

Revised Intermunicipal Stormwater Planning Principles For Low Impact Development/Better Site Design (LID/BSD)

1. The use of LID/BSD stormwater design approaches is recommended. To the extent that LID design approaches are not proposed, the applicant should justify and demonstrate why they are not possible before proposing to use conventional structural stormwater management measures which channel stormwater away from the development site.
2. No person shall commence or otherwise perform any land development activity (major or minor) in the Town/Village/City of XXXX that involves xxxx square feet (threshold to be based on size and available staff in the municipality) without first obtaining the proper stormwater management control permit from the Town/Village/City Engineer, and all other necessary local, state and federal permits.
3. Incorporate specific goals and objectives related to LID/BSD and green infrastructure practices as part of the preparation of new or updated comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances. Neighboring municipalities that have recently completed a plan and local volunteers are valuable resources in the preparation of comprehensive plans especially if funding or staff is unavailable.
4. Review local codes in order to facilitate consistent and coordinated stormwater management regulations and better site design practices among neighboring and downstream watershed communities. The county has expertise to assist in this.
5. Review codes and regulations to remove barriers (e.g. restrictions on downspout disconnections) which discourage or prohibit property owners from adopting home-based green infrastructure practices such as rain gardens, rain barrels, other rainwater harvesting practices and infiltration techniques.
6. Prior to the expenditure of significant dollars and time, encourage pre-submission meetings and site visits between municipal staff, the approving body and advisory committees (e.g. CAC), and the applicant/developer in order to discuss stormwater management as well as opportunities to include LID/BSD.
7. Establish clear and consistent regulations based on these principles as well as an efficient public review and approval process.
8. Provide training in LID/BSD to the staffs and boards of each municipality.
9. Share specific stormwater implementation costs with other municipalities such as a vacuum truck for pervious paving or joint hiring of site inspectors.

Design Principles

1. *Vegetation and Landscaping:* Vegetation and landscaping controls that intercept the path of surface runoff shall be considered as a component of the comprehensive stormwater management plan to the greatest extent practical.
2. *Development on Steep Slopes:* Development on steep slopes equal to or in excess of 15% shall be sited and constructed and slopes stabilized to minimize risks to surface and ground waters and to protect neighboring properties from damage.
3. *Reduce Impervious Surfaces:* Stormwater shall be managed through land development strategies that emphasize the reduction of impervious surface areas such as streets, sidewalks, driveway and parking areas and roofs.
4. *Low Impact Integrated Management Practices:* Stormwater shall be managed through the use of small-scale controls to capture, store, and infiltrate stormwater close to its source. The continued upkeep and maintenance of LID practices approved as part of the development process shall be legally binding.