GSI Performance Monitoring and Design Considerations for Maximizing Pollutant Removal

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Green Stormwater Infrastructure Summit

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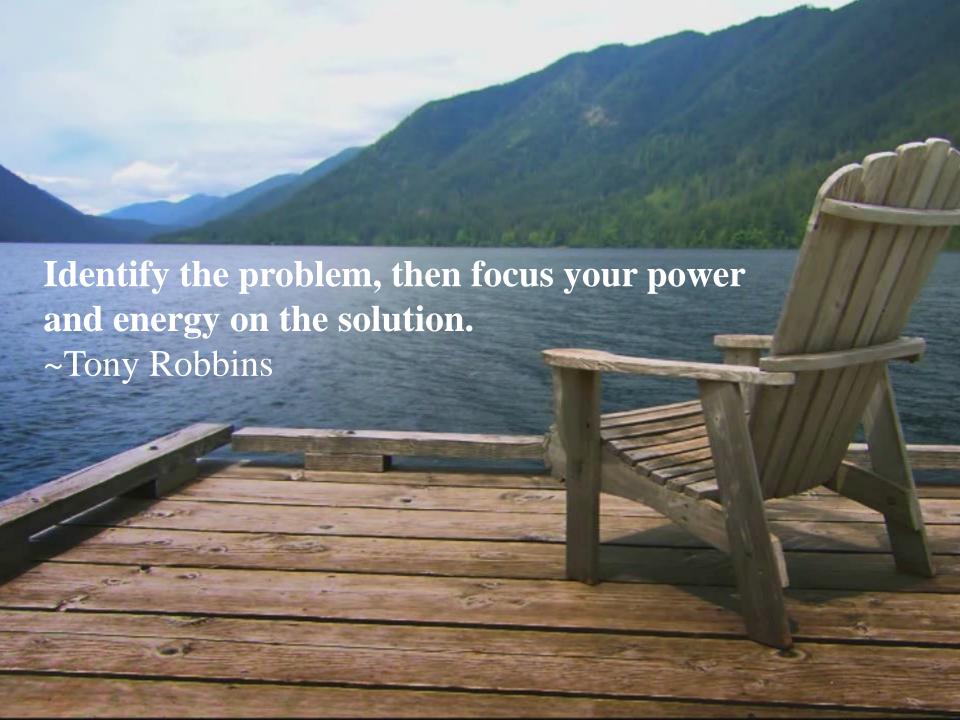












EPA National Green Infrastructure Strategic Agenda 2013







Green Infrastructure Strategic Agenda 2013

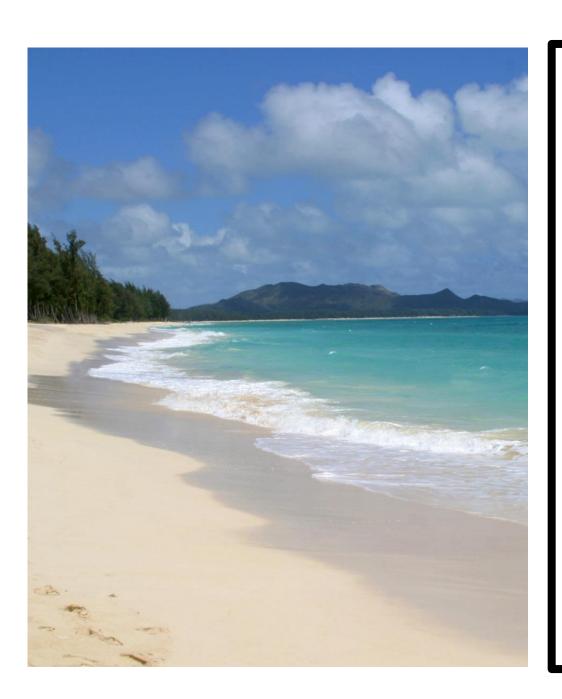
U.S. Environmental Protection Agenc

National Objectives:

- 1. Increase federal coordination
- 2. Expand Clean Water Act regulatory support
- 3. Strengthen research and information exchange
- 4. Distribute funding and financing
- 5. Build local capacity

Collect Data to Verify Effectiveness





Pollutants Found in Stormwater:

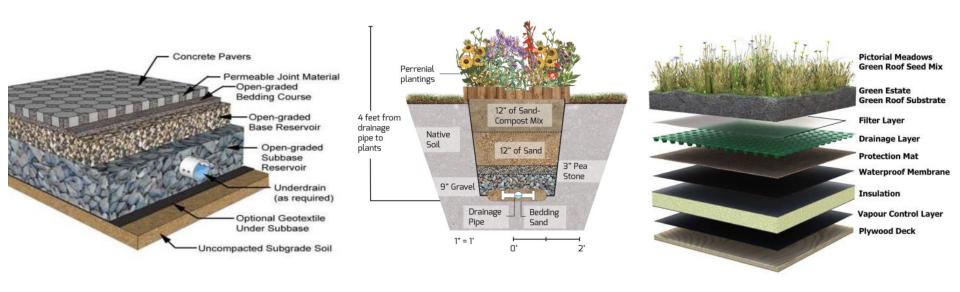
bacteria pathogens cadmium chromium copper lead mercury zinc phosphorus nitrogen oil and grease total suspended solids

Low Impact Design & Development

LID is an approach to development (or re-development) that mimics pre-development hydrology and uses ecological design and engineering to remove pollutants in stormwater and wastewater so it can be re-used or replenish groundwater supplies.



Low Impact Design and Development (LID) includes Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)





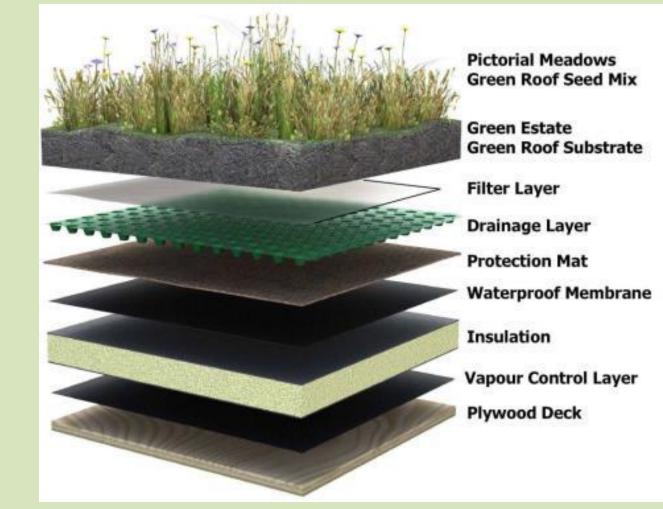
Green Roofs

Design Strengths:

Reduce Volume
Reduce Peak Flows
Remove Pollutants
Reduce Temperature
Heat Island
Provide Habitat
Increase Biodiversity

Design Challenges:

Maintenance Plant Selection





Floating Treatment Wetlands

Design Strengths:

Nutrient Removal
Provides Habitat
Increase Biodiversity
Moderates Wave Action
Reduces Shore Erosion



Maintenance Logistics



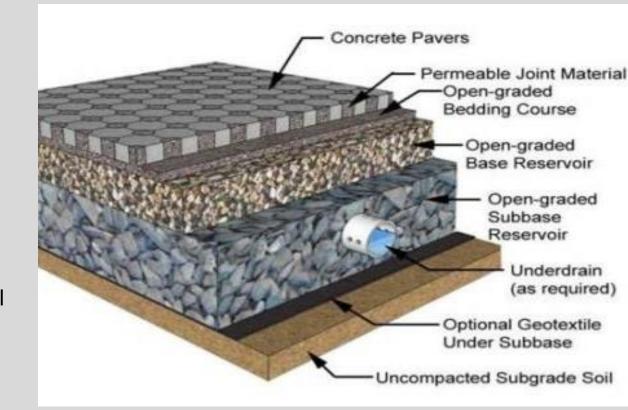




Porous Pavement

Design Strengths:

