

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

Tools For Municipalities

May 2, 2013



Ensuring safe and clean water for all Americans
Healthy Watersheds Sustainable Communities



What is Green Infrastructure?

- “Green infrastructure” refers to an array of technologies, approaches, and practices that protect and use natural systems or systems engineered to mimic natural processes, to manage rain water as a resource, to solve combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), enhance environmental quality and achieve other economic and community benefits.
- Green infrastructure stormwater management approaches and technologies are characterized by *infiltration*, *evapo-transpiration*, and *capture & use* of stormwater.



A Paradigm Shift: Rain as a Resource, rather than a Waste

- Improved water quality
- Enhanced water supply
- Increased groundwater recharge and base flow
- Reduced flooding to improve stream hydrology
- Habitat preservation, creation



Green Infrastructure's Community Health Benefits



- Improved air quality
- Water supply enhancement
- Decreased urban heat island effects
- Community wellness, recreation & aesthetic benefits

Heat Island Effects Illustration





Green Infrastructure's Community Economic Benefits

- Energy savings
- Cost savings
- Preserving capacity of the wastewater collection system
- Jobs creation
- Enhanced property values and commercial districts;
neighborhood stabilization;
higher tax base



Piping to maximize
infiltration , NH



Example Practices



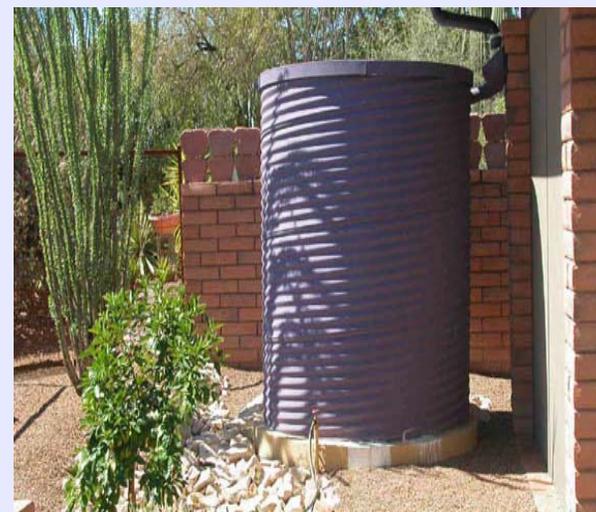
Rain Garden, Maplewood, MN

- Bioretention
- Permeable pavement
- Alternative parking & street designs
- Green roofs
- Rainwater harvesting
- Urban trees & land conservation



Bioswale, North Charleston, SC

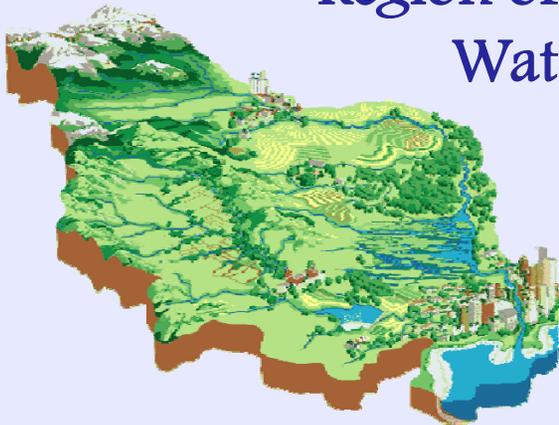
Residential Cistern, AZ



GI Approaches



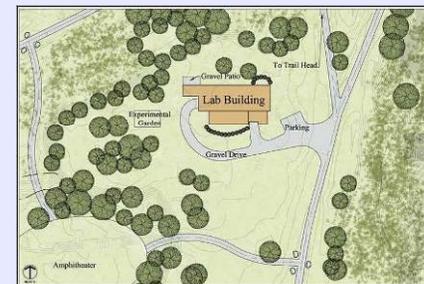
Region or Watershed



Neighborhood



Site





EPA Policy Guides and Tools

- BASICS
- TOOLS
- CASE STUDIES
- RESEARCH
- LIBRARY
- CONTACTS





Cost Benefit Information

- New York City, Philadelphia , Milwaukee
- The Economics of Low-Impact Development: A Literature Review – ECONorthwest
- Low Impact Development at the Local Level: Developers' Experiences and City and County Support – ECONorthwest
- Green Values National Stormwater Calculator – Center for Neighborhood Technology



CaseStudies

- **Portland, OR**
 - Disconnected 49,000 downspouts
 - Cost \$53 each – total \$2.5 million
 - 80 - 85 % reduction in peak flow

- **Milwaukee, WI**
 - Address major concerns first
 - Locate demonstration projects in highly visible areas
 - Extensive public outreach

- **Frederick County, Maryland**
 - Cost savings described
 - Permitting can be a challenge
 - Designs to be used not accepted by public works officials
 - Public outreach important



EPA's Municipal Handbook

- Funding Options
- Retrofit Options
- Green Streets
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Incentive Mechanisms





Water Quality Scorecard

Five Sections:

- **Protect Natural Resources (Including Trees) and Open Space**
- **Promote Efficient, Compact Development Patterns and Infill**
- **Design Complete, Smart Streets That Reduce Overall Imperviousness**
- **Encourage Efficient Parking**
- **Adopt Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Provisions**



Example Scorecard Findings

- Evaluate thresholds
- Ground truth management practices before issuing COE
- Include incentives
- Have a minimum requirement for open space
- Review parking demand
- Review street design standards

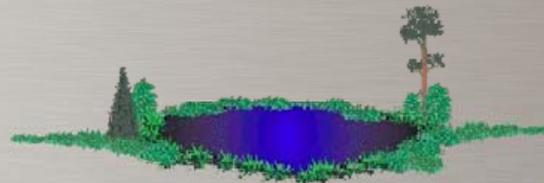


Thursday April 25, 2013

Introduction to LID

Frequently Asked Questions

- What is LID?
- How did LID get started?
- Why should I use LID techniques?
- What are the costs associated with LID?
- Is LID reliable if it depends on property owners maintaining their on-site practices?
- What about flood control?
- How does LID relate to other practices such as Conservation Design, Better Site Design and Smart Growth?
- What are the "talking points" of LID?
- Where can I get more information?



What is LID?

Low Impact Development (LID) is an innovative stormwater management approach with a basic principle that is modeled after nature: manage rainfall at the source using uniformly distributed decentralized micro-scale controls. LID's goal is to mimic a site's predevelopment hydrology by using design techniques that infiltrate, filter, store, evaporate, and detain runoff close to its source. Techniques are based on the premise that stormwater management should not be seen as stormwater disposal. Instead of conveying and managing / treating stormwater in large, costly end-of-pipe facilities located at the bottom of drainage areas, LID addresses stormwater through small, cost-effective landscape features located at the lot level. These landscape features, known as Integrated Management Practices (IMPs), are the building blocks of LID. Almost all components of the urban environment have the potential to serve as an IMP. This includes not only open space, but also rooftops, streetscapes, parking lots, sidewalks, and medians. LID is a versatile approach that can be applied equally well to new development, urban retrofits, and redevelopment / revitalization projects.

WHEN YOU'RE READY,

Start Designing!

Click the "Start Designing" Button or click [here](#).



About the new Website design

Please view the **Site Map** if you need assistance locating a particular page on the LID Urban Design Tools Website.

This update is merely a design change. No content has been changed or updated.

Trouble with Website?

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LID Urban Design Tools

How to Use this Website

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<p>LID can be used in a number of different settings. Follow the links to view general schematics for LID's implementation in urban and residential areas, as well as in transportation projects.</p> <p>Keep in mind though that these are just some illustrative suggestions. The number of ways in which the landscape and existing infrastructure can be used in LID is limited only by the imagination of the designer! Click one of the pictures below to view more information.</p> <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"><p>URBAN</p><p>RESIDENTIAL</p><p>TRANSPORTATION</p></div>	<p>Now that you've seen how LID can fit into your general land use plans...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• read about specific design concerns and caveats• download detailed specifications• determine a construction schedule• understand the maintenance and cost requirements• learn about how you will be helping to maintain your site's hydrology <p>Use the drop-down menus below to specify the land use and LID technique in which you are interested.</p> <p>Step One: Select LID Technique</p> <p>Bioretention <input type="text" value="v"/></p> <p>Step Two: Select landuse/design link</p> <p>Low Density Residential <input type="text" value="v"/></p> <p><input type="button" value="Go!"/></p>





