



# West Norriton Township

1630 W. Marshall Street  
Norristown, PA 19403  
Phone: (610) 631-0450  
Fax: (610) 630-0304  
[www.westnorritontwp.org](http://www.westnorritontwp.org)

## **Earth Disturbance and Drainage Permit Application**

*A stormwater permit is required for any improvements resulting in 1,000 or more square feet of new impervious surface and/or 1,000 square feet or more of earth disturbance. Must be submitted with applicable permits.*

**PART I** – Location of Property – Complete address including city, state and zip code must be provided on all applications.

**PARTS II - XI** – Complete every section.

**PART XII** – Sign and date application. If property resident is not the owner of the property, a notarized statement indicating the owner's approval of the proposed construction must be submitted with the application. Provide phone numbers where property owner/resident and contractor may be reached. Contractors making application must be registered with the township prior to starting construction.

**PART XIII** - Plot Plan – Three (3) copies of all plans and specifications must be submitted with all permit applications. Plans must include all information necessary for review by township engineer. Plans(s) must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Stormwater Management Ordinance Section 242-20, or for small projects, the plan requirements as detailed in Appendix I. In general, the plan is required to identify all proposed improvements, grading and erosion control measures. **The property owner is responsible for the accuracy of this plot plan.**

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**FEES** – Permit fees will be collected at the time the permit is issued and picked up at the Township building. If paying by check, please make check payable to “West Norriton Township”.

**REVIEW** – The application will be reviewed by the Code Enforcement, Zoning Departments and township engineer for compliance with all Township codes and ordinances.

**PERMIT GRANTED** – **If approved, the permit will be processed and issued to you within fifteen (15) business days. Work may not start until a permit has been approved and granted.** The permit cards are to be displayed so as to be visible from the street.

**INSPECTIONS** – Call the Township office (610-631-0450) at least 24 hours in advance to schedule each inspection. Responsibility for notification for inspections at the various stages of construction lies with the applicant and/or contractor. If the appropriate inspections are not requested, uninspected work will not be granted final approval.

# West Norriton Township

## Earth Disturbance and Drainage Permit Application

### I - LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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### II - IDENTIFICATION – To be completed by all applicants

APPLICANT Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACTOR Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

State License Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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### III - TYPE OF DISTURBANCE OR IMPROVEMENTS

- New       Alteration/Renovation       Repair or Replacement  
 Grading/Earth Disturbance/Drainage       Addition of impervious surface and/or build/structure

### IV – PROPOSED EARTH DISTURBANCE (Please check the following)

- 0 – 1000 sf       1001 – 5000 sf       Greater than 5001 sf

### V – PROPOSED IMPERVIOUS SURFACE COVERAGE (please check the following)

- 0 – 1000 sf       1001 – 5000 sf       Greater than 5001 sf

**VI – AREA OF PROPOSED & EXISTING IMPERVIOUS SURFACE ON ENTIRE LOT**

- Existing (to remain) \_\_\_\_\_ sf \_\_\_\_\_ % of Property
- Proposed \_\_\_\_\_ sf \_\_\_\_\_ % of Property
- Total (after development) \_\_\_\_\_ sf \_\_\_\_\_ % of Property

**VII – PROPOSED STORMWATER CONTROLS** (Please check the following)

Rain Garden     Infiltration Trench     Dry Well     Other \_\_\_\_\_

**VIII – PROPOSED EROSION CONTROLS** (Please check the following)

Erosion Control measures shown on plan     YES     NO

Total area of earth disturbance \_\_\_\_\_ sf

(Applicants are reminded that all earth disturbance activities are subject to the requirements of PA Code Title 25, Chapter 102.)

