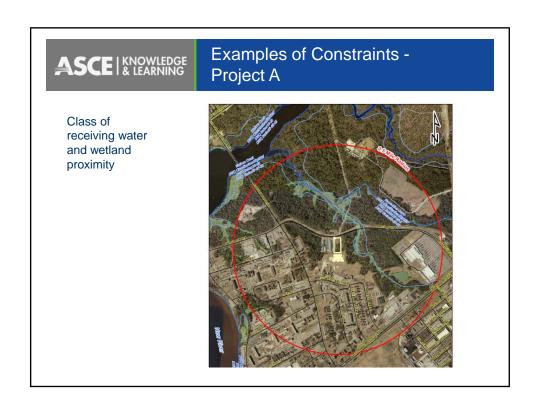
- Though not always required, we validate with models
- Hydrocad is a simple, good tool for this purpose
- Provides check of:
 - Drawdown time
 - Attenuation of peak flow
 - Max ponding depth

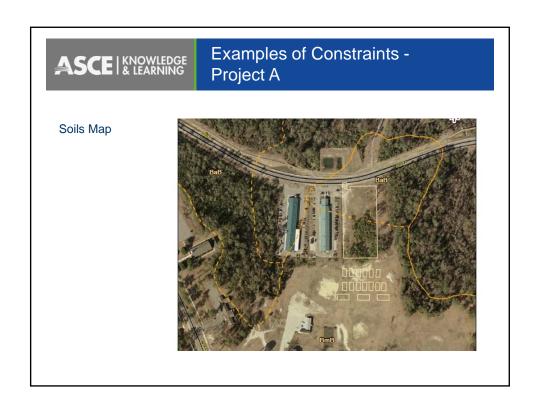


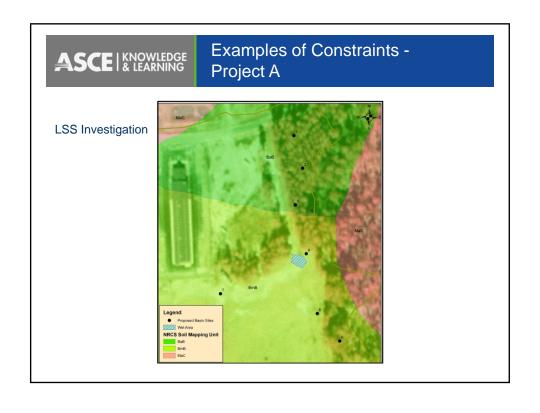














Examples of Constraints - Project A

- Soils Report -Findings
 Locations 4, 5 7 are out
- Basin 1,2,3 and 6 are appropriate sites

Depth to Seasonal High Water Table

During the field investigation, the depth to the seasonal high water table (SHWT) was determined through the use of field indicators for redoximorphic features or the presence of saturated soil. Table 3 presents the soil borings and the determination of the SHWT.

Boring #	SHWT Determination (inches below Surface)
Basin 1	46
Basin 2	>48
Basin 3	>48
Basin 4	30
Basin 5	24 (Perched)
Basin 6	>48
Basin 7	26

Basin 4, 5 and 7 have clayery soil occurring at or near the surface and this clay affects the depth of the SIWT. While Basin 4 didn't show any indicators of wetness until 30 inches there was an area close to Basin 4 (See Figure 1) that at the time of the investigation was rutted, had cattalis growing and standing water. A boring at the center of this wet area indicated a massive clay layer at the surface and a perched water table at 10 inches. Likewise, Basin 5 had a massive clay layer extending down to 24 inches with a

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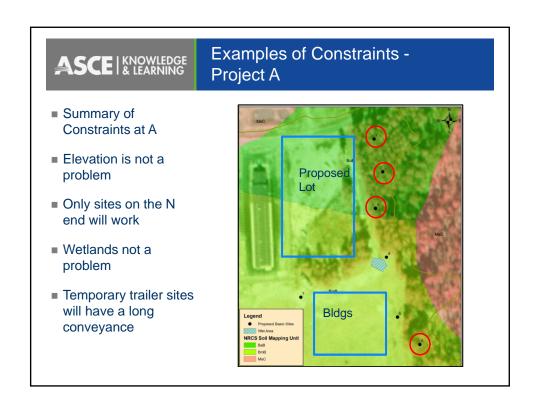
Soils Testing - A