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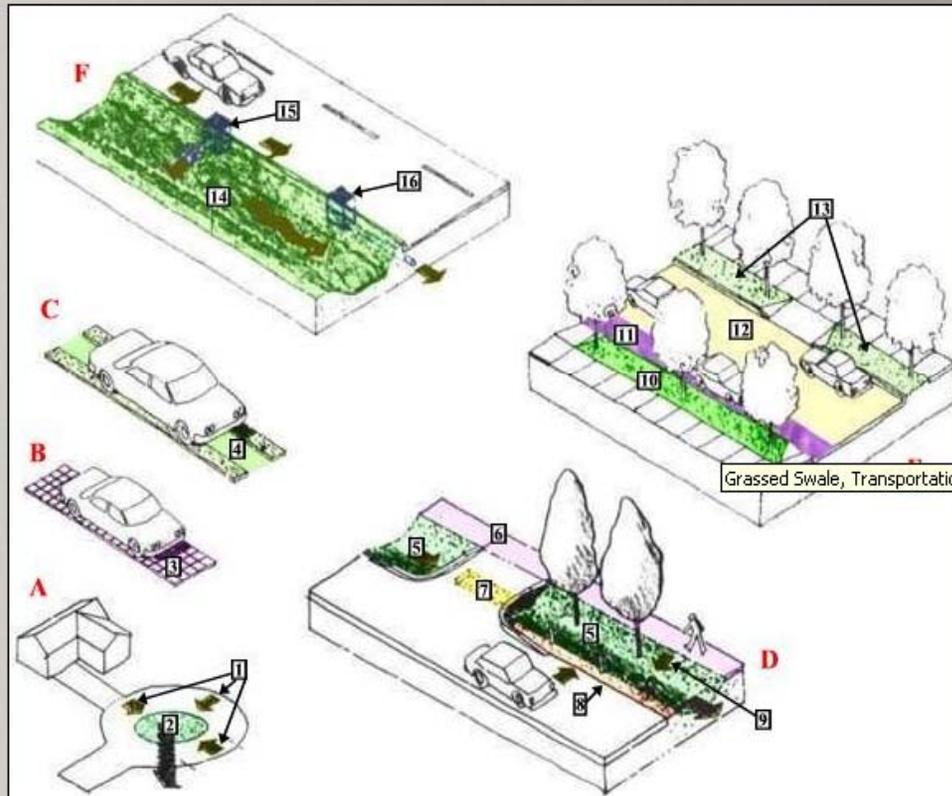
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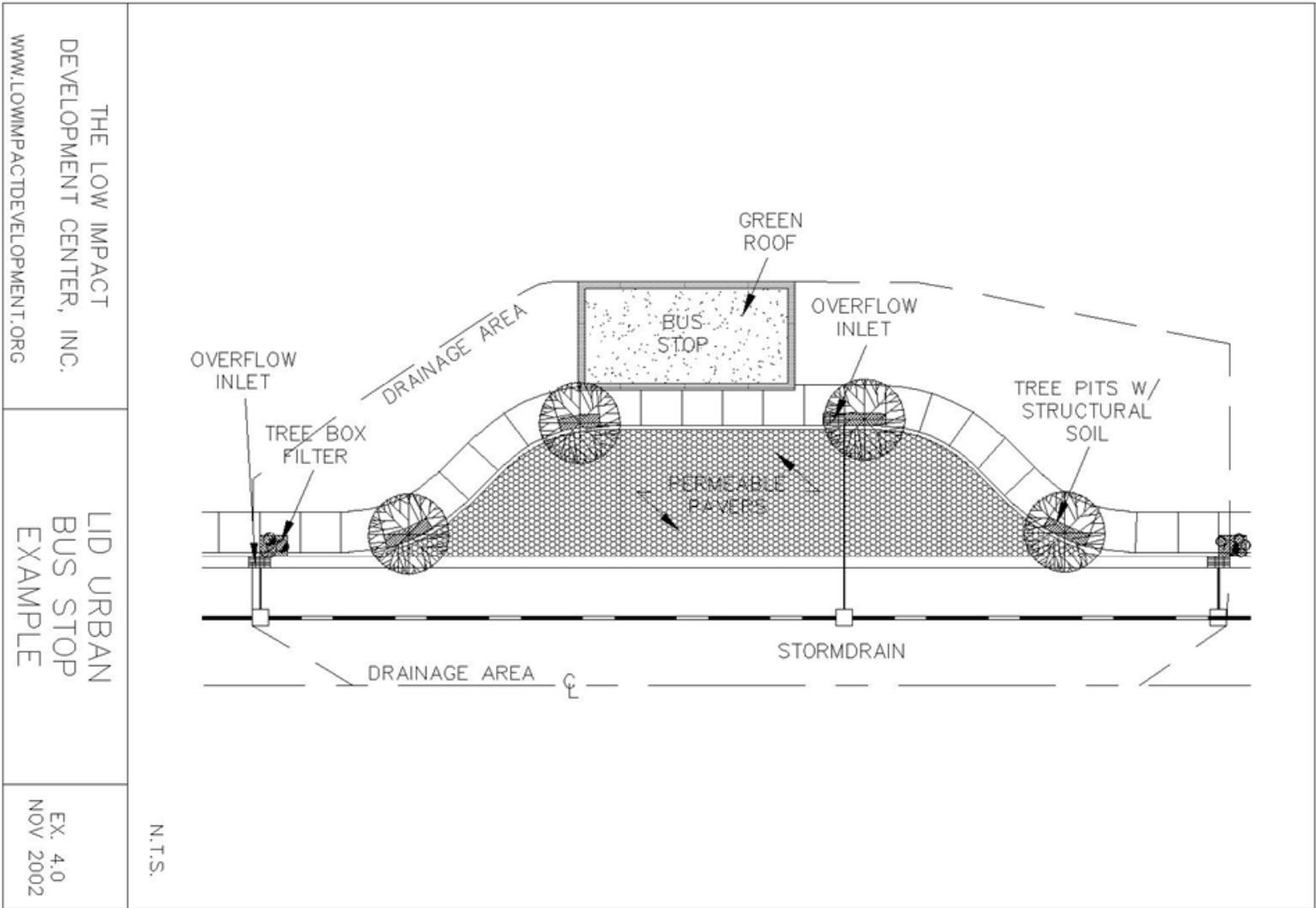
Transportation Uses of LID

Hold the mouse cursor over any colored part of the image to identify the LID technique that is being used in this setting. Click on this same area to go directly to the relevant design page.



All sketches adapted from Prince George's County, MD, LID IMP Guidance Document, 2002.

Legend:





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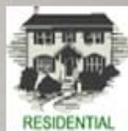
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Now that you've seen how LID can fit into your general land use plans...

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Step One:

Select LID Technique

Bioretention

Step Two:

Select landuse/design link

Low Density Residential

Go!



Bioretention

Low Density Residential

Bioretention cells, also known as rain gardens, have been successfully implemented in a number of typical suburban developments. For example, the developer of Somerset community^{1, 2} in Prince George's County, Maryland, was able to save more than \$4,000 per lot using bioretention cells instead of conventional BMP pond technology. Six additional lots were recovered due to lower stormwater management space requirements, and the community was marketable as environmentally friendly and ingeniously landscaped. In such developments, rain gardens are a natural stormwater management solution. Planted in low-lying areas, the gardens contain specific layers of soil, sand, and organic mulch. These layers naturally filter the site's runoff, substantially reducing common homeowner pollutants such as lawn fertilizers and driveway oils and providing protection for the receiving waterways.



Designing with rain gardens in a low density residential area can³

- establish a unique sense of place by featuring plants native to the area
- encourage environmental stewardship and community pride
- provide a host of additional environmental benefits (habitat for wildlife and native plant varieties, improved air quality, mitigation of urban climates)
- increase real estate values by the use of aesthetically pleasing landscape



References

¹ *Growing Greener in your Rappahannock River Watershed*
Contact Friends of the Rappahannock, <http://www.riverfriends.org/>

² U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1995: *Maryland developer grows 'Rain Gardens' to control residential runoff.* Nonpoint Source News-Notes, 42 (August/September), <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/info/NewsNotes/index.html>

Disclaimer

BUILD IT!

- AUTOCAD #1
- AUTOCAD #2
- JPEG #1
- JPEG #2
- SPECIFICATIONS
- SIZING

RELATED INFO

- SCHEDULE
- COSTS
- MAINTENANCE

WHY?

BENEFITS





LID Urban Design Tools

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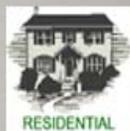


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URBAN



RESIDENTIAL



TRANSPORTATION



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Bioretention

Step Two:

Select landuse design link

Low Density Residential

Go!



EPA National SW Calculator

- Desktop application to estimate runoff.
- Seven GI practices can be evaluated.
 - Disconnection
 - Rain harvesting
 - Green roofs
 - Street Planters
 - Rain gardens
 - Infiltration basins
 - Porous Pavement
- Utilizes soil conditions, topography, land cover, historic rainfall records and evaporation rates.

Overview Location Soil Type Soil Drainage Topography Precipitation Evaporation Land Cover LID Controls Runoff

Site Name (Optional)
DEP

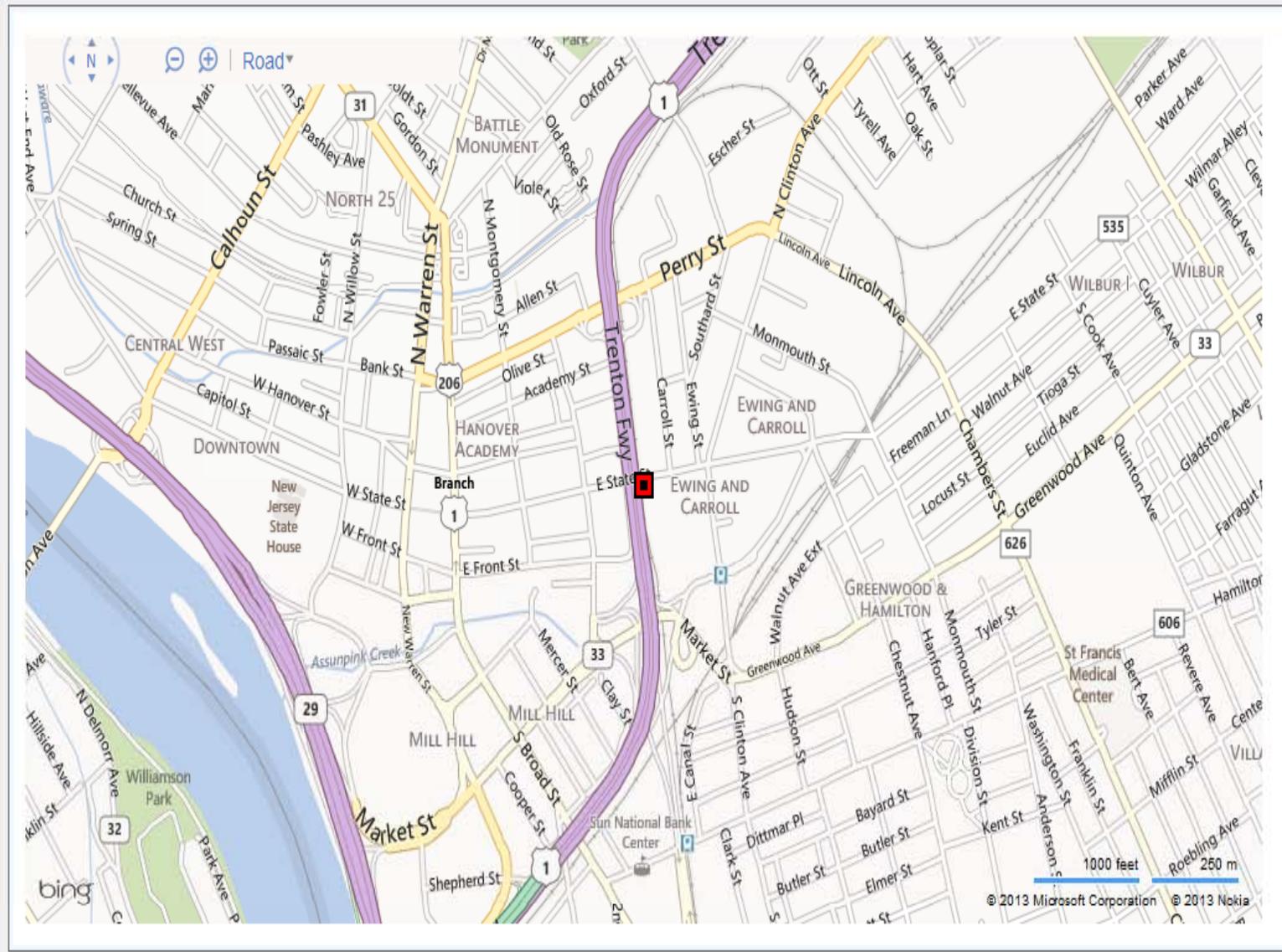
Search for an address or zip code:
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ

