Section 2.1 Stormwater Controls Overview

2.1.1 Stormwater Controls - Categories and Applicability

2.1.1.1 Introduction

Structural stormwater controls are engineered facilities intended to treat stormwater runoff and/or mitigate the effects of increased stormwater runoff peak rate, volume, and velocity due to urbanization. This section provides an overview of structural stormwater controls that can be used to address the minimum stormwater management standards outlined in the Murfreesboro Stormwater Planning, Low Impact Design and Credit Guide.

In terms of receiving credits for the stormwater user fee, a structural stormwater control, or set of structural controls, must address the following volumes:

> **Water Quality Volume, WQ_v, to r**emove pollutants in stormwater runoff to protect water quality;
> **Streambank Protection, SP_v, to r**egulate discharge from the site to minimize downstream bank and channel erosion; and
> **Flood Control Volume, Q_f, to c**ontrol conveyance of runoff within and from the site to minimize flood risk to people and properties.

2.1.1.2 Control Categories

The stormwater control practices recommended in this Manual vary in their applicability and ability to meet stormwater management goals:

Primary Controls

Primary Structural Stormwater Controls have the ability to fully address one or more of the Steps in the Stormwater Management Design Approach if designed appropriately. Structural controls are recommended for use with a wide variety of land uses and development types. These structural controls have a demonstrated ability to effectively treat the Water Quality Volume (WQ_v) and have been shown to be able to remove 70% to 80% of the annual average total suspended solids (TSS) load in typical post-development urban runoff when designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with recommended specifications. Several of these structural controls can also be designed to provide primary control for downstream streambank protection (SP_v) and flood control (Q_f). These structural controls are recommended stormwater management facilities for a site wherever feasible and practical.

Secondary Controls

However, a number of structural controls are recommended only for limited use or for special site or design conditions. Generally, these practices either: (1) do not have the ability on their own to fully address one or more of the Steps in the Stormwater Management Design Approach, (2) are intended to address hotspot or specific land use constraints or conditions, and/or (3) may have high or special maintenance requirements that may preclude their use. These types of structural controls are typically used for *water quality treatment only*. Some of these controls can be used as a pretreatment measure or in series with other structural controls to meet pollutant removal goals. Such structural controls should be considered mostly for commercial, industrial, or institutional developments.

Table 2.1.1-1 lists the structural stormwater control practices. These structural controls are recommended for use in a wide variety of applications. A detailed discussion of each of the controls, as well as design criteria and procedures can be found in Section 2.2.

Table 2.1.1-1 Structural Controls	
Structural Control	Description
Bioretention Areas	*Bioretention areas* are shallow stormwater basins or landscaped areas which utilize engineered soils and vegetation to capture and treat stormwater runoff. Runoff may be returned to the conveyance system, or allowed to partially exfiltrate into the soil.
Channels • Enhanced Swale (Dry, Wet, or Wetland) • Grass Channel (biofilter) • Open Conveyance Channel	• *Enhanced swales* are vegetated open channels that are explicitly designed and constructed to capture and treat stormwater runoff within dry or wet cells formed by check dams or other means • *Grass channels* provide “biofiltering” of stormwater runoff as it flows across the grass surface. However, a grass channel alone cannot meet the 70% TSS removal performance goal. Consequently, grass channels should only be used as pretreatment measure or as part of a treatment train approach.
Chemical Treatment • Alum Treatment	*Alum treatment* provides for the removal of suspended solids from stormwater runoff entering a wet pond by injecting liquid alum into storm sewer lines on a flow-weighted basis during rain events. Alum treatment should only be considered for large-scale projects where high water quality is desired.
Conveyance Components • Culvert • Inlet • Pipe Systems • Energy Dissipators	• A *culvert* is a short, closed (covered) conduit that conveys stormwater runoff under an embankment, usually a roadway. • *Inlets* are drainage structures used to collect surface water through grate or curb openings and convey it to storm drains or direct outlet to culverts. • *Pipe systems* are used for transporting runoff from roadway and other inlets to outfalls at structural stormwater controls and receiving waters. Culverts, inlets, and pipe systems alone do not provide water quality treatment.
Detention • Dry Detention / Dry Extended Detention Basins • Multi-Purpose Detention Areas • Underground Detention	• *Dry detention basins and dry extended detention (ED) basins* are surface facilities intended to provide for the temporary storage of stormwater runoff to reduce downstream water quantity impacts. • *Multi-purpose detention areas* are site areas used for one or more specific activities, such as parking lots and rooftops, which are also designed for the temporary storage of runoff. • *Underground detention tanks and vaults* are an alternative to surface dry detention for space-limited areas where there is not adequate land for a dry detention basin or multi-purpose detention area.

