

# Low-Impact Development: Principles, Manual, and Case Study

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## Overview

- u Low Impact Development
  - u Approach to land development that manages stormwater close to its source
  - u Overall objective is to maintain or restore hydrologic and ecological functions
- u Low Impact Development can include:
  - u New development
  - u Redevelopment
  - u Existing development

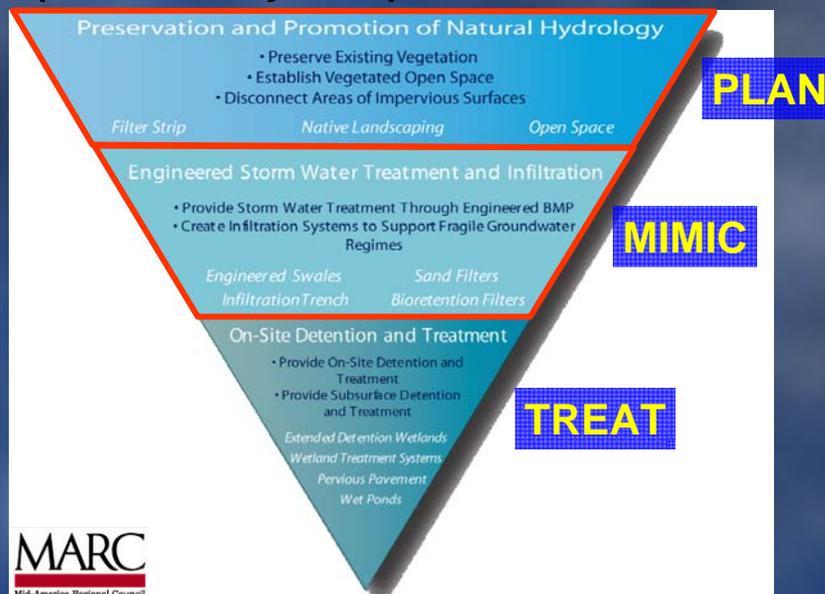


## Potential Impacts of Development

- u Flooding
- u Erosion
- u Loss of baseflow, soils, and natural resources
- u Non-attainment of water quality standards
- u Poor fish, habitat, and benthic scores



## Basic BMP Principles – MARC (Kansas City area)



**PLAN**

## Preserving Natural Hydrology, Infiltration Capacity



*Low Impact Development Center*

**MIMIC**

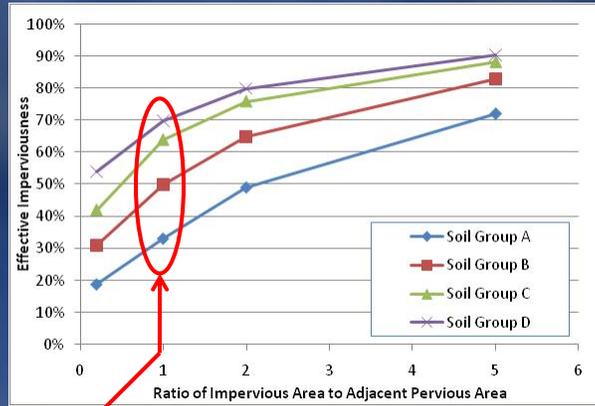
## Engineered Stormwater Treatment & Infiltration



University of Missouri at Kansas City / CDM

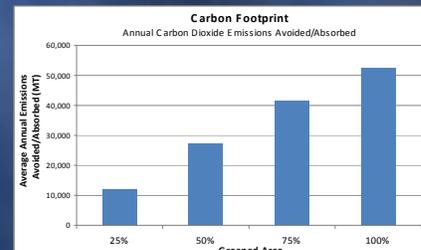
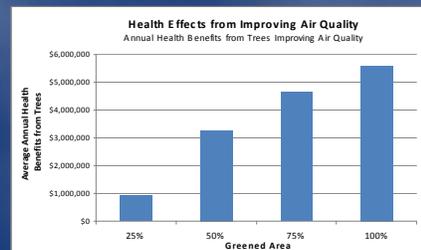
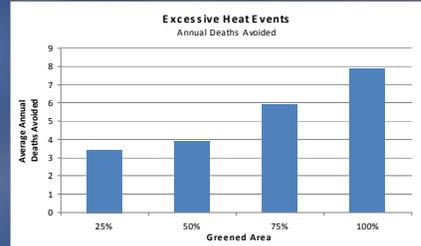
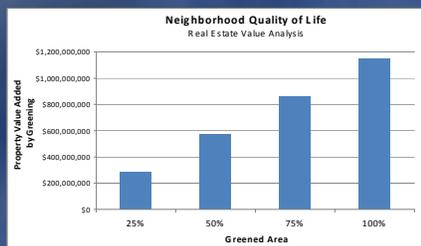
Seattle's street edge alternatives program  
([www.lowimpactdevelopment.org](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org))

## LID effectiveness for runoff reduction



Impervious area discharging to equally-sized pervious area exhibits an “effective” or “equivalent” imperviousness of 30 – 70%.