Reduces Storm Volume Reduces Peak Flows Particulate Pollutant Removal



Design Challenges:

Getting both strength and permeability
Protective buffer reduces siltation from offsite flows
Maintenance



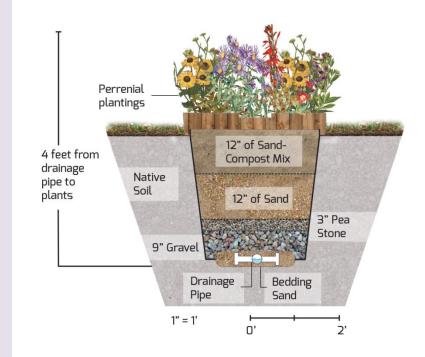
BioretentionRain Gardens Green Streets

Design Strengths:

Reduces Volume & Peak Flows Removes Total Suspended Solids Removes Nutrients Improved Aesthetics

Design Challenges:

Obtaining proper infiltration Directing flow into feature Maintenance



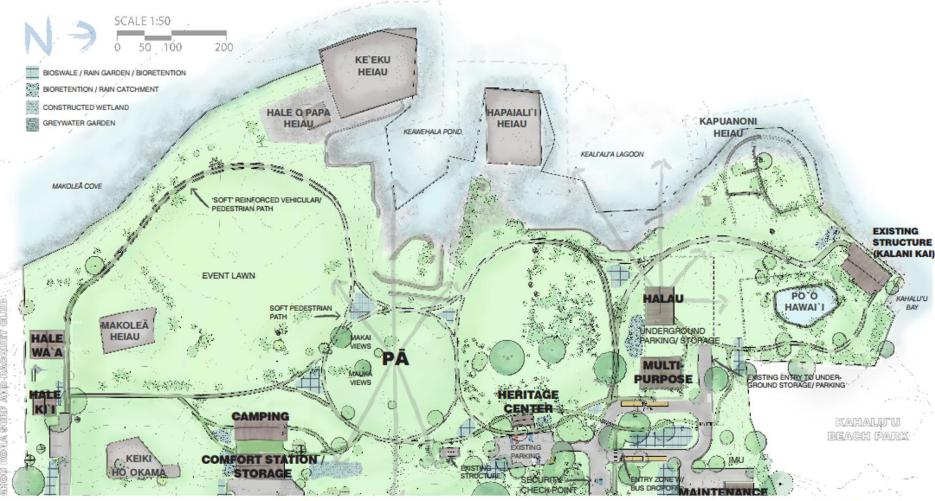








Low Impact Development (LID): Kahalu'u Ma Kai







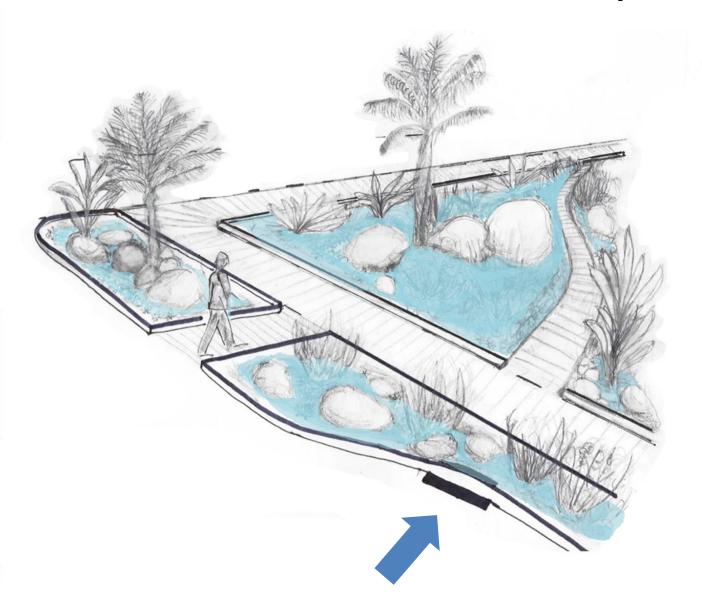




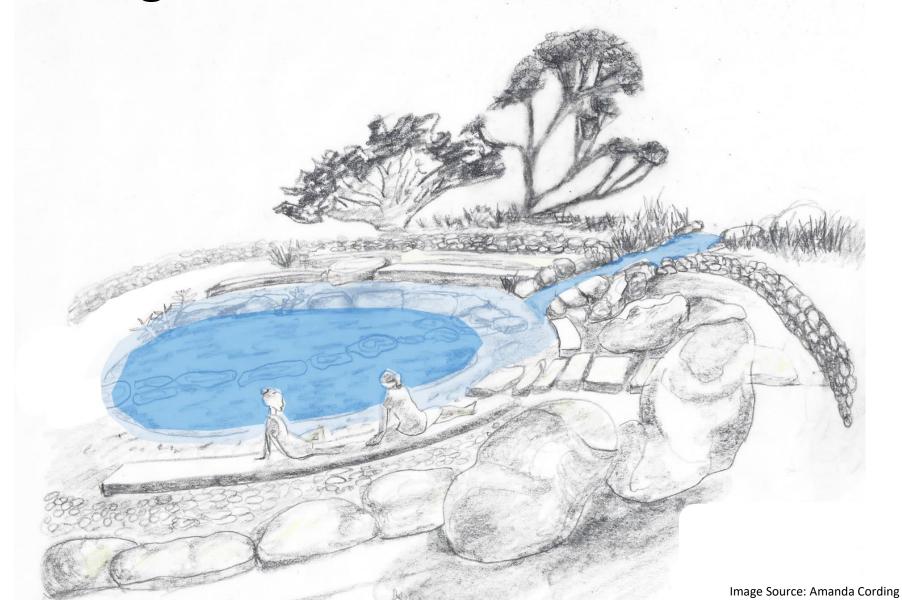
Residential Bioretention Concept



Green Streets Concepts

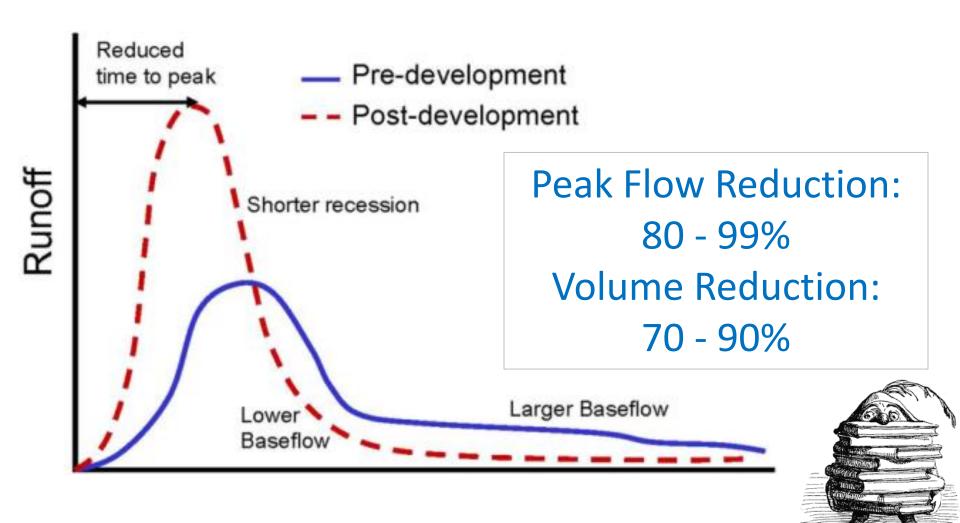


Neighborhood Scale Bioretention



References	What is a Bioretention System?		
Claytor and Schueler (1996)	Shallow, grass filter strip, sand and loamy soils, ponding area, mulch. The total depth is 4 feet. Collected in a perforated underdrain and returned to the storm drain system.		
Davis et al. (2001)	High sand content, low levels of silt and clay to promote attenuation of pollutants. Wood mulch to prevent erosion/ excessive drying.		
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (2002)	Shallow depression, soil matrix, returned to storm drain system.		
Kim et al. (2003)	Simple, plant and soil based infiltration facility		
Dietz & Clausen (2005)	Shallow, planted with trees and/or shrubs, bark mulch layer or ground cover.		
Dietz et al. (2007)	Depressed, planted with shrubs, perennials or trees, shredded hardwood bark mulch.		
Hunt et al. (2007)	Excavated basin, underdrains, gravel envelope. Between 0.7 and 1.2 m (2.3 to 4 ft) of fill soil. Plants and mulch.		
Hatt et al. (2008)	Gravel-, sand-, or soil-based filter media. Flexible in design (ranging from large basins to small garden beds) and are particularly advantageous for urban areas where there are space constraints.		
Collins et al. (2010)	Bioretention systems (also referred to as rain gardens or bioswales) are shallow, vegetated depressions, soil filter media		