**IX – DOCUMENTATION & REQUIREMENTS**

Supporting calculations attached (of project)                       Required maintenance program attached

**X - COST**

Cost of Construction Improvements \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**XI – Fee**

**PERMIT FEE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**XII - SIGNATURE**

*I hereby certify that the proposed work is authorized by the owner of record and that I have been authorized by the owner to make this application as his agent and we agree to conform to all applicable laws of West Norriton Township.*

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT**

**DATE**

**SCHEDULE OF FEES**

**Earth Disturbance and Drainage Permit Fee:** \$ 500.00

## Small Project Stormwater Management Control Guidance

Increases in impervious surface (an area that does not infiltrate into the ground, such as roof area, driveways, patios or pools) create additional runoff. The increases in runoff volume are required to be controlled at their source. This handout details a brief explanation of some of the methods available to property owners to control the increased runoff.

Stormwater runoff from residential areas can be handled by simple, cost-effective and aesthetically pleasing methods. Every time it rains, or when snow melts, water flows over impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, roads, parking lots and turf grasses, and does not infiltrate the ground. This runoff collects fertilizers, dirt and debris, pesticides, oil, grease, and many other pollutants that are discharged into out lakes, streams and rivers. This untreated discharge is detrimental to our water quality and environment.

Federal and state regulations require West Norriton Township to implement a program of stormwater controls. West Norriton Township is required to obtain a permit for stormwater discharges from their separate storm sewer systems under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The implementation of stormwater controls and water quality measures is necessary to maintain compliance with the NPDES Permit.

To minimize the adverse effects of the increase in impervious surface, the first 2 inches of rain must be controlled as part of statewide requirements. This can be done through Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs can be structural or nonstructural and a combination of the two can be used on the site to achieve the required storage volume.

The following steps will assist you in choosing and sizing the appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for your project.

### STEP 1: Determine Total Impervious Area

Determine the AREA (in square feet) of impervious surface that will be created. For example, if you have a garage addition that is 12' x 12' your total impervious area is  $12' \times 12' = 144$  sq. ft.

### STEP 2: Determine Required Volume Control

The volume of stormwater runoff you need to control can be calculated using the following equation:

$$(\text{AREA (sf)} \times 2 \text{ in. runoff}) / 12 \text{ in} = \text{Required VOLUME (in cubic feet (cf))}$$

Example:  $(144 \text{ sq. ft} \times 2 \text{ in}) / 12 \text{ in} = 24 \text{ cf}$ ; this is the minimum volume required to be controlled

### STEP 3: Sizing the Selected Volume Control BMP

Several Best Management Practices (BMPs), as described below, are suitable for small stormwater projects. Their application depends on the volume required to be controlled, how much land is available, and site constraints. Choose one that will work best for your property and volume that needs to be controlled. Also, take careful consideration in the location and any additional runoff the BMP may receive. It is possible to use several types of BMPs on each site if desired. Worksheets are provided to assist in totaling the volume required and provided.

The Nonstructural BMP's provide a volume "credit" toward the required storage volume to be provided onsite. Dependent on the site, proposed improvements, and proposed structural BMPs, the nonstructural methods may reduce the size of structural BMPs needed.

It is recommended that the following steps be followed:

1. Subtract Nonstructural BMP volume from the required volume (from Step 2, above) to determine the necessary structural BMPs. The worksheet found at the end of this narrative can be utilized.

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} \text{Required} & - & \text{Nonstructural} & = & \text{Structural Volume} \\ \text{Volume (cf)} & & \text{Volume (cf)} & & \text{needed (cf)} \end{array}$$