## Other potential benefits to the environment and public



## Why Do We Need Low Impact Development?

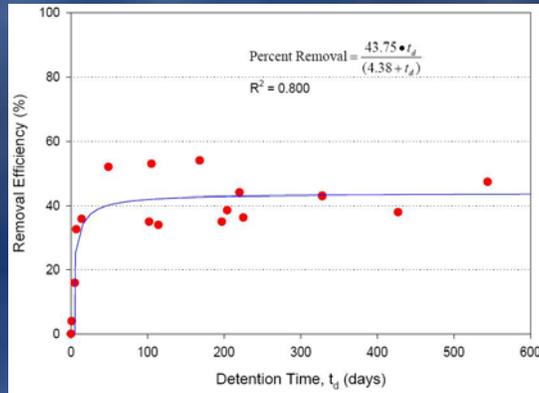
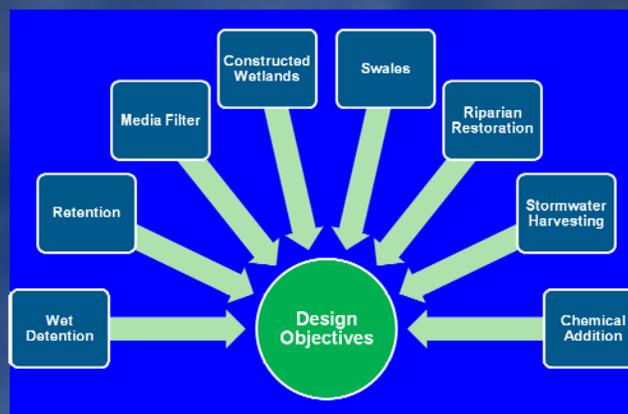


Figure 5-10. Removal Efficiency of Total Nitrogen in Wet Detention Ponds as a Function of Residence Time.

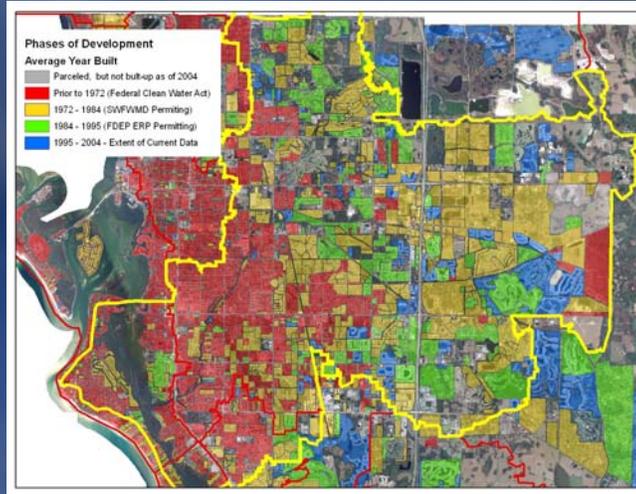
**Conventional BMPs do not always achieve our desired goals**

## Why Do We Need Low Impact Development?



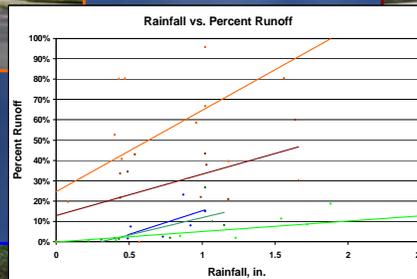
**Increases options to achieve objectives**

## Why Do We Need Low Impact Development?



Often better suited for retrofit

## Why Do We Need Low Impact Development?

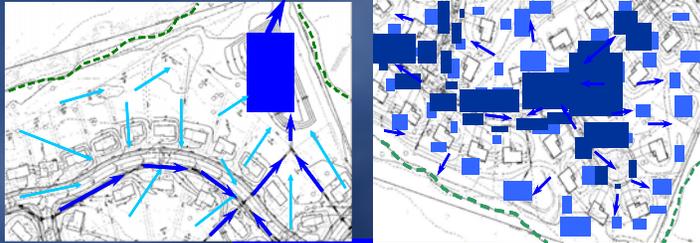


It really works!

