

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater runoff can have profound affects on water quality, hydrology, stream channel morphology, floodplain function, habitat quality and ecological function. Approximately one-quarter of Connecticut's major rivers and streams are impaired, and do not meet Clean Water Act standards due to impacts from stormwater runoff. Fortunately, there are a variety of best management practices that can help communities effectively manage stormwater runoff and minimize these potential adverse affects.

Recommended Management Tool

Apply State-of-the-Art Approaches to Managing Stormwater Runoff

- ◆ Require the 2004 CT DEP Stormwater Quality Manual to be used as guidance for the design, implementation and maintenance of all new and existing stormwater systems in each community.
- ◆ Complete and implement a Stormwater Management Plan as described in the State's General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems.
- ◆ Adopt guidance from The University of Massachusetts for watercourse crossings (e.g., bridges and culverts), an approach that is used by the New England Region of the Army Corps of Engineers.



Alternative, low impact design recommended in the 2004 CT Stormwater Quality Manual can be aesthetically pleasing, helps retain rural character, and protects water quality and the natural water cycle.