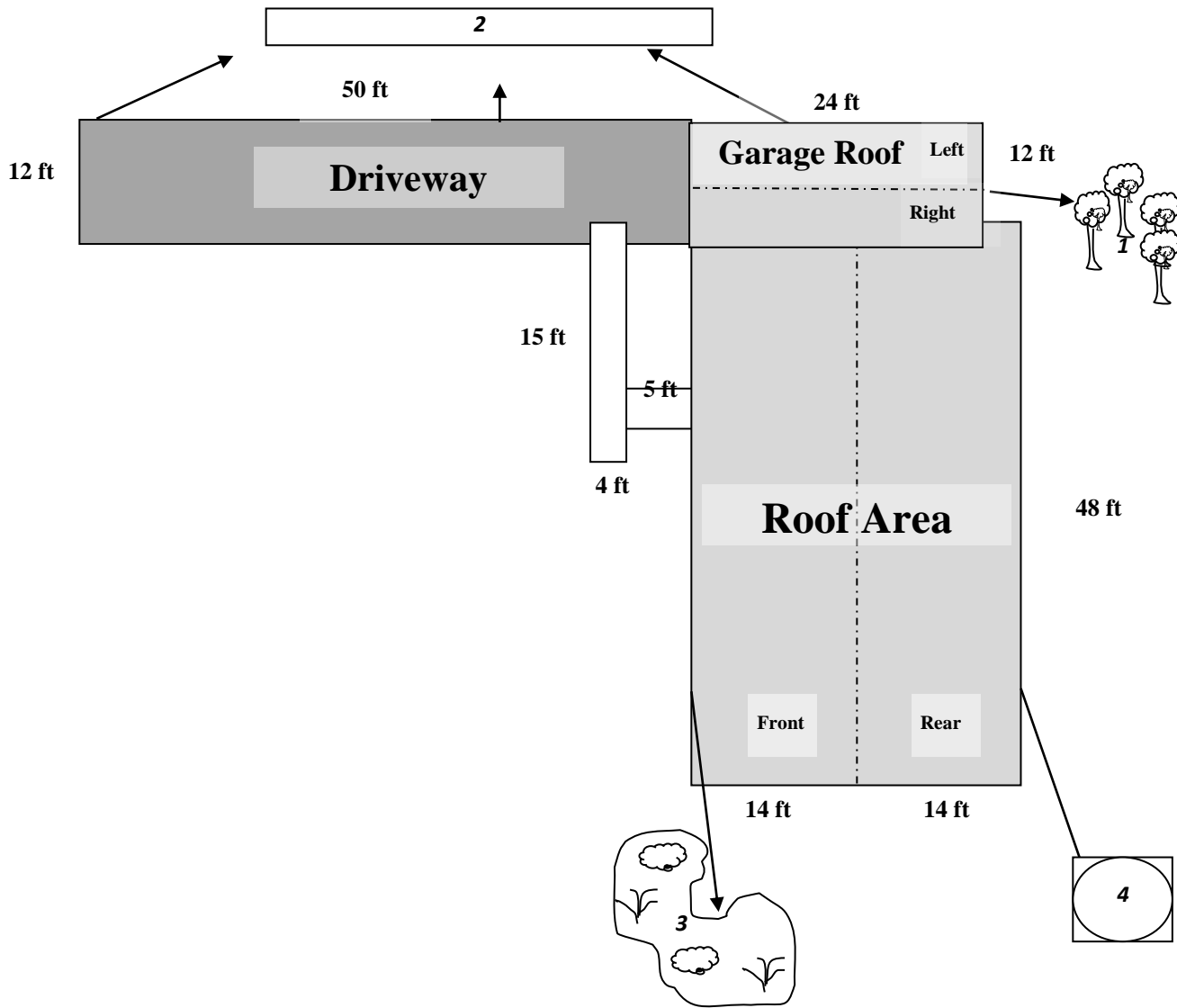
2. Calculate the volume controls provided through structural BMPs. The worksheet found below can be utilized.

STEP 4: Calculate the total volume controls provided

$$\begin{array}{rclcl} \text{Nonstructural} & + & \text{Structural Volume} & = & \text{Volume Provided} \\ \text{Volume (cf)} & & \text{Volume (cf)} & & \text{(cf)} \end{array}$$

When the volume provided is greater than or equal to the Required Volume, the design will meet the requirements.

**Figure 1: Sample Site Sketch Plan** (Note: Figure 1 is an example of how various BMPs can be utilized in conjunction to control the total required volume on one site.)



**Stormwater BMPs**

1. Four tree plantings; controls 24 cu. ft. of runoff.
2. Infiltration Trench; 3 ft. (D) x 6 ft. (W) x 28.3 ft. (L)
3. Rain Garden; 225 sq. ft.
4. Dry Well; 3.5 ft. (D) x 9 ft. (L) x 9 ft. (W)

The examples given are commonly used, but other BMP measures may be acceptable.