## Why Do We Need a LID Manual?

### Historical Hurdles for LID Practices

- u **Reasonable assurance**
  - u Difficulty in determining if functioning as designed
  - u Magnitude changes inspection/enforcement
- u Lack of local design criteria
- u Lack of monitoring/performance data



Source: LID in Florida (Heaney, 2004)

## Key Attributes of LID Manual

### Hurdles addressed

- Reasonable assurance
- Recognition in ERP permitting
- Detailed design criteria
- Performance evaluation

### Flexibility in treatment train

## LID Manual Development Process

Establish stakeholder group  
and target audience

Use existing Manuals and data

Determine best LID practices  
for Duval County

Coordinate with regional and  
state agencies

Coordinate with regional and  
state agencies

## Study Concept

- Gain resolution on differences within land use types
- Are there internal differences big enough to consider?
- Swale vs Curb and Gutter appeared as a practical option
- Grassed conveyance swales are a common drainage feature in Sarasota County and are a LID practice



**Versus**



## Planning

- Site Characteristics:
  - other than drainage type, *all else equal* to extent possible, focus on land use
  - no standing water in drainage pipes
  - all sites within the Phillippi Creek basin
- Study period of 6 months or 40 total samples (even site distribution) whichever is first



## Swale 1 - Nassau



## Swale 2 – Mirror Lake



## Swale 3 - Admiral



## Curb and Gutter 1 - Dawson



## Curb and Gutter 2 - Darwin



## Field Methods

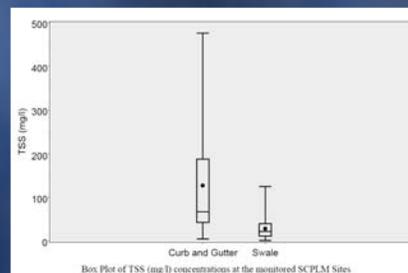
- Use ISCO Avalanche autosamplers to collect **flow-weighted** samples, monitor rainfall and discharge
- 0.2 inches of rain or more in less than 1 hour
- Adjust sample collection rates to match site specific conditions
- **Followed all pertinent FDEP SOPs**

## Results

- u Physical removal of particulates drives concentration reductions
- u Infiltration in swales drive volume reductions
- u Pollutant loads are reduced by both mechanisms

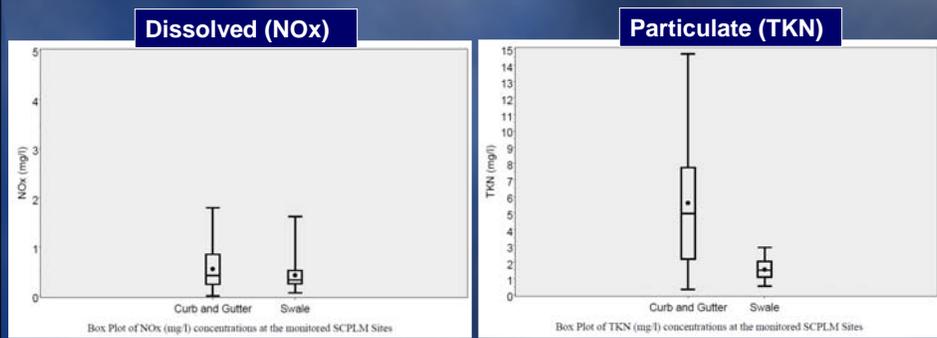
## Results: TSS concentration

- u Average TSS concentration was 78% lower at sites with grassed swales
- u This difference is statistically significant ( $p=0.0002$ )
- u Literature reports TSS removal efficiencies by grass filters of 61-86% (Deletic and Fletcher 2006, Han et al 2005)



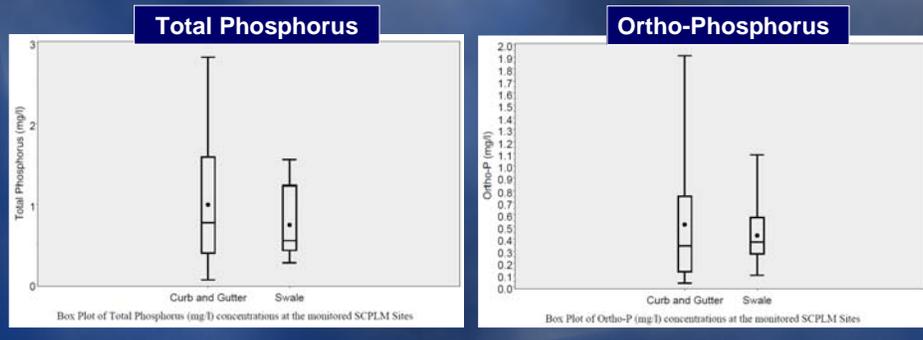
## Results: Nitrogen Concentration

- Average TN was 68% lower, TKN was 72% lower and NO<sub>x</sub> was 22% lower at swaled sites
- In this study, most nitrogen was in particulate form