Bioretention: Hydrologic Performance



Bioretention: Sediment Removal

Removal of Total Suspended Solids: 70% - 99%

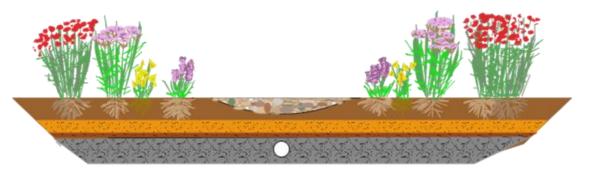






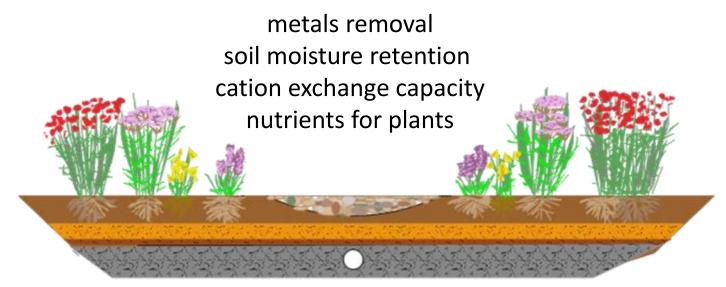
Average Outflow Concentrations within the Literature

Parameter	Literature	Reference
NLP	40 – 800 μg L ⁻¹	Hunt et al. (2006)
SRP	210 – 670 μg L ⁻¹	Geosyntec (2008)
SRP	140 μg L ⁻¹	Chardon et al. (2005) (Iron Coated Sand)
	< 10 μg L ⁻¹	O'Neill and Davis (2011) (WW Residual)
NO ₃ -	300 – 400 μg L ⁻¹	Dietz and Clausen (2006)
TKN	1,240 – 1,780 μg L ⁻¹	Geosyntec (2008)
TSS	15 – 33 mg L ⁻¹	Geosyntec (2008)



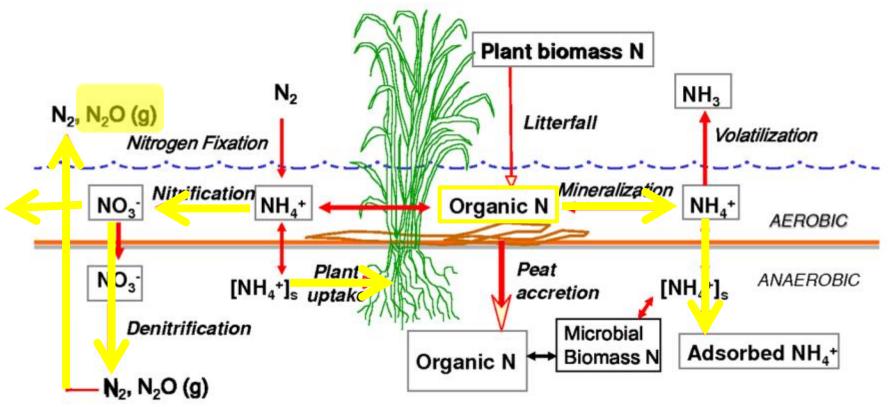
Inconsistent Nutrient Removal

- Some of the variability could be attributed to <u>soil media selected</u>
- Sand based bioretention soil designs are common
- Organic amendments (compost, mulch) are recommended for:



Bratieres et al. 2008; DeBusk and Wynn 2011; Michigan Department of Environmental Quality 2008; Thompson et al. 2008; Vermont Agency of Natural Resources 2002; Washington State University Pierce County Extension 2012.

Nitrogen Removal Mechanisms



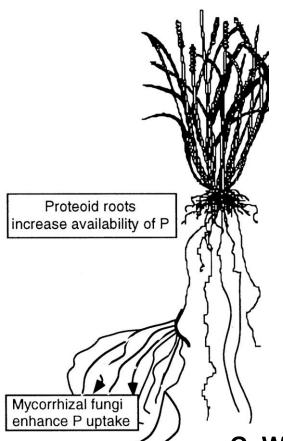
*Mn (II) may also reduce NO₃- via chemo-denitrification

Q: Which mechanisms are dominant in bioretention?

Q: How can we maximize removal through design?



Phosphorus Removal Mechanisms



- 1. Physical Filtration: Non-labile P
- 2. Sorption of SRP: Fe, Ca, and Al in Soil

$$2 = \text{FeOH}^{-0.5} + \text{PO}_4^{3-} + 2\text{H}^+ = (=\text{FeO})_2 \text{PO}_2^{2-} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$$

3. Plant Uptake: SRP

Q: Which mechanisms are dominant in bioretention?

Q: How can we maximize removal mechanisms through design?

Soil Media Designed to Remove P

Reference	Media	Composition	Са	Fe	Al	SRP	TP Removal (%)
Liu et al.	TerraSolve	15% coir/peat mix, 9% hardwood mulch, 12% WTR, 58% sand	-	1,979	7,541	196	90– 99
(2014)	Virginia Institute of Technology Mixture	3% WTR, 15% saprolite, 25% compost, 57% sand	-	6,613	3,367	138	58 – 95
Stoner et al. (2012)	Industrial byproducts	Geothite, gypsum, calcite, quartz, portlandite	90 – 6,500	600 – 40,000	60 – 58,000	-	10 – 60
Arias et al. (2001)	Denmark Sands	Quartz sand	600	1,210	320	40	-
Chardon et al. (2005)	Iron-coated Sand	Iron-coated sand	6,100	198,000	620	3,400	94

^{*} All Constituents are in mg kg⁻¹

Research Objectives:

- 1. How does one monitor bioretention effectiveness?
- 2. What is the stormwater pollutant load from paved road?
 - 3. What design parameters dominate pollutant removal?