## Structural BMPs

### 1. Infiltration Trench

An Infiltration Trench is a linear stormwater BMP consisting of a continuously perforated pipe at a minimum slope in a stone-filled trench. During small storm events, infiltration trenches can significantly reduce volume and serve in the removal of fine sediments and pollutants. Runoff is stored between the stones and infiltrates through the bottom of the facility and into the soil matrix. Runoff should be pretreated using vegetative buffer strips or swales to limit the amount of coarse sediment entering the trench which can clog and render the trench ineffective. In all cases, an infiltration trench should be designed with a positive overflow.

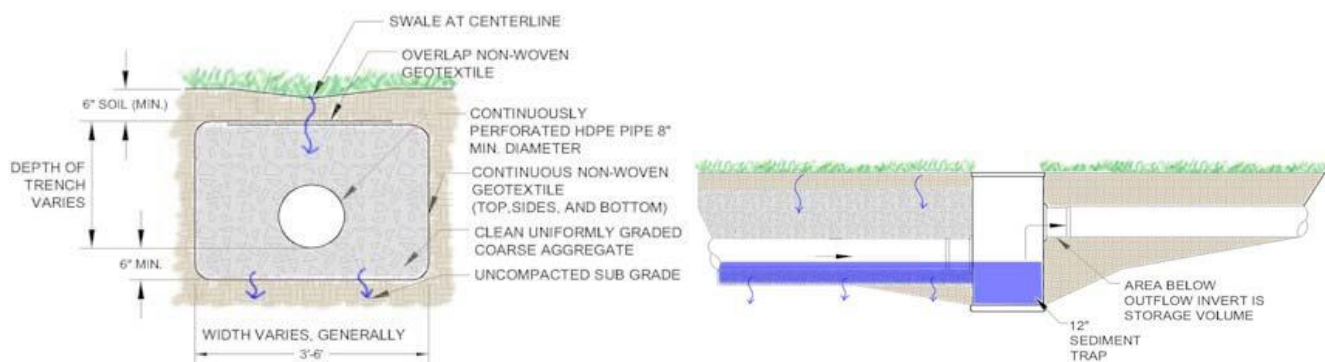
#### Design Considerations:

- Although the width and depth can vary, it is recommended that Infiltration Trenches be limited in depth to not more than six (6) feet of stone.
- Trench is wrapped in nonwoven geotextile (top, sides, and bottom).
- Trench needs to be placed on uncompacted soils.
- Slope of the Trench bottom should be level or with a slope no greater than 1%.
- A minimum of 6" of topsoil is placed over trench and vegetated.
- The discharge or overflow from the Infiltration Trench should be properly designed for anticipated flows.
- Cleanouts or inlets should be installed at both ends of the Infiltration Trench and at appropriate intervals to allow access to the perforated pipe.
- Volume of facility = Depth x Width x Length x Void Space of the gravel bed (assume 40%).

#### Maintenance:

- Catch basins and inlets should be inspected and cleaned at least two times a year.
- The vegetation along the surface of the infiltration trench should be maintained in good condition and any bare spots should be re-vegetated as soon as possible.
- Vehicles should not be parked or driven on the trench and care should be taken to avoid soil compaction by lawn mowers.

Figure 3: Infiltration Trench Diagram



Source: PA BMP Guidance Manual, Chapter 6, page 42.

Figure 4: Example of Infiltration Trench Installation



Source: PA BMP Guidance Manual, Chapter 6, Page 46.

## 2. Rain Garden

A Rain Garden is a planted shallow depression designed to catch and filter rainfall runoff. The garden captures rain from a downspout or a paved surface. The water sinks into the ground, aided by deep rooted plants that like both wet and dry conditions. The ideal location for a rain garden is between the source of runoff (roofs and driveways) and the runoff destination (drains, stream, low spots, etc).