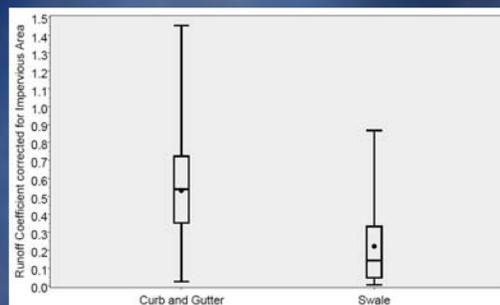
## Results: Phosphorus Concentration

- u Average TP was 25% lower, Ortho-Phosphorus was 17% lower at swale sites
- u Differences were not statistically significant

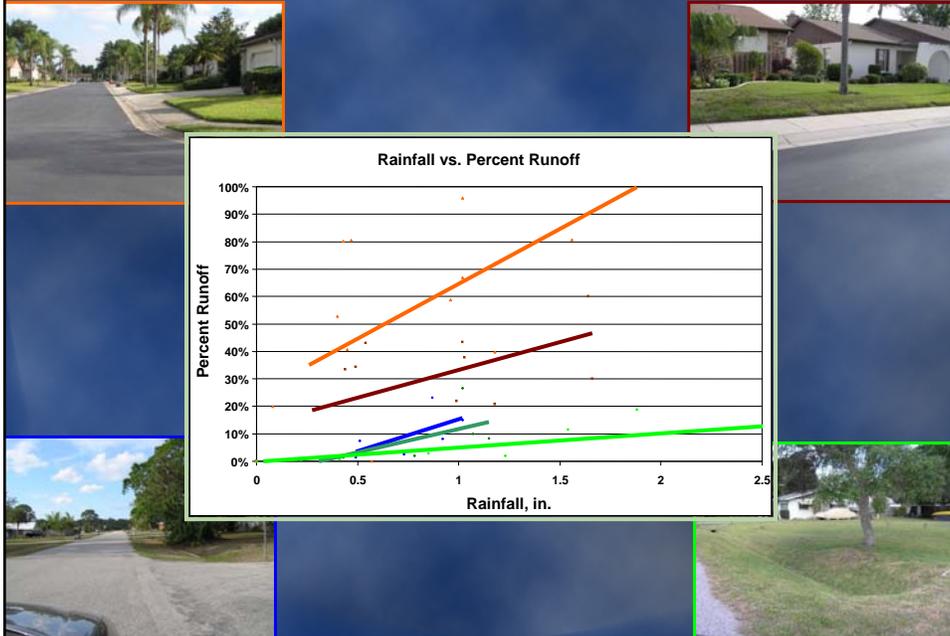


## Results: Runoff

- u Average runoff coefficients were 58% lower at swale sites
- u Three times as much rain without runoff at swale sites
- u Annual runoff difference in total flow volume is approximately 5 times lower at swale sites



## Results: Runoff



## Results: Pollutant Loads

- u Observed 93% lower load of TN
  - 94% TKN and 81% NOx
- u Observed 82% lower load of TP
  - 81% Ortho-Phosphorus
- u Observed 95% lower load of TSS
- u Observed 93% lower load of BOD

## Conclusions - Comparison to Conventional Treatment

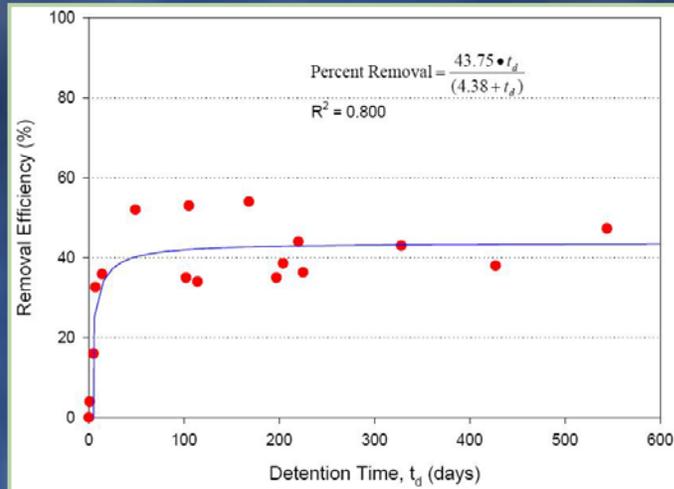


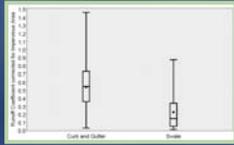
Figure 5-10. Removal Efficiency of Total Nitrogen in Wet Detention Ponds as a Function of Residence Time.

Source: Evaluation of Current Stormwater Design Criteria within the State of Florida (Harper and Baker, 2007)

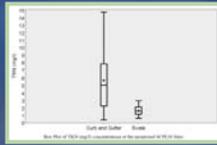
## Conclusions – Effectiveness of LID



## Conclusions - Magnitude



X



X



= 10 lb-N/ac/yr X 50,000 ac

= 500,000 lb/yr @ \$1,500-\$9,000/lb/yr

= \$750,000,000 - \$4,500,000,000