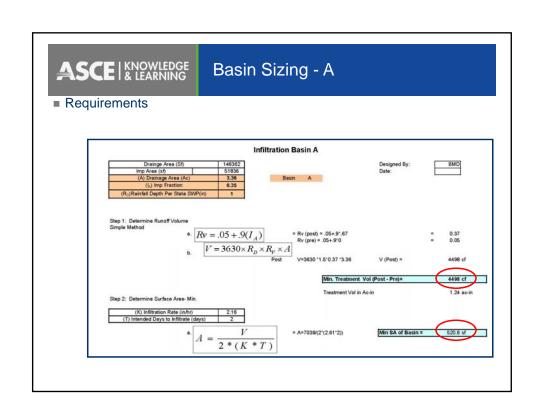
■ Ksat

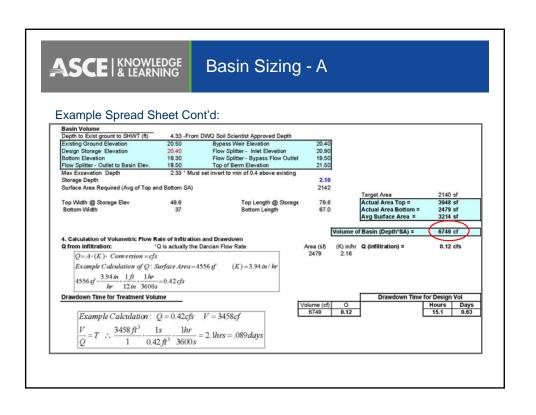
Multiple saturated hydraulic conductivity tests were performed at each proposed infiltration basin. The results for each test are shown below in Table 4. Data sheets for each hydraulic conductivity tests are also attached. At each basin location, the geometric mean was taken and is presented in Table 4. The geometric mean was calculated instead of the arithmetic mean, as it tends to dampen the effect of very high or low values, which might bias the arithmetic mean if a straight average was calculated.

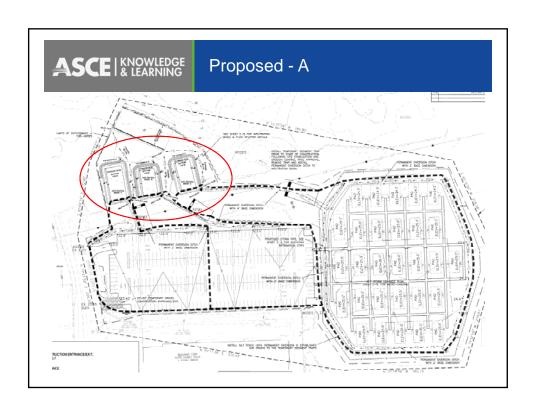
Table 4 Results of Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity Tests and Geometric Mean

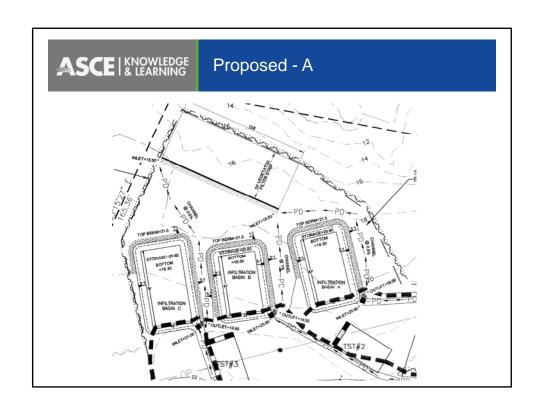
Test Location	Test Number	Test Depth	Measured K _{SAT}	Geometric	
		(inches)	(in/hr)	Mean (in/hr)	
	1	12.2	1.92		
Basin 1	2	13.0	4.04	2.43	
	3	11.8	1.85		
	1	13.8	1.06		
Basin 2	2	13.4	1.63	1.21	
	3	14.2	1.04		
	1	11.4	1.92		
Basin 3	2	12.6	4.68	2.88	
	3	12.2	3.26		
	1	12.6	1.59		
Basin 4	2	12.6	0.12	0.24	
	3	13.4	0.07		
Basin 5	1	25.6	0.22	0.15	
Basin 5	2	24.8	0.11	0.15	
Basin 6	1	17.3	1.31	1.18	
Dasin 6	2	14.2	1.07		
Desire 7	1	11.8	1.07	0.60	
Basin 7	2	12.6	0.34	0.60	

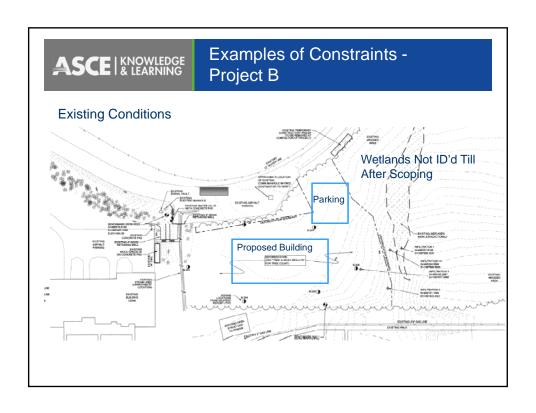








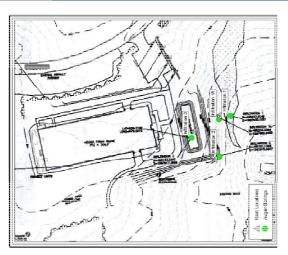






Soil Borings Locations-Project B

- Pinched by wetlands
- Elevation is not a problem
- Slope should have high Ksat



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Project B - Ksat and SHWT

Table 2 presents each boring with a soil series determination. Determination of soil series was made through a comparison of soil boring descriptions to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Official Series Description (OSD) for the soil series that were mapped by the NRCS for this site.