Site Location (Latitude, Longitude)
40.220803764427, -74.75765392184257

Site Area (acres - Optional)
0.0

[Open a previously saved site](#)

Bring your site into view on the map and then mark its exact location by clicking the mouse pointer over it.



Locate the site on the map. [Analyze a New Site](#) [Save Current Site](#)

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Home Insert Design Animations Slide Show Review View

National Stormwater Calculator

Overview Location Soil Type Soil Drainage Topography Precipitation Evaporation Land Cover LID Controls Runoff

What type of soil is on your site?

- View soil survey data
- A - low runoff potential
- B - moderately low
- C - moderately high
- D - high runoff potential

When soil survey data is displayed you can select a soil type directly from the map.

Help

Select a soil type for the site.

Analyze a New Site Save C

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How fast does standing water drain from your site (inches/hour)?

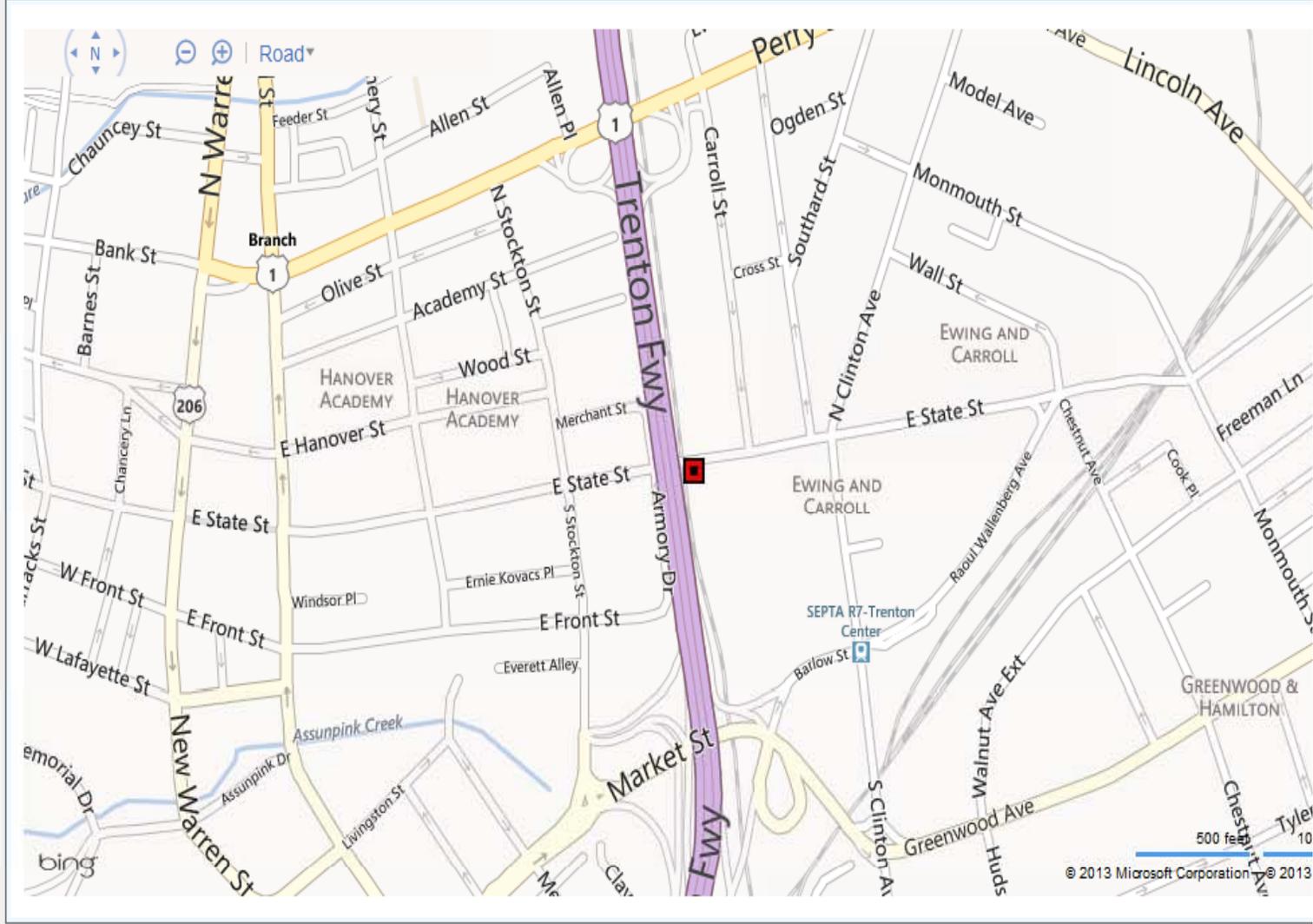
(Default = 0.04)

View soil survey data

- <= 0.01 inches/hour
- > 0.01 to <= 0.1 inches/hour
- > 0.1 to <= 1.0 inches/hour
- > 1 inches/hour

When soil survey data is displayed you can select a value directly from the map.

[Help](#)

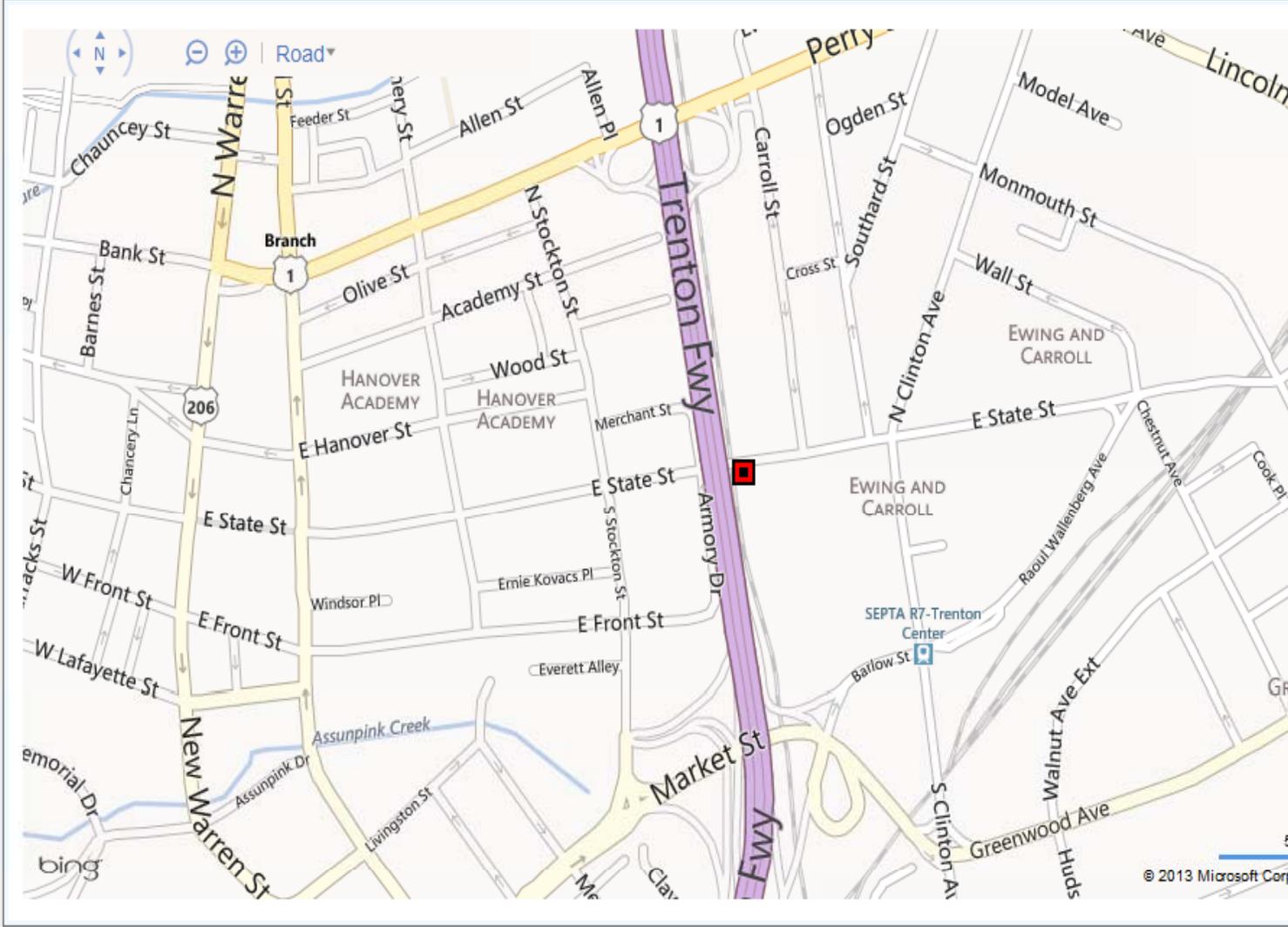


Describe your site's topography:

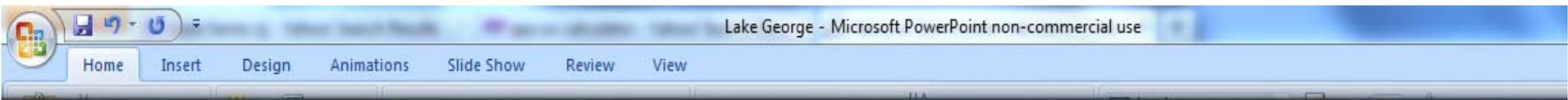
- View soil survey data
- Flat (2% Slope)
- Moderately Flat (5% Slope)
- Moderately Steep (10% Slope)
- Steep (above 15% Slope)

When soil survey data is displayed you can select a slope category directly from the map.

[Help](#)



Describe how steep the site is. [Analyze a New](#)



National Stormwater Calculator

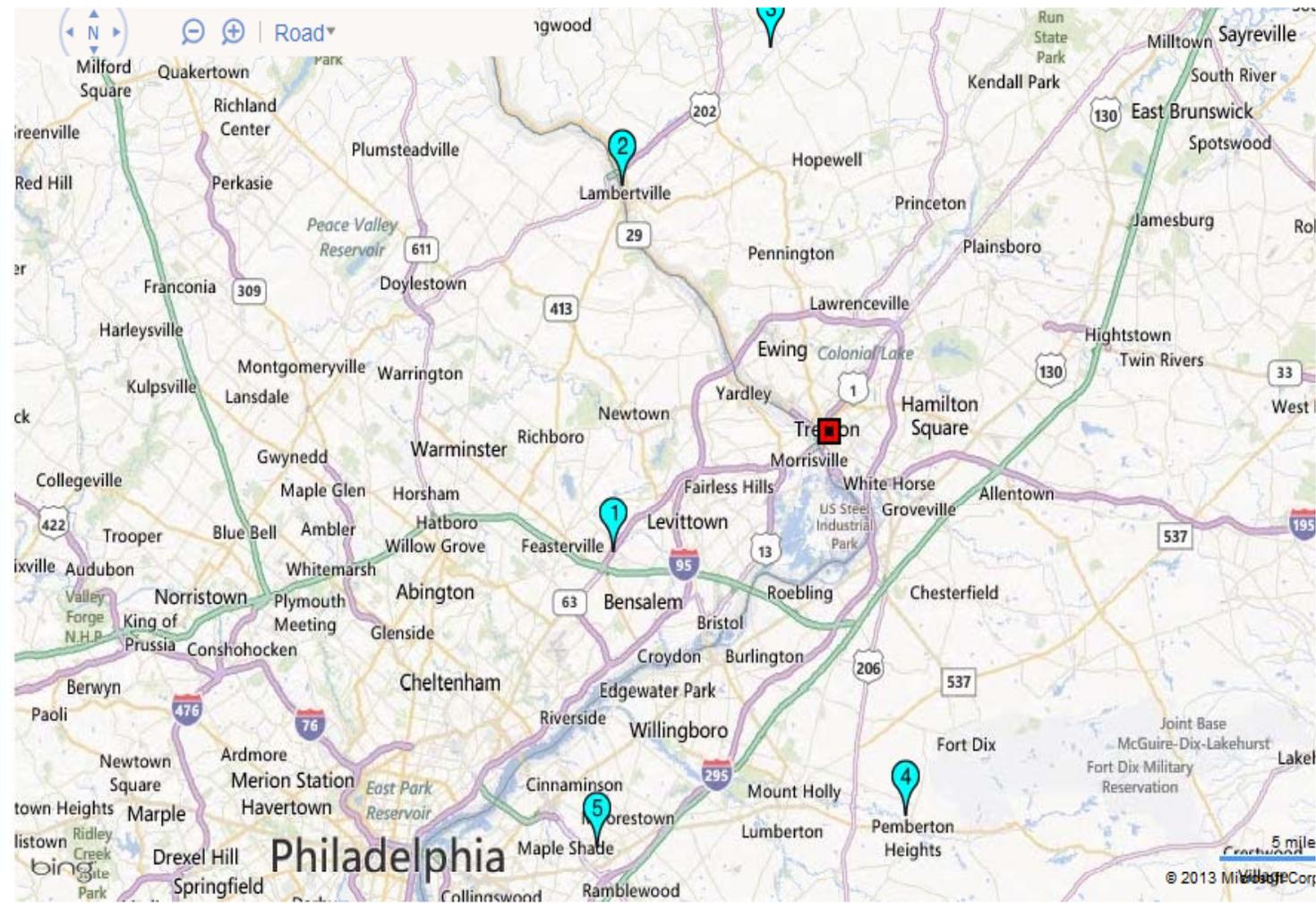
- Overview
- Location
- Soil Type
- Soil Drainage
- Topography
- Precipitation
- Evaporation
- Land Cover
- LID Controls
- Runoff

Select a rain gage location to use as a source of hourly rainfall data:

- 1 - NESHAMINY FALLS (1970-2006) 50.31"
- 2 - LAMBERTVILLE (1970-2006) 49.10"
- 3 - WERTSVILLE 4 NE (1970-2006) 48.36"
- 4 - PEMBERTON (1970-2002) 46.32"
- 5 - MOORESTOWN (1970-2006) 48.59"

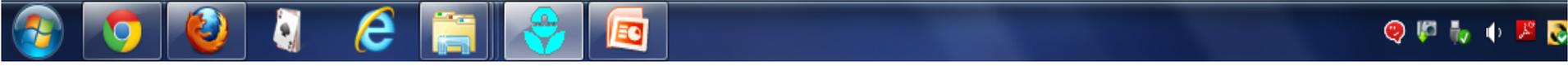
[Save rainfall data for other uses](#)

[Help](#)



Select a source of long-term hourly rainfall data.

[Analyze a New](#)





National Stormwater Calculator

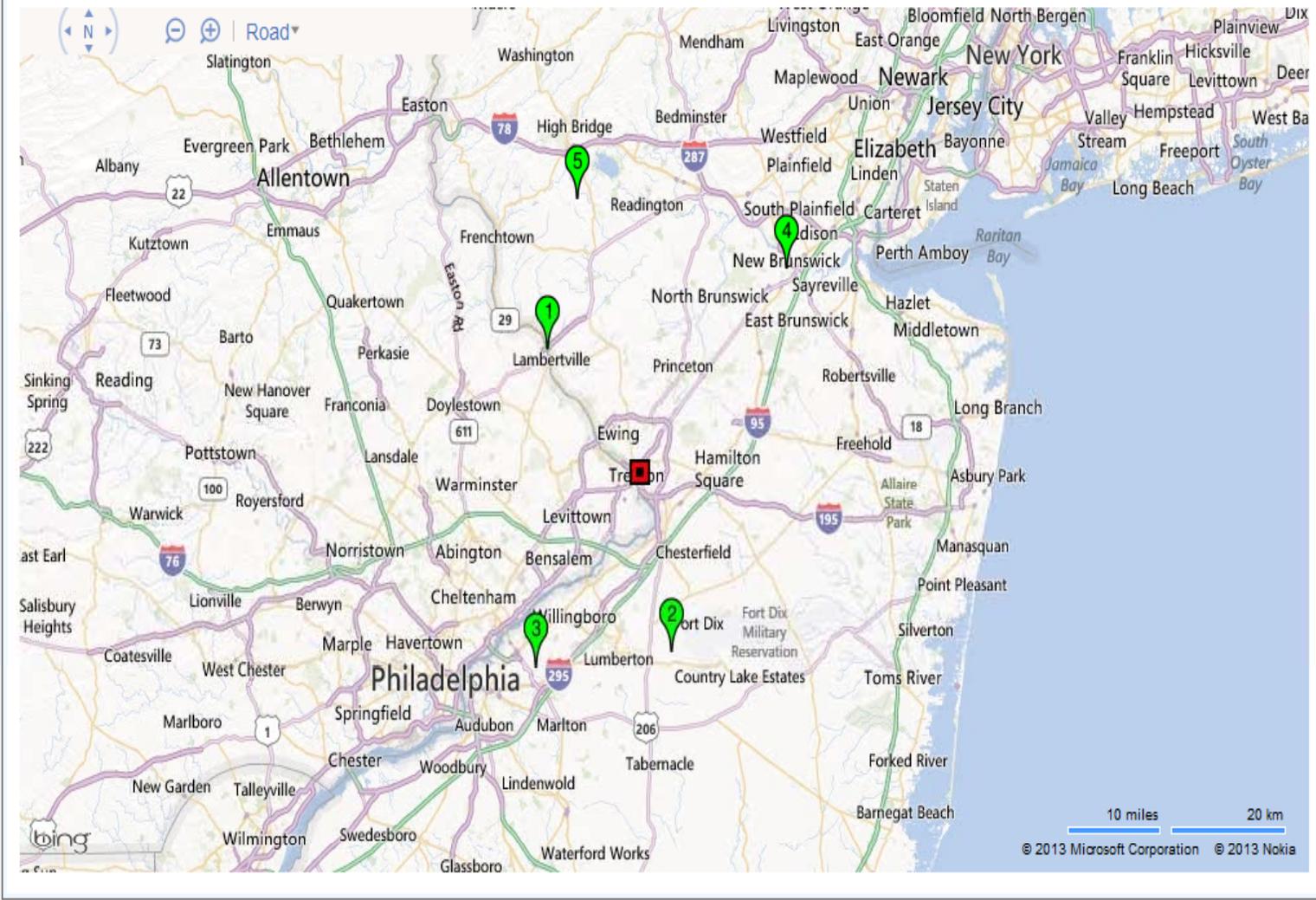
- Overview
- Location
- Soil Type
- Soil Drainage
- Topography
- Precipitation
- Evaporation
- Land Cover
- LID Controls
- Runoff