Welcome to the University of Vermont Bioretention Laboratory



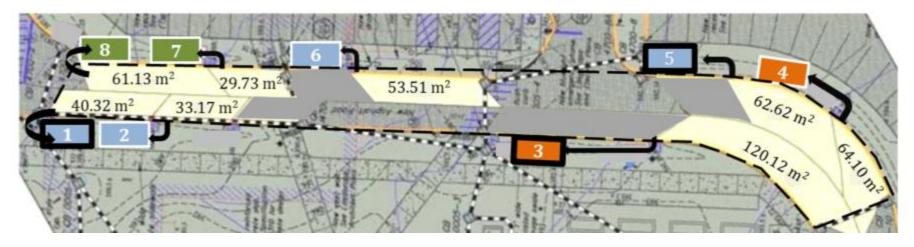
The Research Site



Site Description:

- The University of Vermont Outdoor Bioretention Laboratory was constructed in November of 2012
- Total area: approx.
 5,000 ft² or 0.1 acres
- Eight small paved road sub-watersheds
- Bioretention Surface Areas: 29.73 m² to 120.12 m²

The Research Site







Numerous Design Factors that Affect Pollutant Removal Performance

Factor	Authors				
1. Residence time	(Collins et al. 2010; Hurley and Forman 2011; Kadlec et al. 2010; Rosenquist et al. 2010)				
2. Media depth	(Brown and Hunt 2011)				
3. Vegetation type, root depth, root architecture	(Claassen and Young 2010; Collins et al. 2010; Davis et al. 2009; Kadlec et al. 2010; Lucas and Greenway 2008)				
4. Soil organic matter content, use of mulch	(DeBusk and Wynn 2011; Fassman et al. 2013)				
5. % sand, silt, and clay	(Liu et al. 2014)				
6. Chemical characteristics of soil media (Fe, Ca, Al)	(Groenenberg et al. 2013; Vance et al. 2003)				
7. Ponding depth, hydraulic conductivity, infiltration rate	(Thompson et al. 2008)				
8. Inclusion of internal water storage (IWS) zones	(Chen et al. 2013; Dietz and Clausen 2006; Hunt et al. 2006)				
9. Careful construction, maintenance	(Brown and Hunt 2011; Dietz and Clausen 2006)				

Step 1: Monitoring Bioretention

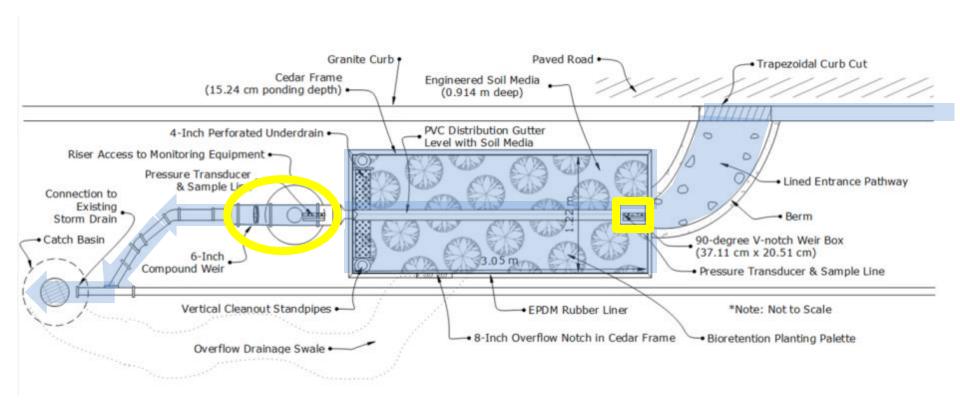


Image Credit: Amanda Cording

Converting Concentration to Mass with Numeric Integration

$$V = \int_{t0}^{tn} Q(t) dt$$

Where,

V = volume delivered during storm event (L)

 $\mathbf{Q} = \text{flow rate as a function of time (Ls}^{-1})$

$$M = \int_{t0}^{tn} C(t)dt Q(t) dt$$

$$M = \text{mass delivered during storm event (μg or reconstruction of time (μg L-1)}$$

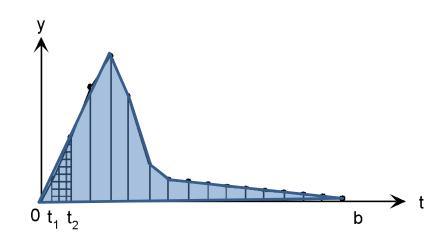
$$O = \text{flow rate as a function of time (Ls-1)}$$

Where,

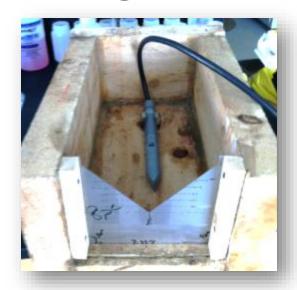
 $\mathbf{M} = \text{mass delivered during storm event (} \mu g \text{ or mg)}$

 $Q = \text{flow rate as a function of time (Ls}^{-1})$

$$Area = (t_2 - t_1) \left[\frac{f(t_1) + f(t_2)}{2} \right]$$



How do you measure flow rate entering and exiting bioretention?



Inflow 90° Weir Box



Outflow Thel-Mar™ Weir

$Q = CH^n$

Where:

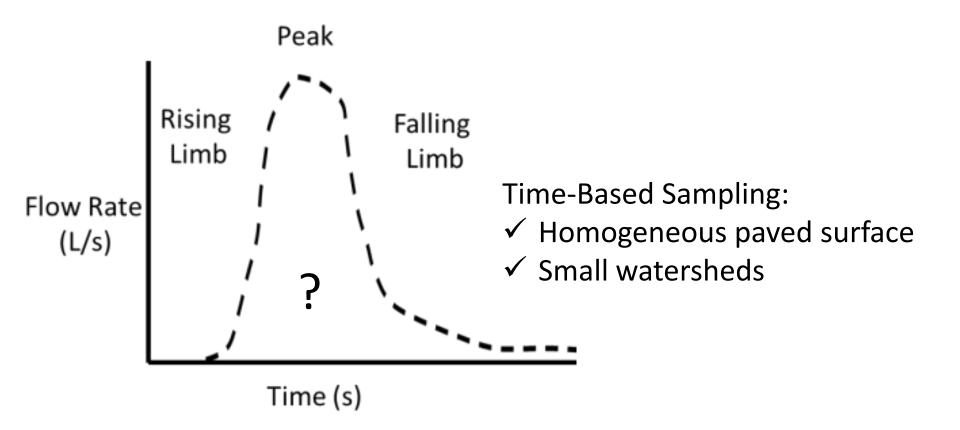
 $Q = \text{flow rate over the weir (cfs, L s}^{-1})$

C= coefficient of discharge, or weir coefficient

H= height of water behind the weir (pressure transducer)

n = an empirical exponent (dimensionless)

How to Capture the Inflow Hydrograph?



Capturing the Inflow Hydrograph: Estimate Time of Concentration

$$Tc = \frac{G (1.1 - C)L^{0.5}}{(100 S)^{1/3}}$$

Where,

T_c is the time of concentration (min)

G is equal to 1.8 (FAA method, constant)

C is the runoff coefficient using the rational method (dimensionless)

L is the longest distance from the fixed location within the watershed (ft)

S is the slope of the watershed (ft ft⁻¹or m m⁻¹)

Estimate Peak Flow Rate with the Rational Method

$$Q = C_f * C_i * A$$

Where,

Q is the peak discharge, or flow rate (ft³ s⁻¹, m³ s⁻¹, L s¹)

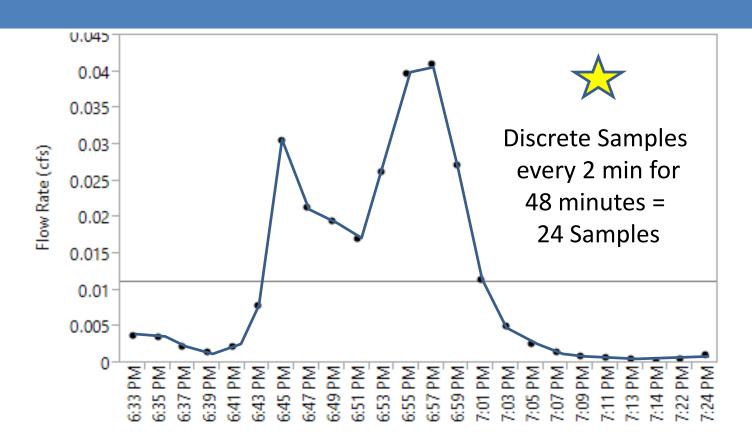
C_f is the runoff coefficient (dimensionless)

C_i is the rainfall intensity (ft s⁻¹ or m s⁻¹)

