

Your project has been identified as a Priority Development Project (PDP) – what does this entail?

As a part of your development project you are required to submit a PDP Stormwater Quality Management Plan (SWQMP) to prevent pollutants from flowing into our waterways after construction. One way to help meet these requirements is to include **Significant Site Design Best Management Practices (SSD-BMPs)** at your project site. Including SSD-BMPs can be a cost-effective way to protect our waterways while staying in compliance.

The County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program has developed this informational guide to help you understand your compliance options. Discuss this guide with your contractor, civil engineer, or landscape architect to determine the best options for your project.

Benefits of SSD-BMPs

- No Maintenance Agreement is required for SSD-BMPs.
- No engineer's signature required (currently allowed under the 2013 Municipal Stormwater Permit).
- Reduced PDP SWQMP requirements.

Types of SSD-BMPs

There are two types of SSD-BMPs: Tree wells and Dispersion areas.

Tree Wells

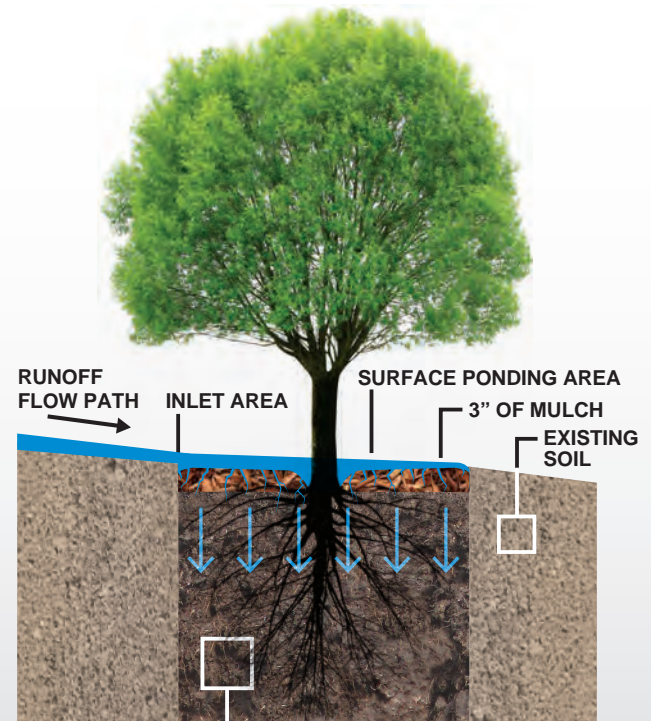
Tree wells divert and filter stormwater runoff to the soil immediately surrounding a planted tree. Generally, the areas around the tree well are sloped (Figure 1) to allow water to naturally flow inside, reducing runoff volume entering the storm drain system. They are often found next to walkways, driveways, and parking areas to capture and treat stormwater runoff flowing from these surfaces.

Design elements of Tree Wells

- Required retention volume is determined by the design capture volume (DCV), hydrologic soil group, and tree well soil depth.
- The treatment credit a tree provides is a function of the mature canopy diameter and provided soil volume.

FIGURE 1

Tree Well (Cross-Section View)



TREE WELL SOIL MEDIA
Minimum 30" from surface of well to bottom





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Dispersion Areas

Dispersion areas are vegetated spaces designed to infiltrate and filter stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces such as rooftops, walkways, and driveways. Runoff is directed from these surfaces by a downspout with a splash block or a flow spreader (Figure 2), which distributes runoff into the dispersion area. There, it is filtered in the soil through infiltration and pollutants are prevented from entering the storm drain system. Infiltration also reduces the volume of runoff entering the storm drain system.

Design elements of Dispersion Areas

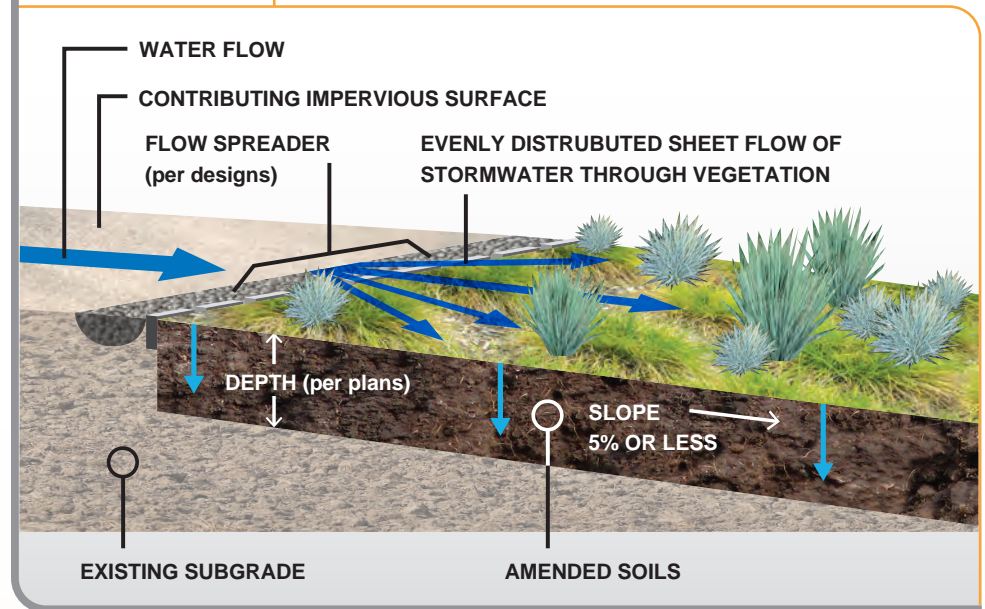
- Ratio of impervious area to dispersion areas is 1:1 or less.
- Stormwater flow travels 10 feet or more across the dispersion area.
- The top 11 inches of soil is amended.
- Slope is less than 5%.



Flow Spreader

FIGURE 2

Dispersion Area (Cross-Section View)



For More Info

Visit www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater, CLICK ON “Development Resources”, and find the SSD-BMP related files under “Calculators and Modeling Software.”

For an example PDP Stormwater Quality Management Plan, visit https://qrco.de/pdp_swqmp or scan the QR code.



thank you for doing
your part to

protect our
waterways

For Questions, Contact Us At:

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