Select a weather station to use as a source for evaporation rates:

- 1 - LAMBERTVILLE (1970-2001) 57.86"
- 2 - PEMBERTON (1970-2001) 57.59"
- 3 - MOORESTOWN (1970-2006) 57.27"
- 4 - NEW BRUNSWICK 3 SE (1970-2005) 61.18"
- 5 - FLEMINGTON 5 NNW (1970-2006) 56.90"

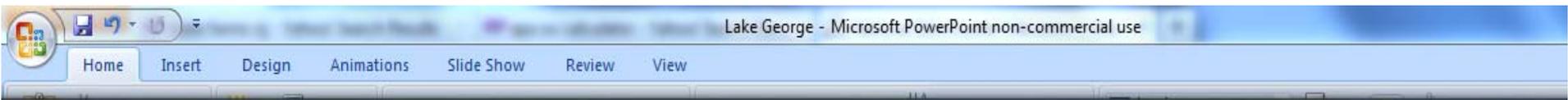
[Save evaporation data for other uses](#)

[Help](#)



Select a source of monthly average evaporation rates. [Analyze a New Site](#) [Save Current Site](#)





National Stormwater Calculator

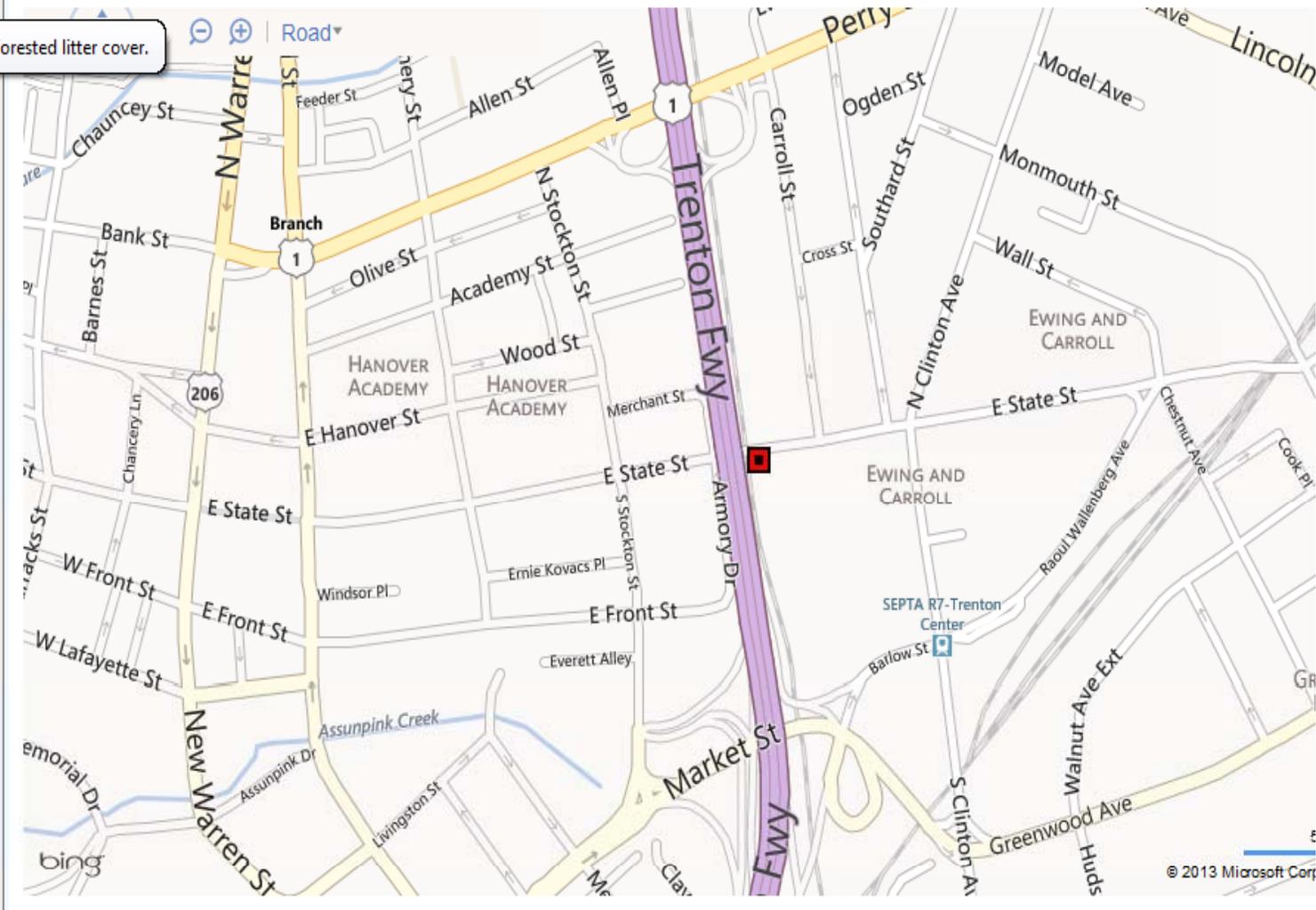
- Overview
- Location
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Describe the site's land cover.

Stands of trees with adequate brush and forested litter cover.

% Forest	0
% Meadow	0
% Lawn	10
% Desert	0
% Impervious	60

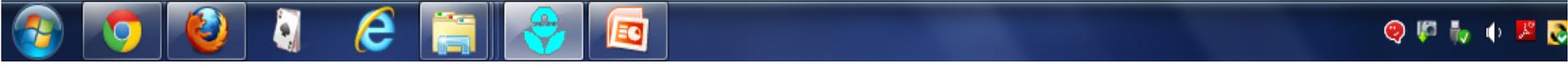
Hover the mouse over a cover category to see a more detailed description.



[Help](#)

Describe the site's land cover.

[Analyze a New](#)



What % of your site's impervious area will be treated by the following LID practices?

- [Disconnection](#)
- [Rain Harvesting](#)
- [Rain Gardens](#)
- [Green Roofs](#)
- [Street Planters](#)
- [Infiltration Basins](#)
- [Porous Pavement](#)

Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help)

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Disconnection



Disconnection refers to the practice of directing runoff from impervious areas, such as roofs or parking lots, on to pervious areas such as lawns or vegetative strips, instead of directly into storm drains. This gives the runoff an opportunity to infiltrate into the soil before leaving the site.

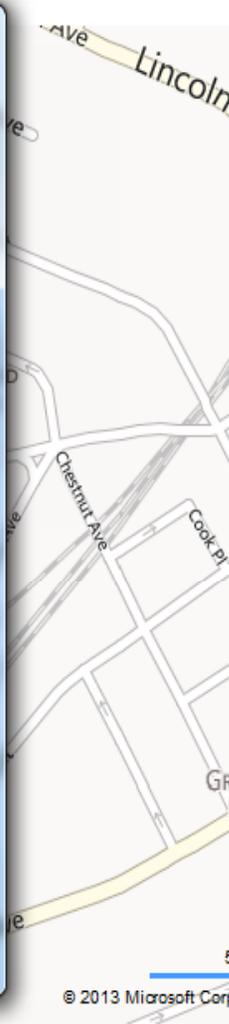
The Capture Ratio is the ratio of the pervious area receiving the runoff (such as a lawn area) to the impervious area that generates the runoff.

For example, if 5,000 sq. ft. of roof area is directed onto 3,000 sq. ft. of lawn area then the Capture Ratio would be 3,000 / 5,000 or 60%.

% Capture Ratio

[Learn more ...](#)

Size for Design Storm | Restore Defaults | Accept | Cancel



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Home Insert Design Animations Slide Show Review View

National Stormwater Calculator

Overview Location Soil Type Soil Drainage Topography Precipitation Evaporation Land Cover LID Controls Runoff

What % of your site's impervious area will be treated by the following LID practices?

- [Disconnection](#) 0
- [Rain Harvesting](#) 0
- [Rain Gardens](#) 0
- [Green Roofs](#) 0
- [Street Planters](#) 0
- [Infiltration Basins](#) 0
- [Porous Pavement](#) 0

Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help) 0.00

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Rain Harvesting



Rain harvesting systems collect runoff from rooftops and convey it to a cistern tank where it can be used for non-potable water uses and on-site infiltration.

The harvesting system is assumed to consist of a given number of fixed-sized cisterns per 1000 square feet of rooftop area captured.

The water from each cistern is withdrawn at a constant rate and is assumed to be consumed or infiltrated entirely on-site.



