

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING

SWP-2003 10/1/2024

Stormwater Control Measures

Stormwater Control Measure (SCM) Types	
Stormwater Control Measure Type	Description
Biofiltration/ Bioretention	 Vegetated feature that filters stormwater through a specialized soil media and includes aggregate subsurface layer to enhance storage or infiltration. Biofiltration includes an underdrain for discharges where infiltration rates are poor. Allow for inundation of vegetated areas during storm runoff. Indirect infiltration via aggregate subsurface layer and native soil bed. Vegetation: Yes (50%+) Location: At-grade, no slope
Vegetated Swale	 Vegetated feature with up to 4% slope that conveys stormwater and provides water quality filtration by vegetation. Design includes gently sloped flow paths and dense vegetation to promote stormwater surface filtration and velocity reduction by vegetation (settling). Vegetation: Yes (50%+) Location: At-Grade, max slope 4%
Vegetated Buffer Strip	 Gently sloped vegetated feature adjacent to an impervious area that receives stormwater runoff flows as sheet flow. Provides water quality filtration by vegetation. Vegetation: Yes (70%+) Location: At-Ground, variable slope.
Filtration Device	 A flow-through structure designed to capture and retain sediment, leaf litter, trash, and coarse particles. Typically accepts runoff from road or a single land use parking lot. Vegetation: No Location: Below grade
Infiltration Feature (Includes underground infiltration chambers, trenches, and dry wells)	 Structure designed to retain and infiltrate stormwater into unsaturated zones. Existing soil and grades may be modified to sustain maximum infiltration rates. Vegetation: No Location: At or below grade

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Pervious Pavement	 Durable, sustainable materials that create a pervious surface that allows stormwater to infiltrate into the underlying soil. May include an underlying reservoir to increase retention capacity and infiltration rates. Constructed to minimize the volume of stormwater generated. Vegetation: No Location: Above ground
Infiltration (Retention) Basin	 A feature designed to store and infiltrate significant volumes of stormwater into unsaturated zone. Infiltration rates may be augmented with a highly permeable substrate. Vegetation distribution is limited to grass or unvegetated. May be below the lowest outlet of a detention basin. Vegetation: Minimally vegetated or non-vegetated Location: Above ground
Detention Basin	 A flow through basin with discrete inlets and outlets to detain stormwater runoff for some minimum time to reduce peak flows. One or more outlets may exist at different elevations. Vegetation: Optional Location: Above ground
Media Filter	 A proprietary subsurface flow-through structure that uses a membrane or media to actively filter stormwater pollutants. Pollutant load reductions achieved but no stormwater volume reduction occurs. Vegetation: No Location: Primarily below ground
Treatment Vault	 A subsurface flow-through structure that physically separates sediment, trash, leaf litter, debris or other particulates by separation or settling. Pollutant load reductions achieved but no stormwater volume reduction occurs. Vegetation: No Location: Below ground