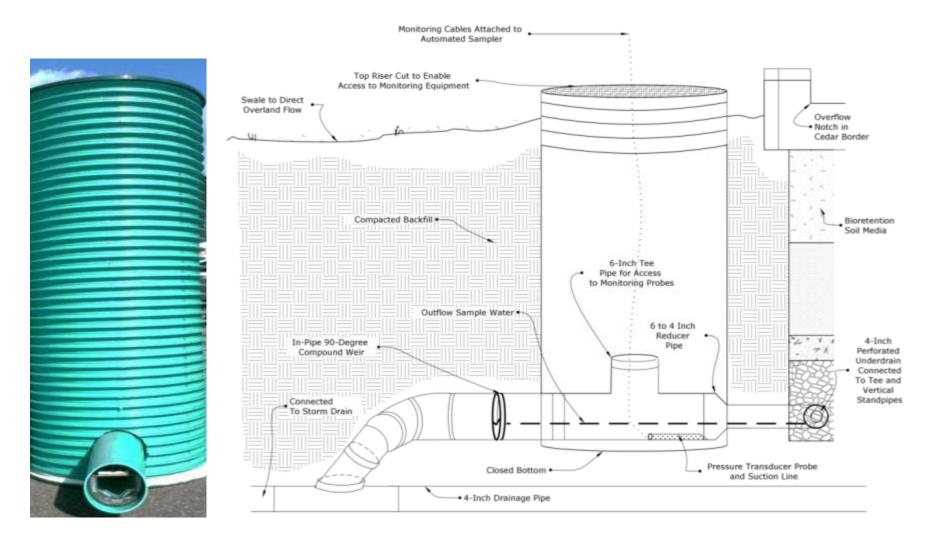
A is the drainage area (ft² or m²)

Take Multiple Samples within the Inflow Hydrograph

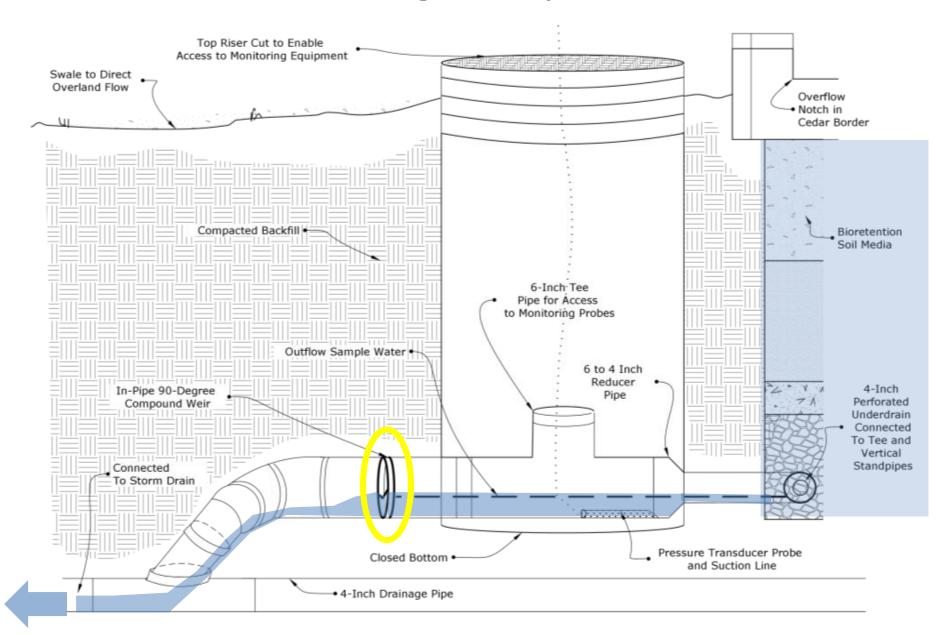
 $Time = \frac{watershed\ area\ x\ rainfall\ depth}{peak\ flow\ rate}$



What infrastructure could one use to measure the outflow from bioretention?



Outflow Monitoring: In-Pipe Thel-Mar™ Weir



Capturing the Outflow Hydrograph: Estimate Hydraulic Conductivity

$$K_z = \frac{D}{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d_i}{k_i}}$$

Where,

K₂ is the vertical hydraulic conductivity for the layered system (m s⁻¹)

D is the total cumulative depth of the layers (m)

d_i is the depth of a given layer (m)

k_i is the hydraulic conductivity of a given layer (m s⁻¹)

$$K_{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{K_{i} d_{i}}{d}$$

Where,

K_x is the horizontal hydraulic conductivity (m s⁻¹)

d; is the depth of a given layer (m)

K_i is the hydraulic conductivity of a given layer (m s⁻¹)

d is the horizontal distance of the given layer (m)

Capturing the Outflow Hydrograph: Estimate Hydraulic Conductivity

Bioretention Media	Depth (m)	Hydraulic Conductivity (m s ⁻¹)	d _i /k _i	
Sand/Compost	0.3048	1.50E-04	2.03E+03	
Mixture				
Medium Sand	0.3048	6.90E-04	4.42E+02	
Pea Gravel	0.0762	6.40E-03	1.19E+01	
Gravel	0.2286	9.14E-03	2.50E+01	
Total $d_i/k_i = 2.51E+03$				
Total Depth = 0.9144 m				
		K _z (r	n s ⁻¹) = 3.64E-04	

 $K_7 = 131.04 \text{ cm hr}^{-1} \text{ or } 51.59 \text{ in hr}^{-1}$

Estimate Hydraulic Conductivity

$$T = \frac{A_w D}{K_z A_{BR(z)}} + \frac{A_w D}{K_x A_{BR(\mathbf{x})}}$$

Where,

T is the time for the outflow peak to reach monitoring equipment (s)

A_w is the watershed area (m²)

D is the selected rainfall depth (m)

K₇ is the cumulative vertical hydraulic conductivity (m s⁻¹)

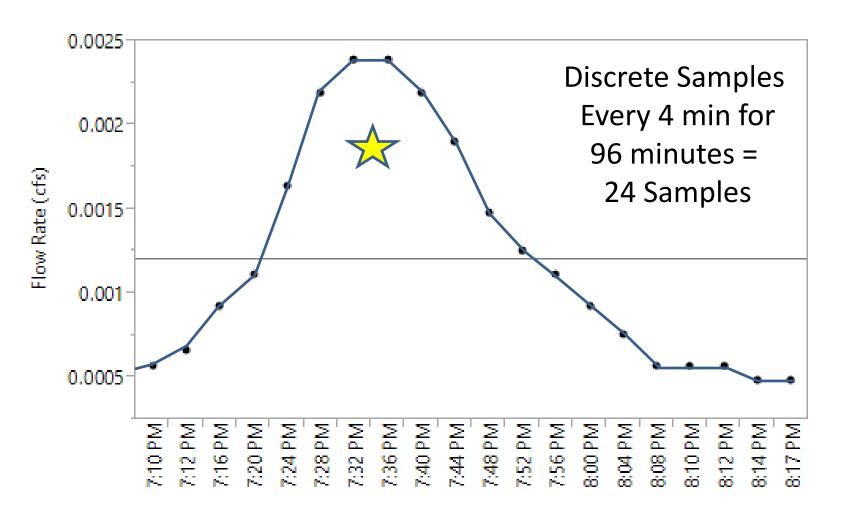
K_x is the horizontal hydraulic conductivity (m s⁻¹)

 A_{BR} (z) is the vertical cross-sectional area along the Y-plane (m²)

 A_{BR} (x) is the vertical cross-sectional area of the layer directly above the flow impeding layer along the X-plane (m²)