Cistern Size (gallons) 100

Emptying Rate (gallons/day) 50

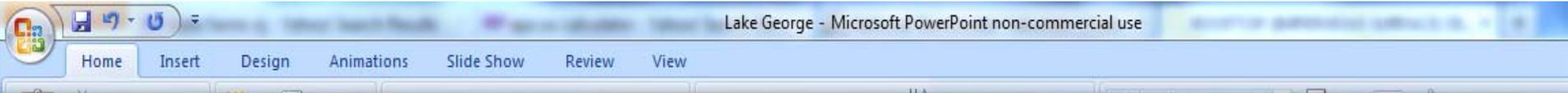
Number per 1,000 sq ft 4.0

[Learn more ...](#)

Size for Design Storm Restore Defaults Accept Cancel

Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas. [Analyze a New](#)

© 2013 Microsoft Corp



National Stormwater Calculator

- Overview
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- [Street Planters](#) 0
- [Infiltration Basins](#) 0
- [Porous Pavement](#) 0

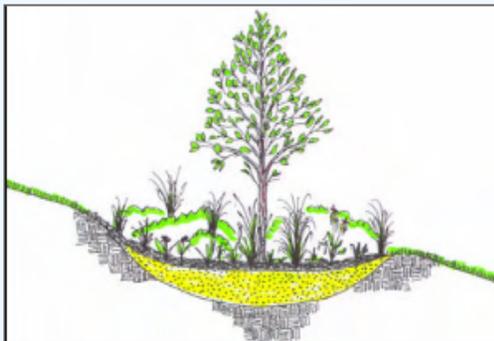
Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help) 0.00

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Rain Garden



Rain Gardens are shallow depressions filled with an engineered soil mix that supports vegetative growth. They are usually used on individual home lots to capture roof runoff.

Typical soil depths range from 6 to 18 inches.

The Capture Ratio is the ratio of the rain garden's area to the impervious area that drains onto it.



[Learn more ...](#)

Ponding Height (inches) 6

Soil Media Thickness (inches) 12

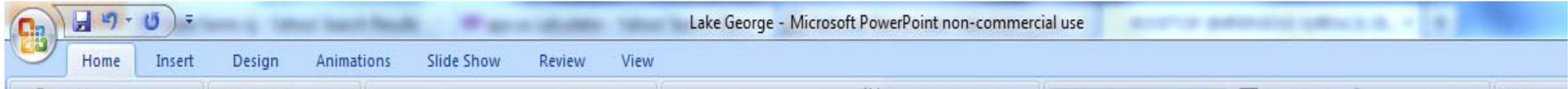
Soil Media Conductivity (in/hr) 10.00

% Capture Ratio 5

Size for Design Storm Restore Defaults Accept Cancel

Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas. [Analyze a New](#)





National Stormwater Calculator

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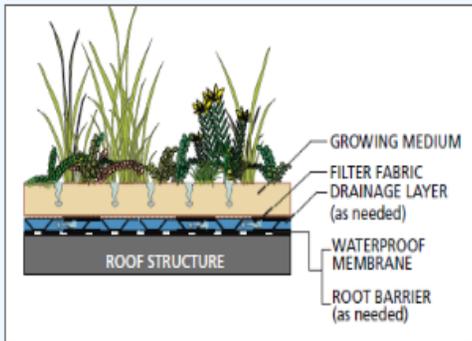
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[Help](#)

LID Design

Green Roof



Green Roofs (also known as Vegetated Roofs) are bio-retention systems placed on roof surfaces that capture and temporarily store rainwater in a soil growing medium. They consist of a layered system of roofing designed to support plant growth and retain water for plant uptake while preventing ponding on the roof surface.

The thickness used for the growing medium typically ranges from 3 to 6 inches.

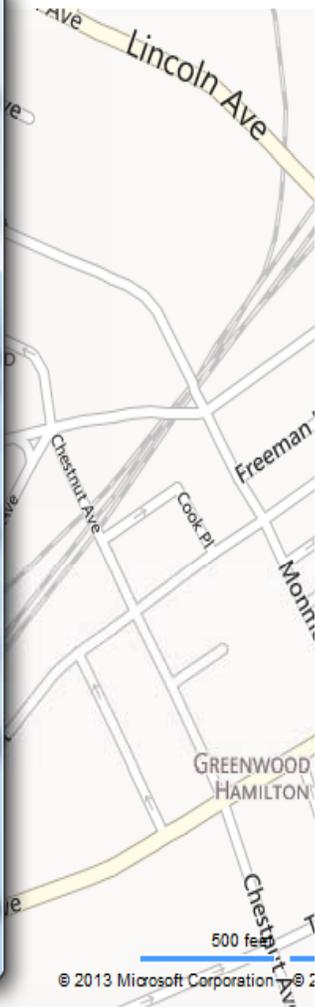
Soil Media Thickness (inches)

Soil Media Conductivity (in/hr)



[Learn more ...](#)

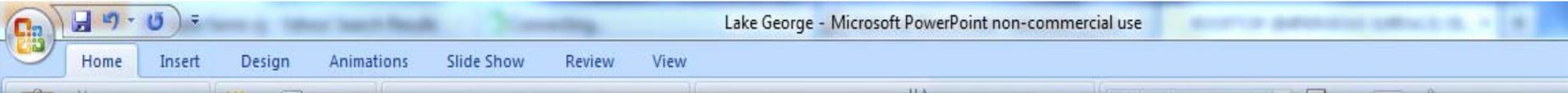
Size for Design Storm Restore Defaults Accept Cancel



Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas.

[Analyze a New Site](#) [Save](#)





National Stormwater Calculator

- Overview
- Location
- Soil Type
- Soil Drainage
- Topography
- Precipitation
- Evaporation
- Land Cover
- LID Controls
- Runoff

What % of your site's impervious area will be treated by the following LID practices?

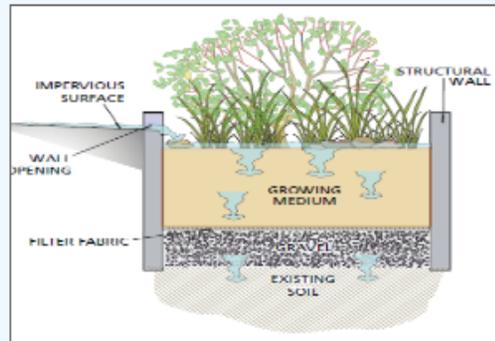
- [Disconnection](#) 0
- [Rain Harvesting](#) 0
- [Rain Gardens](#) 0
- [Green Roofs](#) 0
- [Street Planters](#) 0
- [Infiltration Basins](#) 0
- [Porous Pavement](#) 0
- Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help) 0.00

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Street Planter



Street Planters consist of concrete boxes filled with an engineered soil that supports vegetative growth. Beneath the soil is a gravel bed that provides additional storage.

The walls of a planter extend 3 to 12 inches above the soil bed to allow for ponding within the unit. The thickness of the soil growing medium ranges from 6 to 24 inches while gravel beds are 6 to 18 inches in depth.

The planter's Capture Ratio is the ratio of its area to

- Ponding Height (inches) 6
- Soil Media Thickness (inches) 18
- Soil Media Conductivity (in/hr) 10.00
- Gravel Bed Thickness (inches) 12
- % Capture Ratio 6



[Learn more ...](#)

Size for Design Storm

Restore Defaults

Accept

Cancel

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- [Disconnection](#) 0
- [Rain Harvesting](#) 0
- [Rain Gardens](#) 0
- [Green Roofs](#) 0
- [Street Planters](#) 0
- [Infiltration Basins](#) 0
- [Porous Pavement](#) 0

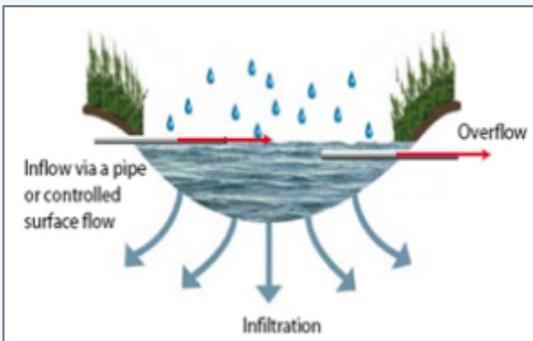
Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help) 0.00

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Infiltration Basin



Infiltration basins are shallow depressions filled with grass or other natural vegetation that capture runoff from adjoining areas and allow it to infiltrate into the soil.

The calculator assumes that the infiltration rate from the basin is the same as for site's native soil.

The basin's Capture Ratio is the area of the basin relative to the impervious area whose runoff it captures.



[Learn more ...](#)

Size for Design Storm

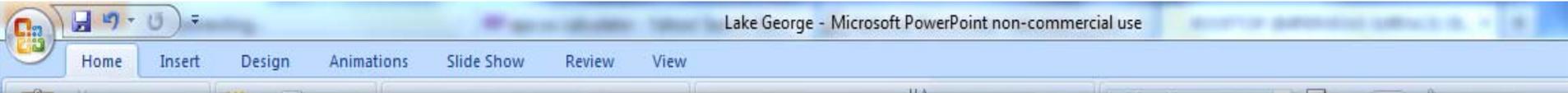
Restore Defaults

Accept

Cancel

Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas.





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- [Disconnection](#) 0
- [Rain Harvesting](#) 0
- [Rain Gardens](#) 0
- [Green Roofs](#) 0
- [Street Planters](#) 0
- [Infiltration Basins](#) 0
- [Porous Pavement](#) 0
- Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help) 0.00

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)

LID Design

Porous Pavement

Design Guidelines for Porous Asphalt with Subsurface Infiltration

Continuous Porous Pavement systems are excavated areas filled with gravel and paved over with a porous concrete or asphalt mix.

Modular Block systems are similar except that permeable block pavers are used instead.

Normally all rainfall will immediately pass through the pavement into the gravel storage layer below it where it can infiltrate at natural rates into the site's native soil.

Pavement layers are usually 4 to 6 inches in height

[Learn more ...](#)

Pavement Thickness (inches) 6

Gravel Layer Thickness (inches) 18

% Capture Ratio 100

Size for Design Storm Restore Defaults Accept Cancel

Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas.

[Analyze a New](#)



National Stormwater Calculator

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What % of your site's impervious area will be treated by the following LID practices?