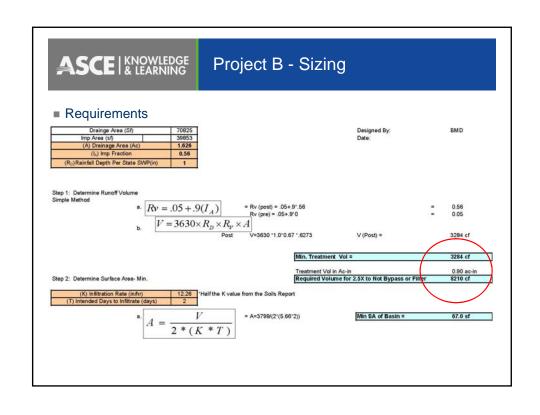
Table 2 - Soil Series Determination and Depth to SHWT

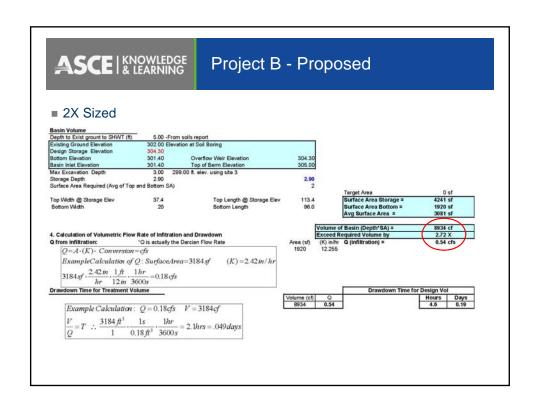
Boring #	Soil Series Determination	SHWT Determination (inches below surface)
Infiltration 1	Johnston	6
Infiltration 1A	Blaney	24
Infiltration 2	Blaney	60+
Infiltration 3	Blaney	60+

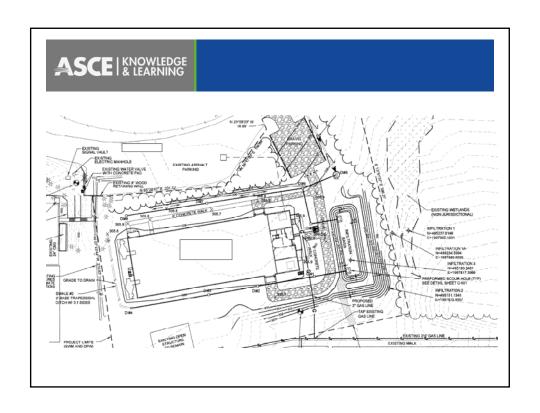
Table 3 presents the saturated hydraulic conductivity for each infiltration basin as well as a moderation factor to get an area infiltration rate for each proposed infiltration basin.

Table 3 - Results of Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity Tests

Test Location	Test Depth (in)	Measured K _{SAT} (in/hr)	75% of K _{SAT} (in/hr)	
1	15	11.311	8.48	
2	14	19.103	14.33]
3a	37	10.205	7.65	V
3Ь	12	32.676	24.51	1
	Location 1 2 3a	Location (in) 1 15 2 14 3a 37	Location (in) K _{SAT} (in/hr) 1 15 11.311 2 14 19.103 3a 37 10.205	Location (in) K _{SAT} (in/hr) (in/hr) 1 15 11.311 8.48 2 14 19.103 14.33 3a 37 10.205 7.65







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Constructability and Maintenance

- Swales to nowhere
- Flat slope and sandy soil
- Inlets and outlets Erosion
- Compaction due to equipment
- Poor oversight
- Clogging

Check maintenance requirements of your agency.





Reference Information

- Check your local and state guidance availability first
- http://www.stormwaterpa.org/assets/media/BMP_manual/chapter_6/Chapter_6-4-2.pdf
- http://dnr.wi.gov/runoff/stormwater/InfStdsTools/Technical Note.pdf
- http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ws/su/bmp-ch16
- http://www.njstormwater.org/bmp_manual/NJ_SWBMP_9.5.pdf
- http://itd.idaho.gov/enviro/storm%20water/BMP/PDF%20Files%20for%20BMP/Chapter%2 05/PC-28%20%20Infiltration%20Basin.pdf
- Groundwater mounding beneath infiltration basin: http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/5102/