Table 2.1.1-1 Structural Controls	
Structural Control	Description
Filtration • Filter Strip • Organic Filter • Planter Boxes • Surface Sand Filter/ Perimeter Sand Filter • Underground Sand Filter	• *Filter strips* provide "biofiltering" of stormwater runoff as it flows across the grass surface. However, filter strips alone cannot meet the 70% TSS removal performance goal. Consequently, filter strips should only be used as pretreatment measure or as part of a treatment train approach. • *Organic filters* are surface sand filters where organic materials such as a leaf compost or peat/sand mixture are used as the filter media. These media may be able to provide enhanced removal of some contaminants, such as heavy metals. Given their potentially high maintenance requirements, they should only be used in environments that warrant their use. • *Planter boxes* are used on impervious surfaces in highly urbanized areas to collect and detain / infiltrate rainfall and runoff. The boxes may be prefabricated or constructed in place and contain growing medium, plants, and a reservoir. • *Sand filters* are multi-chamber structures designed to treat stormwater runoff through filtration, using a sand bed as its primary filter media. Filtered runoff may be returned to the conveyance system, or allowed to partially exfiltrate into the soil. • *Underground sand filters* are sand filter systems located in an underground vault. These systems should only be considered for extremely high density or space-limited sites.
Hydrodynamic Devices • Gravity (Oil-Grit) Separator	*Hydrodynamic controls* use the movement of stormwater runoff through a specially designed structure to remove target pollutants. They are typically used on smaller impervious commercial sites and urban hotspots. These controls typically do not meet the Primary TSS removal performance goal and therefore should only be used as a pretreatment measure and as part of a treatment train approach.
Infiltration • Downspout Dry Wells • Infiltration Trench • Soakage Trenches	• *Downspout dry wells* are essentially perforated manholes, but they can be manufactured in various sizes. Located underground, they allow stormwater infiltration even in highly urbanized areas. They should be used in conjunction with some type of pretreatment devices where there are minimal risks of groundwater contamination. • An *infiltration trench* is an excavated trench filled with stone aggregate used to capture and allow infiltration of stormwater runoff into the surrounding soils from the bottom and sides of the trench. • *Soakage trenches* are a variation of infiltration trenches. Soakage trenches drain through a perforated pipe buried in gravel. They are used in highly impervious areas where conditions do not allow surface infiltration and where pollutant concentrations in runoff are minimal (i.e. non-industrial rooftops). They may be used in conjunction with other stormwater devices, such as draining downspouts or planter boxes.

Table 2.1.1-1 Structural Controls	
Structural Control	Description
Stormwater Ponds • Micropool Extended Detention Pond • Multiple Pond Systems • Wet Extended Detention Pond • Wet Pond	*Stormwater ponds* are constructed stormwater retention basins that have a permanent pool (or micropool) of water. Runoff from each rain event is detained and treated in the pool.
Porous Surfaces • Green Roofs • Modular Porous Paver Systems • Porous Concrete	• A *green roof* uses a small amount of substrate over an impermeable membrane to support a covering of plants. The green roof slows down runoff from the otherwise impervious roof surface as well as moderating rooftop temperatures. With the right plants, a green roof will also provide aesthetic or habitat benefits. • *Modular porous paver systems* consist of open void paver units laid on a gravel subgrade. Both porous concrete and porous paver systems provide water quality and quantity benefits, but have high workmanship and maintenance requirements, as well as high failure rates. • *Porous surfaces* are permeable pavement surfaces with an underlying stone reservoir to temporarily store surface runoff before it infiltrates into the subsoil. *Porous concrete* is the term for a mixture of course aggregate, Portland cement, and water that allows for rapid infiltration of water.
Proprietary Systems • Commercial Stormwater Controls	*Proprietary controls* are manufactured structural control systems available from commercial vendors designed to treat stormwater runoff and/or provide water quantity control. Proprietary systems often can be used on small sites and in space-limited areas, as well as in pretreatment applications. However, proprietary systems are often more costly than other alternatives, may have high maintenance requirements, and often lack adequate independent performance data.
Re-Use • Rain Harvesting (tanks/barrels)	*Rain harvesting* is a container or system designed to capture and store rainwater discharged from a roof. The rain harvesting system consists of a storage container, a downspout diversion, a sealed lid, and an overflow system. Typical rain harvesting systems hold between 50 and 500 gallons of water and may work in series to provide larger volumes of storage.
Stormwater Wetlands • Extended Detention Shallow Wetland • Pocket Wetland • Pond/Wetland Systems • Shallow Wetland • Submerged Gravel Wetlands	• *Stormwater wetlands* are constructed wetland systems used for stormwater management. Stormwater wetlands consist of a combination of shallow marsh areas, open water, and semi-wet areas above the permanent water surface. • *Submerged gravel wetland systems* use wetland plants in submerged gravel or crushed rock media to remove stormwater pollutants. These systems should only be used in mid- to high-density environments where the use of other structural controls may be precluded. The long-term maintenance burden of these systems is uncertain.