Sampling the Outflow Hydrograph

Time Needed to Monitor Outflow Hydrograph = 90 minutes



Installing Outflow Monitoring Equipment

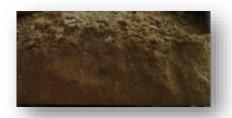




Photo Credit: Amanda Cording, Paliza Shrestha

Step 2: Testing Bioretention Designs

Soil Media: Conventional vs. Sorbtive Media™



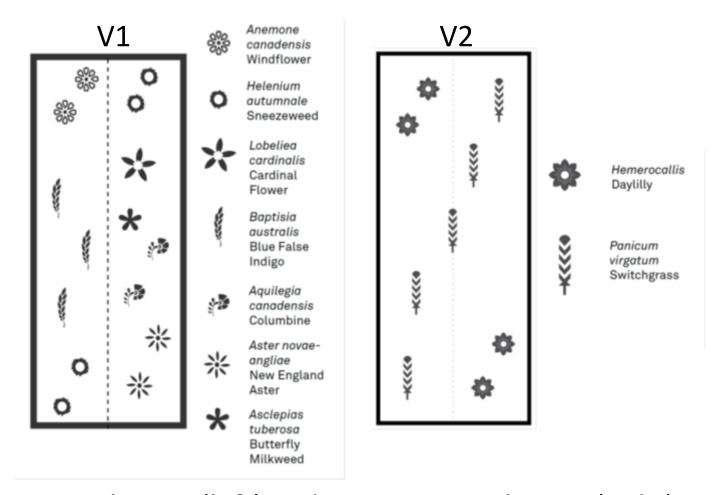


2. Vegetation: Plant Palette 1 vs. Plant Palette 2





Comparing Vegetation Treatments



Vegetation Palette 1 (left) and Vegetation Palette 2 (right)

(Diagram created by S. Hurley and A. Zeitz, unpublished).

Vegetation 1 (V1)



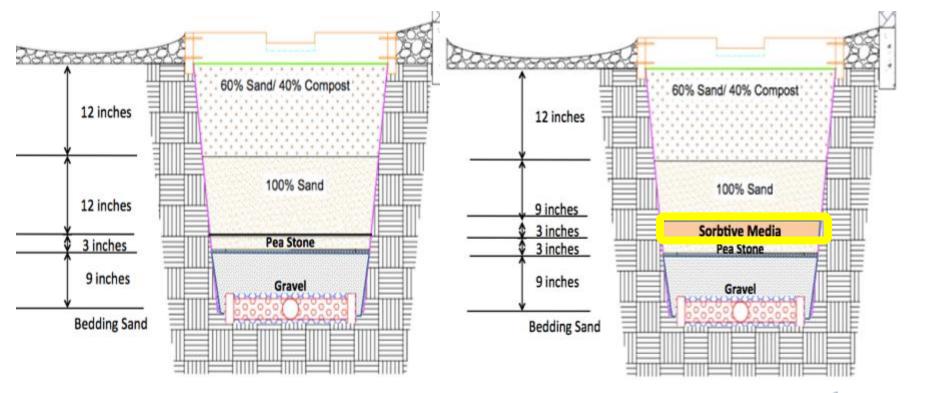
Vegetation 2 (V2)



Comparing Soil Media Treatments

Conventional Media (CM)

Sorbtive Media [™] (SM)



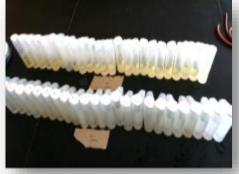




Methods: Measuring Stormwater Quality

Equipment	Parameter	Sampling and Analysis Methods
6700 Series Automatic Samplers (Teledyne™) Model 720 Differential Pressure	1. TP 2. NLP 3. SRP 4. TN 5. TKN 6. NO ₃ ⁻ 7. TSS 8. Flow Rate	 Time Based Discrete Samples Based on the Hydrograph Inflow = Every 2 min for 48 min (950 mL) Outflow = Every 4 min for 96 min (500 mL) Inflow to Outflow, 20-L increments (n = 6) Outflow to Outflow, 20-L increments (n = 6) Partial Event Mean Concentration (PEMC)
Transducer		









Methods: Measuring Bioretention Soil Media Characteristics

Equipment	Parameter	Sampling Method
Soil auger	1. NH_4^+ (n = 13) and NO_3^- (n = 13) 2. SRP (n = 7)	 2 M KCl extraction Modified Morgan
Soil core	3. Bulk Density (n = 11)	3. Change in mass /volume
cylinder	4. Ca, K, Mg, Na, S, Mn, Al, Fe, Zn, Cu (n = 7)	4. Inductively coupled
	5. Cation exchange capacity (CEC)	plasma spectroscopy
Trowel	6. Organic matter content (n = 7)	5. Ammonium acetate
	7. Volumetric water content	6. Loss on ignition (375°C)
Decagon soil	8. Electrical conductivity	7. Soil probe (Every 5 min)
probes	9. Soil temperature	
		3 composited sub-samples per bioretention cell









Step 2: Testing Bioretention Designs

1. Vegetation: Plant Palette 1 vs. Plant Palette 2





2. Soil Media: Conventional vs. Sorbtive Media™





Vegetation 1 (V1)



Vegetation 2 (V2)



Nutrient and Sediment Retention Results: V1 and V2

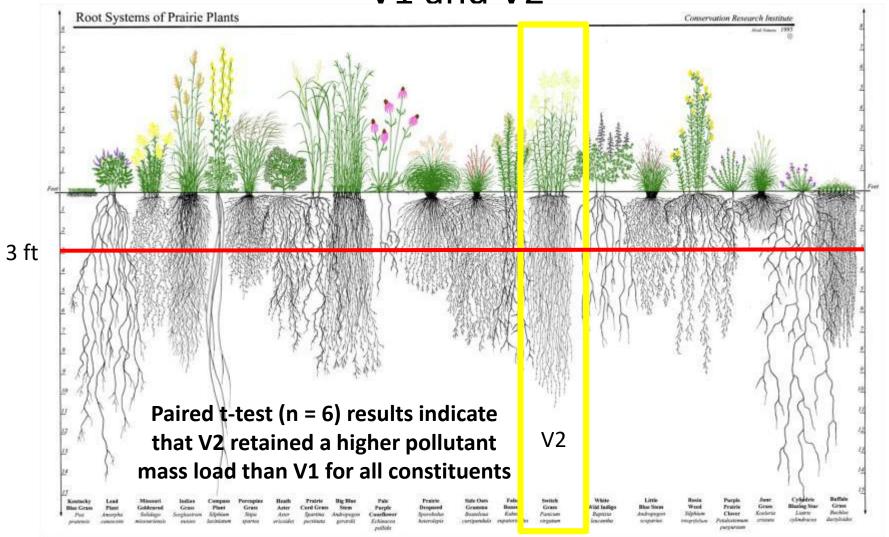
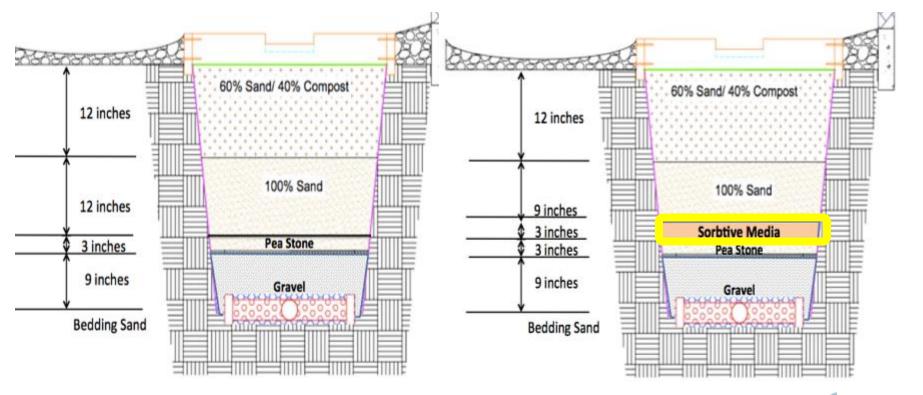


Image Source: Conservation Research Institute; Mann et al. (2013)

Comparing Soil Media Treatments

Conventional Media (CM)

Sorbtive Media [™] (SM)