[Disconnection](#)

[Rain Harvesting](#)

[Rain Gardens](#)

[Green Roofs](#)

[Street Planters](#)

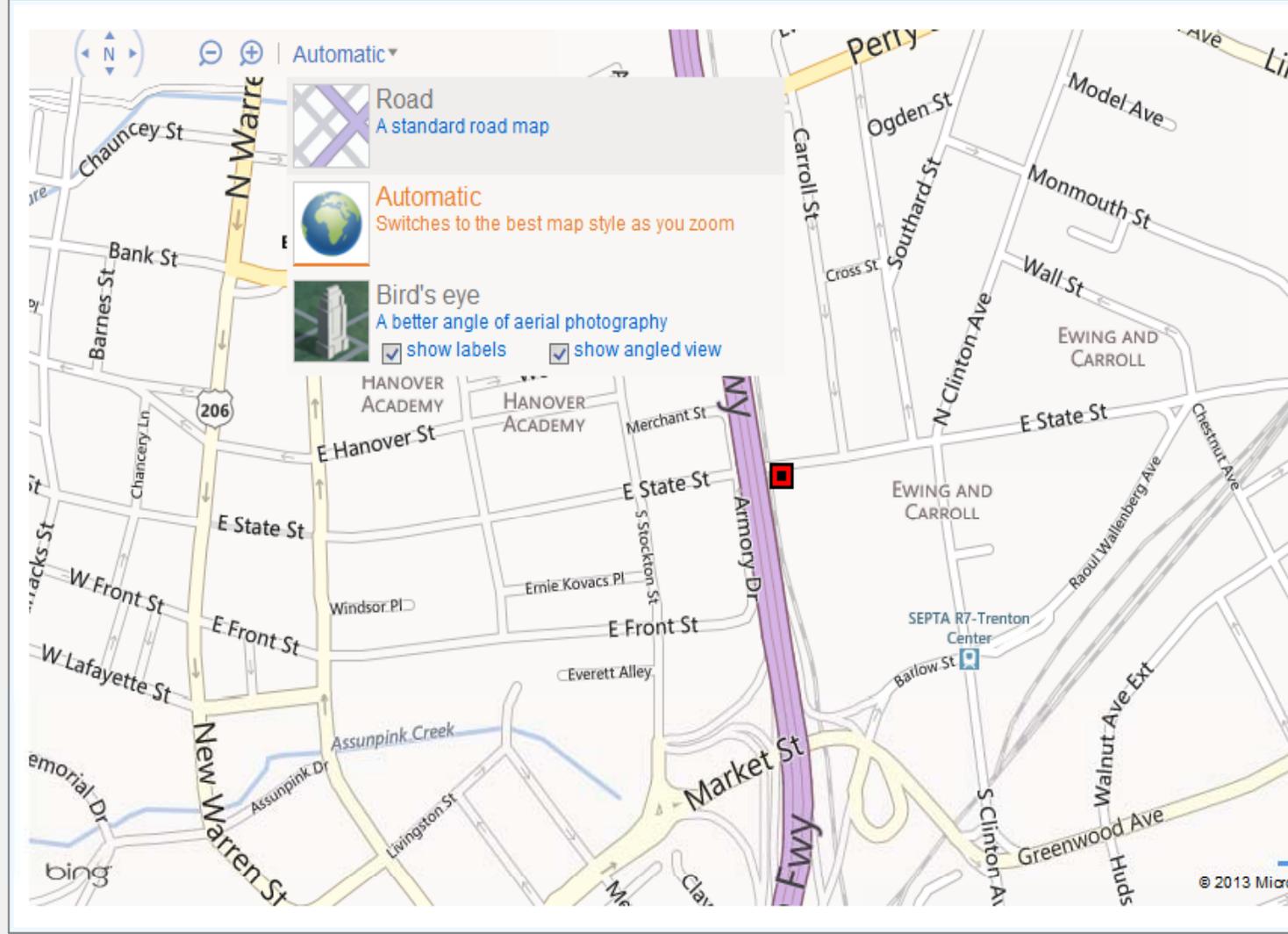
[Infiltration Basins](#)

[Porous Pavement](#)

Design Storm for Sizing (inches) (see Help)

Click a practice to customize its design.

[Help](#)



Assign LID practices to capture runoff from impervious areas. [Analyze](#)

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Home Insert Design Animations Slide Show Review View

National Stormwater Calculator

Overview Location Soil Type Soil Drainage Topography Precipitation Evaporation Land Cover LID Controls Runoff

Analysis Options

Years to Analyze: 10

Event Threshold (inches): 0.10

Ignore Consecutive Days:

Compute Runoff

[Use as Baseline Scenario](#)

[Remove Baseline Scenario](#)

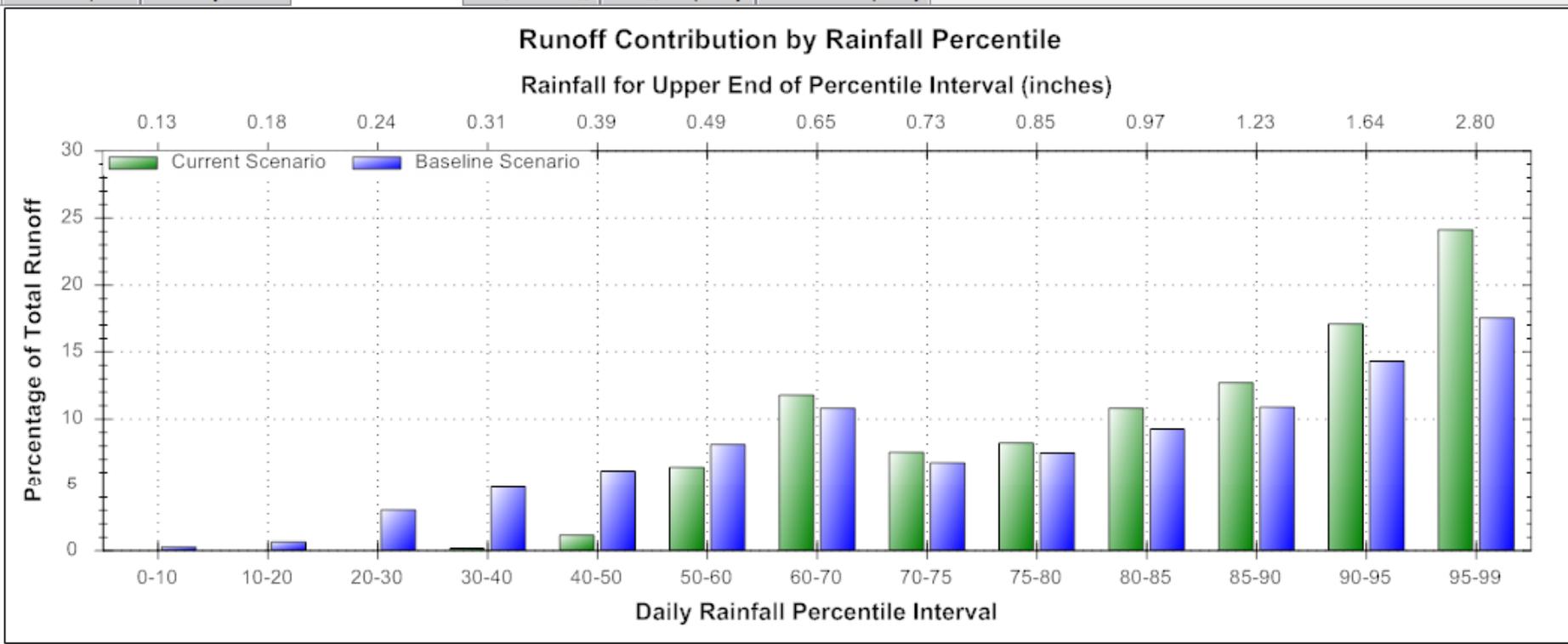
[Print Results to PDF File](#)

[Help](#)

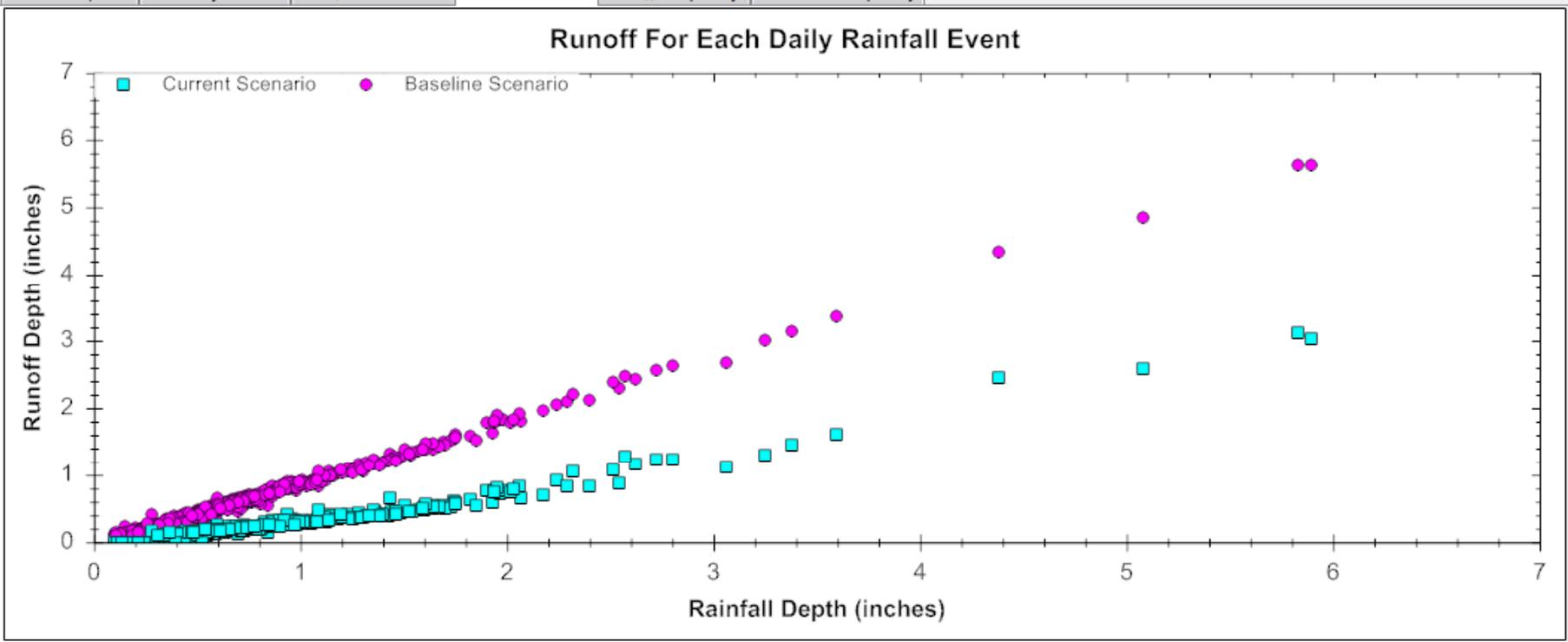
Statistic	Current Scenario	Baseline Scenario
Annual Averages		
Average Annual Rainfall (inches)	48.91	48.91
Average Annual Runoff (inches)	14.17	39.83
Percent of All Rainfall Retained	71.02	18.57
Daily Event Statistics		
Days per Year with Rainfall	81.76	81.76
Days per Year with Runoff	39.28	67.36
Percent of Wet Days Retained	51.96	17.60
Smallest Rainfall w/ Runoff (inches)	0.28	0.10
Largest Rainfall w/o Runoff (inches)	0.53	0.22
Max. Retention Volume (inches)	2.87	0.38