2.1.1.3 Using Other or New Structural Stormwater Controls

Innovative technologies should be allowed and encouraged providing there is sufficient documentation as to their effectiveness and reliability. Communities can allow controls not included in this Manual at their discretion, but should not do so without independently derived information concerning performance, maintenance, application requirements, and limitations.

More specifically, new structural stormwater control designs will not be accepted for inclusion in the manual until independent performance data shows that the structural control conforms to local and/or State criteria for treatment, conveyance, maintenance, and environmental impact.

2.1.2 Suitability of Stormwater Controls

Some structural stormwater controls are intended to provide water quality treatment for stormwater runoff. Though most of these structural controls provides pollutant removal capabilities, the relative capabilities vary between structural control practices and for different pollutant types.

2.1.2.1 Water Quality

Pollutant removal capabilities for a given structural stormwater control practice are based on a number of factors including the physical, chemical, and/or biological processes that take place in the structural control and the design and sizing of the facility. In addition, pollutant removal efficiencies for the same structural control type and facility design can vary widely depending on the tributary land use and area, incoming pollutant concentration, flow rate, volume, pollutant loads, rainfall pattern, time of year, maintenance frequency, and numerous other factors.

To assist the designer in evaluating the relative pollutant removal performance of the various structural control options, Table 2.1.2-1 provides design removal efficiencies for each of the control practices. It should be noted that these values are *conservative* average pollutant reduction percentages for design purposes derived from sampling data, modeling, and professional judgment. A structural control design may be capable of exceeding these performances, however the values in the table are minimum reasonable values that can be assumed to be achieved when the structural control is sized, designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with recommended specifications in this Manual.

Where the pollutant removal capabilities of an individual structural stormwater control are not deemed sufficient for a given site application, additional controls may be used in series in a “treatment train” approach. More detail on using structural stormwater controls in series is provided in subsection 2.1.6.

For additional information and data on the range of pollutant removal capabilities for various structural stormwater controls, the reader is referred to the National Pollutant Removal Performance Database (2nd Edition) available at www.cwp.org and the National Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) Database at www.bmpdatabase.org

Table 2.1.2-1 Design Pollutant Removal Efficiencies for Stormwater Controls (Percentage)					
Structural Control	Total Suspended Solids	Total Phosphorus	Total Nitrogen	Fecal Coliform	Metals
Bioretention Areas	80	60	50		80
Grass Channel	50	25	20		30
Enhanced Dry Swale	80	50	50		40
Enhanced Wet Swale	80	25	40		20
Alum Treatment	80	80	60	90	75

Table 2.1.2-1 Design Pollutant Removal Efficiencies for Stormwater Controls (Percentage)

Structural Control	Total Suspended Solids	Total Phosphorus	Total Nitrogen	Fecal Coliform	Metals
Filter Strip	50	20	20		40
Dry Detention	65	50	30	70	
Organic Filter	80	60	40	50	75
Planter Boxes	80	60	40	50	60
Sand Filters	80	50	25	40	50
Underground Sand Filter	80	50	25	40	50
Gravity (Oil-Grit) Separator	40	5	5		
Downspout Drywell	80	60	60	90	90
Infiltration Trench	80	60	60	90	90
Soakage Trench	80	60	60	90	90
Stormwater Ponds	80	50	30	70*	50
Green Roof	85		25		95
Modular Porous Paver Systems with infiltration	**	80	80		90
Porous Concrete with infiltration	**	50	65		60
Proprietary Systems	***	***	***	***	***
Rain Harvesting					
Stormwater Wetlands	80	40	30	70*	50
Submerged Gravel Wetland	80	50	20	70	50

* If no resident waterfowl population present

** Due to the potential for clogging, porous concrete and modular block paver systems should not be used for the removal of sediment or other coarse particulate pollutants

*** The performance of specific proprietary commercial devices and systems must be provided by the manufacturer and should be verified by independent third-party sources and data

--- Insufficient data to provide design removal efficiency

2.1.2.2 Streambank Protection

These controls have the ability to detain the volume and regulate the discharge of the 1-year, 24-hour storm event to protect natural waterways downstream of the development. Controls that provide streambank protection include detention, energy dissipation, stormwater ponds, stormwater wetlands, and pipe systems.

2.1.2.3 Flood Control

On-Site: These controls have the ability to safely convey stormwater through a development to minimize the flood risk to persons and property on-site. On-site flood control structures include channels, culverts, detentions, enhanced swales, open conveyance channels, stormwater ponds, conveyance components (inlets and pipe systems), and stormwater wetlands.

Downstream: These controls have the ability to detain the volume and regulate the discharge from the controlling storm event, as determined by downstream assessment, and to minimize flood risk to persons and property downstream of the development. Downstream flood controls include open channels, pipe systems, detention, stormwater ponds, and stormwater wetlands.