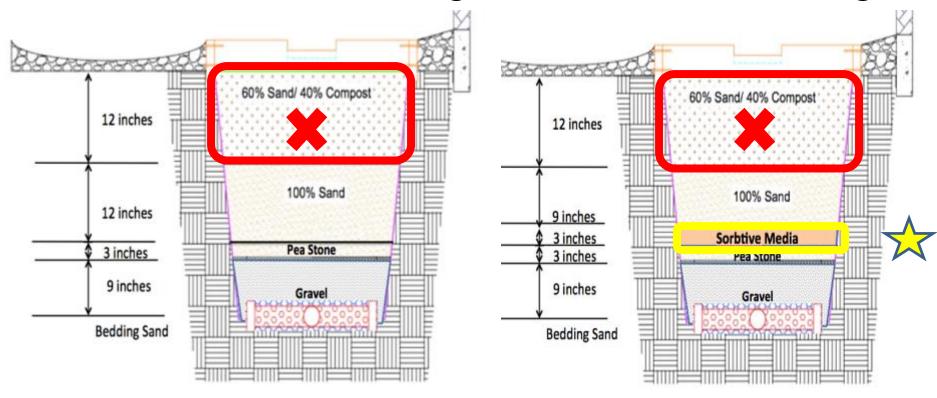






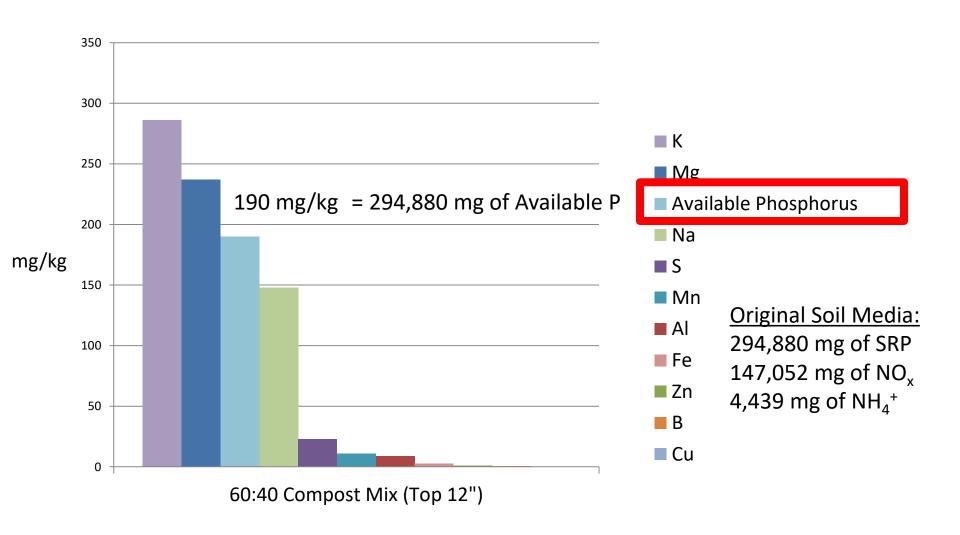
Conventional Media Design

Sorbtive Media Design



- 1. Sorbtive Media (SM) retained more pollutant mass than Conventional Media (CM) for all constituents except NLP and TKN.
- 2. Conventional Media (CM) exported SRP and NO₃
- 3. Stormwater runoff contributed less than 5% of the total SRP load from the cells, with the remainder coming from the compost in the soil media
- 4. NO₃ mass from stormwater contributed between approximately 10% and 20% of the total load.

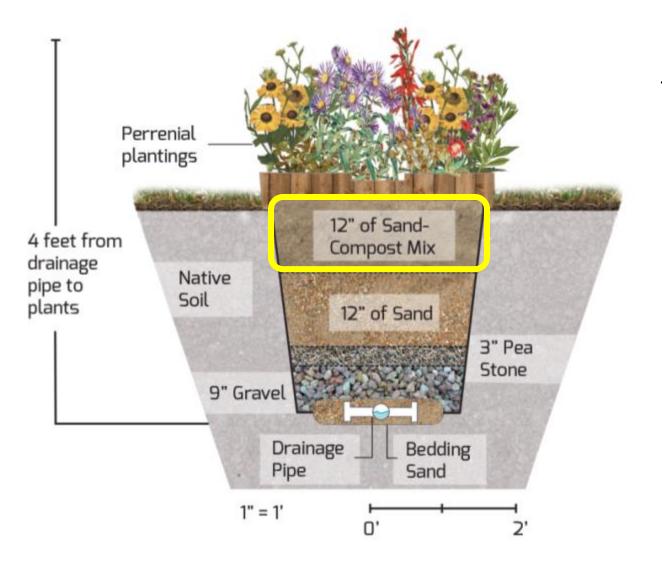
Conventional Bioretention Design: 60:40 Sand Compost Mix



Average Outflow Concentrations Compared to the Literature

Parameter	This Study	Literature		Reference
NLP	53 μg L ⁻¹ (CM)	40 – 800 μg L ⁻¹	*	Hunt et al. (2006)
SRP	568 μg L ⁻¹ (CM)	210 – 670 μg L ⁻¹	V	Geosyntec (2008)
SRP	24 μg L ⁻¹ (SM)	140 μg L ⁻¹	*	Chardon et al. (2005) (Iron Coated Sand)
2		< 10 μg L ⁻¹	V	O'Neill and Davis (2011) (WW Treat. Residual)
TKN	376 μg L ⁻¹ (SM)	1,240 – 1,780 μg L ⁻¹	\Rightarrow	Geosyntec (2008)
NO ₃ -	227 μg L^{-1} (V2) , 547 μg L^{-1} (V1)	300 – 400 μg L ⁻¹	V	Dietz and Clausen (2006)
TSS	10.20 mg L ⁻¹ (CM)	15 – 33 mg L ⁻¹	*	Geosyntec (2008)

Conventional Bioretention Media Design

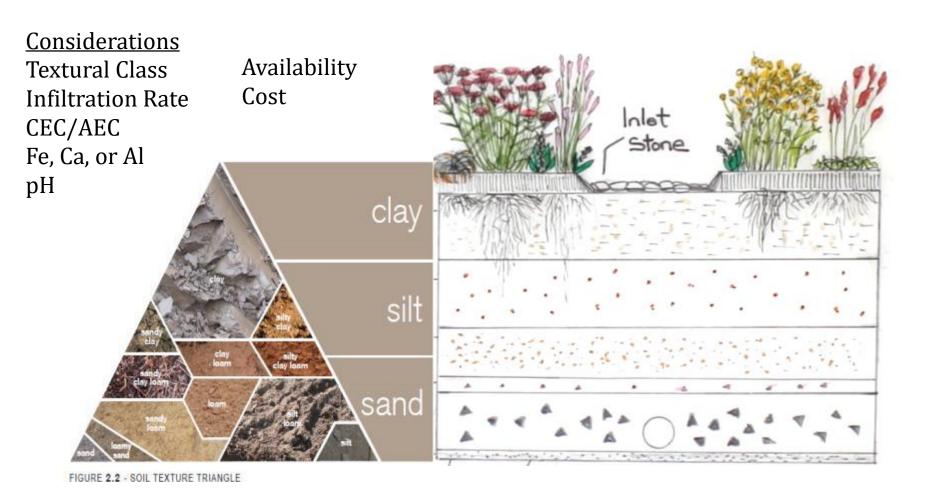


Recommended By:

- 1. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (2002)
 - Washington
 State University
 Pierce County
 Extension (2012)
 - Center for Watershed Protection

Image Credit: Hurley, S., Zeitz, G., (unpublished)