### Design Considerations:

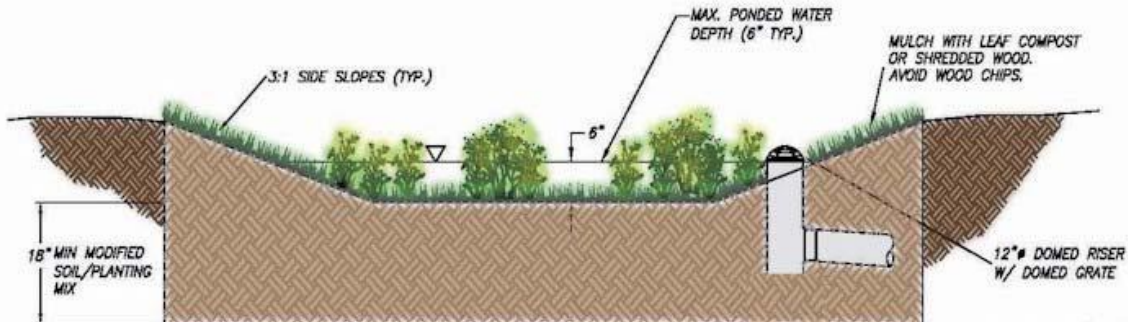
- A maximum of 3:1 side slope is recommended.
- The depth of a rain garden can range from 6 - 8 inches. Ponded water should not exceed 6 inches.
- The rain garden should drain within 72 hours.
- The garden should be at least 10-20 feet from a building's foundation and 25 feet from septic system drainfields and wellheads.
- If the site has clay soils, soil should be amended with compost or organic material.
- Choose native plants. See [http://pa.audubon.org/habitat/PDFs/RGBrochure\\_complete.pdf](http://pa.audubon.org/habitat/PDFs/RGBrochure_complete.pdf) for a native plant list. To find native plant sources go to [www.pawildflower.org](http://www.pawildflower.org).
- At the rain garden location, the water table should be at least 2' below the soil level. If water stands in an area for more than one day after a heavy rain you can assume it has a higher water table and is not a good choice for a rain garden.

### Maintenance:

- Water plants regularly until they become established.
- Inspect twice a year for sediment buildup, erosion and vegetative conditions.
- Mulch with hardwood when erosion is evident and replenish annually.
- Prune and remove dead vegetation in the spring season.
- Weed as you would any garden.
- Move plants around if some plants would grow better in the drier or wetter parts of the garden.

Figure 5: Rain Garden Diagram





Source: PA BMP Guidance Manual, Chapter 6 Page 50

### 3. Dry Well (a.k.a., Seepage Pit)

A Dry Well, sometimes called a Seepage Pit, is a subsurface storage facility that temporarily stores and infiltrates stormwater runoff from the roofs of structures. By capturing runoff at the source, Dry Wells can dramatically reduce the increased volume of stormwater generated by the roofs of structures. Roof leaders connect directly into the Dry Well, which may be either an excavated pit filled with uniformly graded aggregate wrapped in geotextile, or a prefabricated storage chamber or pipe segment. Dry Wells discharge the stored runoff via infiltration into the surrounding soils. In the event that the Dry Well is overwhelmed in an intense storm event, an overflow mechanism (surcharge pipe, connection to a larger infiltration area, etc.) will ensure that additional runoff is safely conveyed downstream.

#### Design Considerations:

- Dry Wells typically consist of 18 to 48 inches of clean washed, uniformly graded aggregate with 40% void capacity (AASHTO No. 3, or similar). “Clean” gravel fill should average one and one-half to three (1.5 – 3.0) inches in diameter.
- Dry Wells are not recommended when their installation would create a significant risk for basement seepage or flooding. In general, 10 - 20 feet of separation is recommended between Dry Wells and building foundations.
- The facility may be either a structural prefabricated chamber or an excavated pit filled with aggregate.
- Depth of dry wells in excess of three-and-a-half (3.5) feet should be avoided unless warranted by soil conditions.
- Stormwater dry wells must never be combined with existing, rehabilitated, or new septic system seepage pits. Discharge of sewage to stormwater dry wells is strictly prohibited.