This table summarizes runoff results for your site. The Annual Averages portion of the table includes all rainfall and runoff values, even those for Statistics refers to days where the total rainfall or runoff is above the minimum threshold value.

Runoff results are up to date.

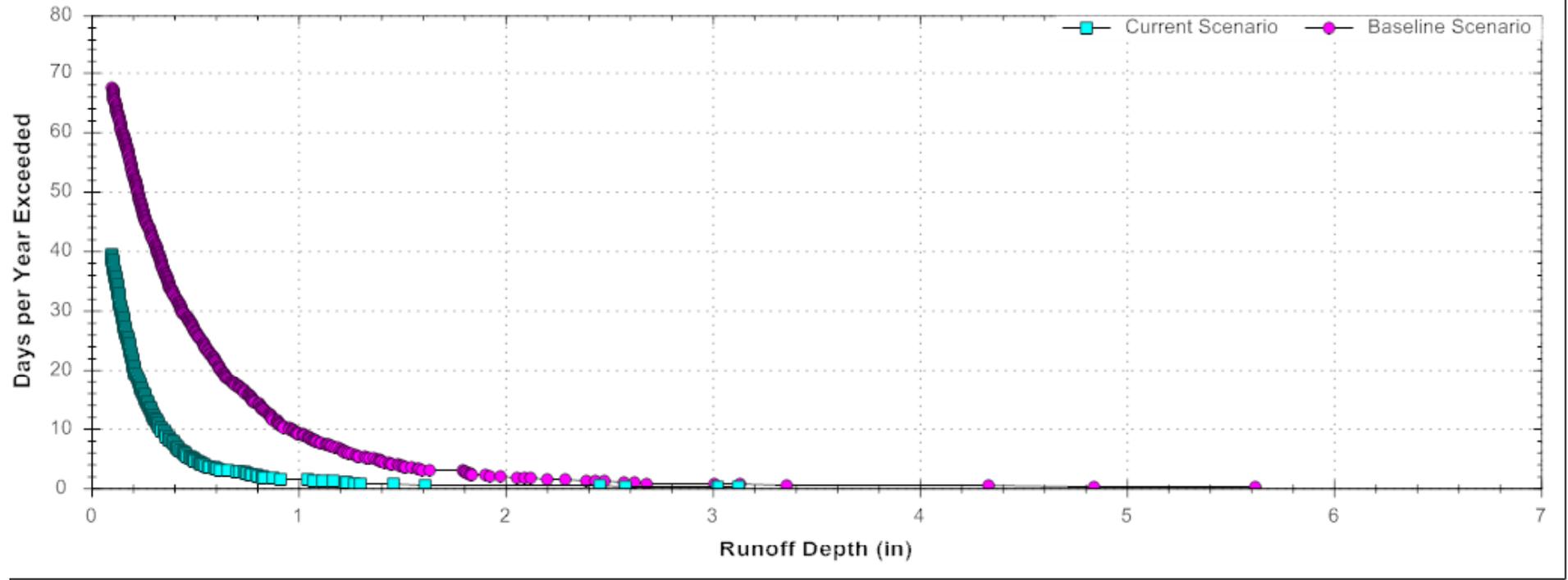


This plot shows what percentage of total measurable runoff is attributed to different size interval rainfall events. The bottom axis is divided into intervals of daily rainfall event percentiles. The top axis shows the daily rainfall depth corresponding to each end-of-interval percentile. The bars show what percentage of total measurable runoff is generated by the rainfall within each size interval.



This is a graph of the daily runoff depth associated with each measurable daily rainfall event over the period of record analyzed. Events that are completely captured on site (i.e., are below the event threshold) show up as points that lie along the horizontal axis.

Daily Runoff Exceedance Frequency



This plot shows how many times per year, on average, a given depth of daily measurable runoff will be exceeded. It contains information similar to a flow duration curve and is useful for comparing the hydrologic response of alternative development scenarios.

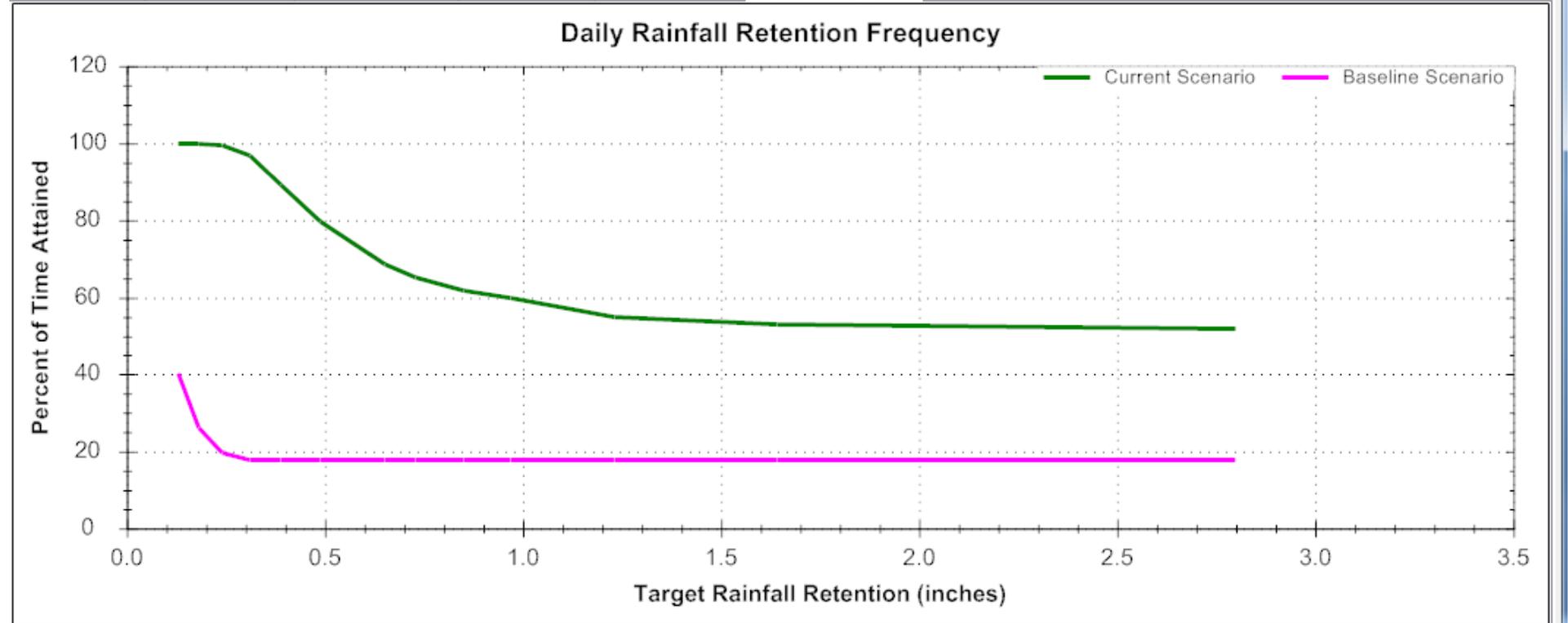


Microsoft PowerPoint non-commercial use Drawing Tools

ations Slide Show Review View Format

Topography Precipitation Evaporation Land Cover LID Controls Runoff

Site Description Summary Results Rainfall Percentiles Rainfall/Runoff Runoff Frequency **Retention Frequency**



This plot shows how frequently daily rainfall up to a given depth will be retained on site. For example, if a stormwater retention goal is to capture the first X inches of daily rainfall, this plot will show the reliability at which this target can be met.



Relationship of GI Agenda to other EPA efforts

- Urban Waters
- Environmental Justice
- Sustainable Communities
- Healthy Watersheds
- Climate Change
- Smart Growth
- Brownfields Redevelopment
- Stormwater Permits
- CSO Long Term Control Plans



Questions/Contact

EPA Green Infrastructure Website

<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure>

Region 2 GI Coordinator

Maureen Krudner

krudner.maureen@epa.gov

212-637-3874

