

Third-Party Performance Verification

For proprietary stormwater BMPs to be considered acceptable for use as pretreatment or treatment, the project proponent should demonstrate that the system pollutant removal performance has been verified by a recommended independent third-party stormwater BMP performance verification program. The following third-party BMP performance verification programs are recommended for proprietary BMPs used in Connecticut. These programs have been active and robust in laboratory and/or field testing of various stormwater products and practices for over a decade.

- **New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology Stormwater Technologies (NJCAT).** NJCAT is a public-private partnership that was created to help bring innovative

energy and environmental technologies to market. NJCAT administers the proprietary stormwater BMP verification/certification process created by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). NJCAT works with manufacturers of proprietary devices to develop quality assurance plans and conduct performance testing. NJCAT also works with independent reviewers to evaluate the results to ensure accuracy and protocol compliance. Once data has been reviewed, deemed accurate and in compliance with the protocols, NJCAT then issues a final verification report that is posted in their on-line verification database. The reports posted in the NJCAT verification database may be used as documentation of pollutant removal performance for proprietary stormwater BMPs in Connecticut, regardless of certification by NJDEP for compliance with the New Jersey stormwater requirements.

[NJCAT Verification Database](#)

- **Technology Assessment Protocol – Ecology (TAPE), Emerging Stormwater Treatment Technologies, Department of Ecology, Washington State.** TAPE is the Washington State Department of Ecology’s process for evaluating and approving emerging stormwater treatment BMPs. The TAPE program provides a rigorous evaluation protocol and peer-reviewed regulatory certification process that is recognized by many jurisdictions in the United States. TAPE evaluations must be conducted in the field, at a site in the Pacific Northwest or at an Ecology approved Stormwater Technology Evaluation Facility, which includes the University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center. Proprietary BMPs that are certified by TAPE for General Use Level Designation (GULD) for pretreatment (50% TSS removal) and/or basic treatment (80% TSS removal) are suitable for pretreatment and treatment, respectively, in Connecticut. GULD certification designates technologies whose evaluation report demonstrates confidently it can achieve Ecology’s performance goals.

[2018 TAPE Guidance Manual](#)

[TAPE Certified Technologies](#)

- **Other Equivalent Programs.** Other equivalent independent, third-party stormwater BMP performance verification programs, at the discretion of the review authority. Such programs may include a future national testing and verification program for proprietary stormwater BMPs (Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices or “STEPP”), which is being led by the National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA).

[Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices \(STEPP\)](#)

A proprietary stormwater BMP is presumed to achieve the assigned pollutant removal efficiency provided the conditions under which it is proposed to be used are similar to those in the performance testing. Key considerations in making this evaluation include:

- Design flow rate or runoff volume
- Particle size distribution

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- Pollutant loading
- On-line versus off-line configuration
- Tailwater effects
- Maintenance