Effective Bioretention Requires the Right Soils



Source: University of Arkansas Community Design Center. Image Credit: A. Cording

Media Infiltration Rates

Reference	Infiltration Rate		
This study	Modelled Rate at Installation: 131 cm hr ⁻¹		
Arias et al (2001)	Actual Rate: 463 cm hr ⁻¹		
Brix et al. (2001)	Actual Rate: 92 cm hr ⁻¹		
Chen et al (2013)	Actual Rate: 1.3 cm hr ⁻¹		
Davis et al. (2009)	Recommends > 2.5 cm hr ⁻¹		
Debusk et al. (2011)	Actual Rate: 11.8 cm hr ⁻¹		
Dietz and Clausen (2005)	Design Rate: 10 – 13 cm hr ⁻¹ . Actual Rate: 3.5 cm hr ⁻¹		
Hatt et al. (2008)	Actual Rate: 26.028 cm hr ⁻¹ to 232.92 cm hr ⁻¹ in		
	different treatments		
Hunt et al. (2006)	Actual Rate: 7.62 cm hr ⁻¹ to 38.1 cm hr ⁻¹		
Li and Davis (2008)	Actual Rate: Reduction from 43 – 164 cm hr ⁻¹ to 3-11		
	cm hr ⁻¹		
Lucas and Greenway (2011)	Vegetated: 27.7 cm hr ⁻¹ to 59.6 cm hr ⁻¹		
Thompson et al. (2008)	Actual Rate: 150 to 178 cm hr ⁻¹ (sand/compost mix)		
Washington State University			
Pierce County Extension	ecommends > 2.54 cm hr ⁻¹		
(2012)			

Soil Orders In Hawaii

Andisol



Kula Series, Maui

Hilo Series, Hawaii

Andisols are soils derived from volcanic ash. The less weathered Kula soil on Maui is guite productive, while the Hilo soil on the Big Island is highly weathered and requires lots of fertilizers for crop production.

Aridisol



Kawaihae Series, Hawaii

Aridisols are soils of the arid areas or soils with high salt content. The Kawaihae soil of the Big Island has features of an arid area of light color, low organic matter, and shallow depth.

Entisol



Jaucas Series, Maui

Entisols are least-developed soils showing only a weak surface development. The calareous Jaucas soil on Maui is an example with sandy texture, and excessive drainage.

Histosol



Papai Series, Hawaii

on Oahu is high in OM.



Alakai Series, Oahu

Histosols are organic soils with a high

organic matter content in the surface ho-

rizon. The Papai soil on the Big Island has

lost almost all of the surface organic mat-

ter (OM), but the Alakai soil atop Mt. Kaala

Inceptisol

Kolekole Series, Oahu

Inceptisols are soils showing minimal development of soil horizons. The Kolekole soil on Oahu is an example.

Mollisol



Kawaihapai Series, Oahu Makawele Series, Kauai

Mollisols are fertile soils with high organic C and high base saturation. Although the Kawaihapai soil on Oahu is dark, the Makawele soil on Kauai is red because of Fe oxides.

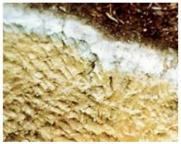
Oxisol



Halii Series, Kauai

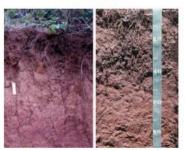
Oxisols are the most weathered soils of the tropics with low nutrient holding capacity and high Fe and Al oxides. The Halii soil on Kauai is an example.

Spodosol-like soil



Spodosols are soils with leached AI, Fe, and organic materials in the subsoil, showing a distinct layer.

Ultisol



Alaeloa Series, Oahu

Ultisols are highly weathered infertile soils with clay accumulation in the subsoils. Examples are Alaeloa soil on Oahu and Haiku soil on Maui.

Haiku Series, Maui

Vertisol



Lualualei Series, Oahu

Vertisols are soils that shrink when dry and swell when wet. They usually occur in valleys with poor drainage. They are fertile, but pose severe limitations for roads, housing, and related uses. The Lualualei soil on Oahu is an example.



Conclusions

- 1. The majority of nutrient mass in runoff from the paved road surface was found to be largely particulate N and P, as opposed to the soluble component.
- 2. The first flush (0.5 inches) was not found to mobilize the majority of pollutant mass from the paved road surface, for particulate or soluble N and P, or TSS.
- 3. Bioretention consistently reduce peak stormwater flow rates and volumes.
- 4. Non-labile nutrient and sediment removal by bioretention is considerable as a result of physical filtration within the soil media.
- 5. Deep rooted, fine textured roots (*Panicum Virgatum*) provided greater soil stability and access to soil nutrients throughout the profile.
- 6. Organic amendments (compost) added labile nutrient mass loads which far exceed loads from stormwater from a medium traffic paved road surface, and need to be limited.
- 7. Sorbtive Media™ was extremely effective at removing SRP, and may have influenced nitrate removal, although mechanisms are not fully understood.
- 8. Nitrate reduction through extended retention time in an anaerobic zone can provide significant denitrification but optimal conditions necessary are yet to be determined.

Effective Bioretention (LID) Design

Native Soil Blend:

Target Infiltration Rate 2.5 - 100 cm/hr High Mineral Contents (Ca, Fe)

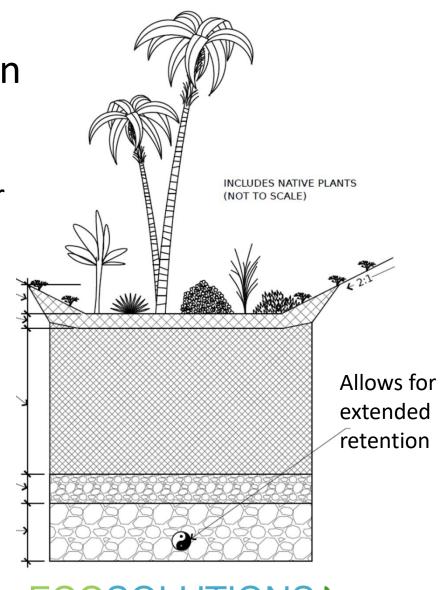
Extended Retention, NO₃- Removal:

Target Retention Time > 6hrs

Native Plants:

Target >75% Cover
Target Root Depths 1 to 4 ft

- No Compost
- Mulch or Stone Top Dressing





Future Research

- 1. Retention time and labile carbon needed for efficient nitrate (NO_3^-) removal
- Soil blends getting the right mix of minerals and permeability
- Planting pallets maximizing pollutant removal, root depth, surface area, survivability and aesthetics

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Local Resources



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Rain Gardens



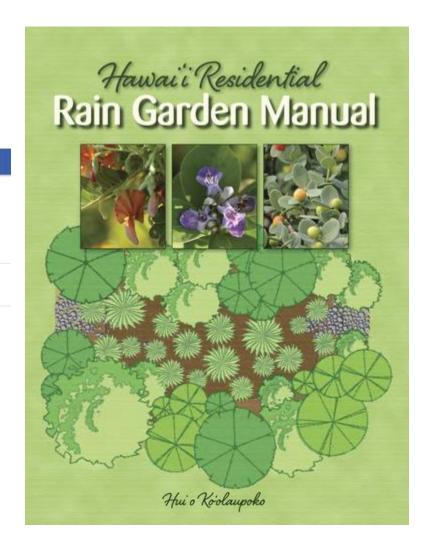


Brief description of rain garden: Roughly 60 foot rain garden located at the corner of the house





Brief description of rain garden: Beautiful, newly renovated home in Lanikai added a rain



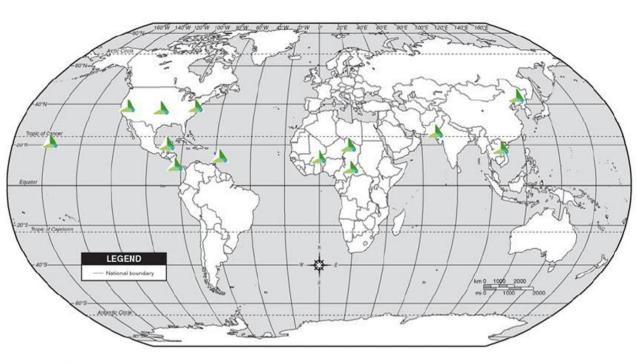








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A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia No task is too big when done together by all