#### Maintenance:

- Dry wells should be inspected at least four (4) times annually as well as after large storm events.
- Remove sediment, debris/trash, and any other waste material from a dry well.
- Regularly clean out gutters and ensure proper connections to the dry well.
- Replace the filter screen that intercepts the roof runoff as necessary.

#### Sizing Example for Dry Wells:

1. Determine contributing impervious surface area:

House Roof (Rear)	14 ft. x 48 ft.	=	672 sq. ft.
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2. Determine required volume control:

$$(672 \text{ sq. ft.} * 2 \text{ inches of runoff}) / 12 \text{ inches} = 112 \text{ cu. ft.}$$

$$112 \text{ cu ft} / 0.4 = 280 \text{ cu. ft. (assuming the 40% void ratio in the gravel bed)}$$

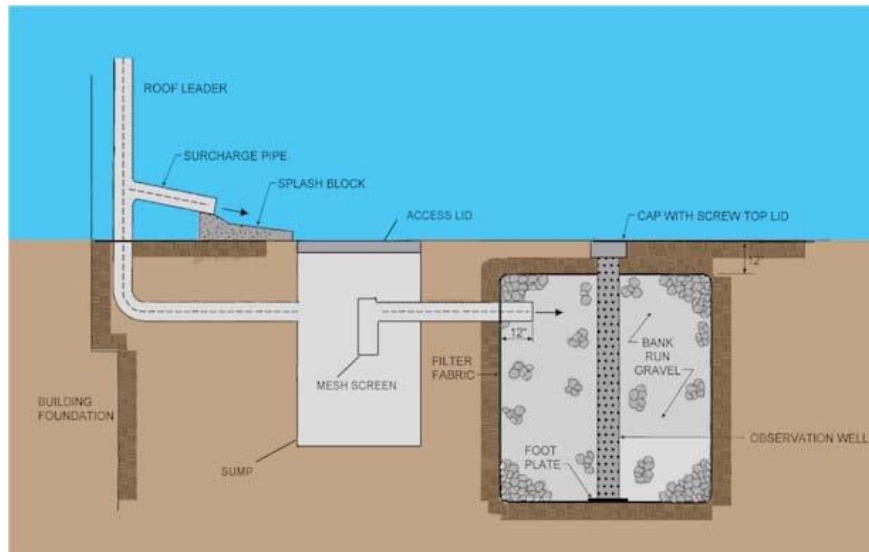
### 3. Sizing the dry well:

Set depth to 3.5 ft; Set width equal to length for a square chamber.

280 cu. ft. = 3.5 ft. x L x L; L = 9 ft.

*Dimensions = 3.5 ft. (D) x 9 ft. (L) x 9 ft. (W)*

Figure 6: Dry Well Diagram



Source: PA BMP Guidance Manual, Chapter 6, Page 65.

## **Non-Structural BMPs**

### **1. Tree Plantings and Preservation**

Trees and forests reduce stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in the canopy and releasing water into the atmosphere through evapotranspiration. Tree roots and leaf litter also create soil conditions that promote the infiltration of rainwater into the soil. In addition, trees and forests reduce pollutants by taking up nutrients and other pollutants from soils and water through their root systems. A development site can reduce runoff volume by planting new trees or by preserving trees which existed on the site prior to development. The volume reduction calculations either determine the cubic feet to be directed to the area under the tree canopy for infiltration or determine a volume reduction credit which can be used to reduce the size of any one of the planned structural BMPs on the site.

#### Tree Considerations:

- Existing trees must have at least a 4" trunk caliper or larger.
- Existing tree canopy must be within 100 ft. of impervious surfaces.
- A tree canopy is classified as the continuous cover of branches and foliage formed by a single tree or collectively by the crowns of adjacent trees.
- New tree plantings must be at least 6 ft. in height and have a 2" trunk caliper.

- All existing and newly planted trees must be native to Pennsylvania. See <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/commontr/commontrees.pdf> for a guide book titled *Common Trees of Pennsylvania* for a native tree list.
- When using trees as volume control BMPs, runoff from impervious areas should be directed to drain under the tree canopy.
- Trees to be preserved within 20 feet of impervious cover will receive a reduction credit of 1” of runoff for each SF of tree canopy.
- Trees to be preserved beyond 20 feet but within 100 feet of impervious cover will receive a reduction credit of 1/2” of runoff for each SF of tree canopy.
- The volume credits realized by tree planting or preservation can be utilized in reducing the size of any one of the structural BMPs planned on the site.

## 2. Minimize Soil Compaction and Replant with Lawn or Meadow

When soil is overly compacted during construction it can cause a drastic reduction in the permeability of the soil and rarely is the soil profile completely restored. Runoff from vegetative areas with highly compacted soils similarly resembles runoff from an impervious surface. Minimizing soil compaction and re-planting with a vegetative cover like meadow or lawn, not only increases the infiltration on the site, but also creates a friendly habitat for a variety of wildlife species.

Design Considerations:

- Area shall not be stripped of topsoil.
- Vehicle movement, storage, or equipment/material lay down shall not be permitted in areas preserved for minimum soil compaction.
- The use of soil amendments and additional topsoil is permitted.
- Meadow should be planted with native grasses. Refer to *Meadows and Prairies: Wildlife-Friendly Alternatives to Lawn* at <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/UH128.pdf> for reference on how to properly plant the meadow and for a list of native species.
- Meadow areas to be preserved will receive a reduction credit of 1/3” of runoff for each SF of preserved meadow.
- Lawn areas to be preserved will receive a reduction credit of 1/4” of runoff for each SF of preserved lawn.
- These volume credits can be used to reduce the size of any one of the structural BMPs on the site.

## 3. Rooftop Disconnection

When rooftop downspouts are directed to a pervious area that allows for infiltration, filtration, and increased time of concentration, the rooftop may qualify as completely or partially DIA and a portion of the impervious rooftop area may be excluded from the calculation of total impervious area at the discretion of the Township.

A rooftop is considered to be completely or partially disconnected if it meets the requirements listed below:

- The contributing area of a rooftop to each disconnected discharge is 500 square feet or less, and
- The overland flow path from roof water discharge area has a positive slope of 5% or less.

For designs that meet these requirements, the portion of the roof that may be considered disconnected depends on the length of the overland path as designated in Table F.1.

**Table F.1: Partial Rooftop Disconnection**

<b>Length of Pervious Flow Path *</b>	<b>Roof Area Treated as Disconnected</b>
(ft)	(% of contributing area)
0 – 14	0
15 – 29	20
30 – 44	40
45 – 59	60
60 – 74	80
75 or more	100

\* Flow path cannot include impervious surfaces and must be at least 15 feet from any impervious surfaces.

If the discharge is concentrated at one or more discrete points, no more than 1,000 square feet may discharge to any one point. In addition, a gravel strip or other spreading device is required for concentrated discharges. For non-concentrated discharges along the edge of the pavement, this requirement is waived; however, there must be a provision for the establishment of vegetation along the pavement edge and temporary stabilization of the area until vegetation becomes stabilized.

#### REFERENCE

Philadelphia Water Department. 2006. *Stormwater Management Guidance Manual*. Section 4.2.2: Integrated Site Design. Philadelphia, PA.

### MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

- The owner of stormwater management facilities shall be responsible for their proper maintenance during and after development.
- No person shall modify, remove, fill, landscape, or alter any Stormwater Management (SWM) Best Management Practices (BMPs), facilities, areas, or structures unless it is part of an approved maintenance program without the written approval of the Township.
- No person shall place any structure, fill, landscaping, or vegetation into a stormwater facility or BMP or within a drainage easement which would limit or alter the functioning of the stormwater facility or BMP without the written approval of the municipality.