

Chapter 5 – Low Impact Development Site Planning and Design Strategies

Introduction

This chapter addresses the use of Low Impact Development (LID) site planning and design strategies to reduce stormwater runoff volumes and pollutant discharges. LID site planning and design is a non-structural approach for avoiding or reducing the impacts of development on natural site hydrology, which can minimize the need for structural stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Stormwater Management Standard 1, as described in [Chapter 4 - Stormwater Management Standards and Performance Criteria](#) of this Manual, requires project proponents to consider the use of LID site planning and design strategies, to the Maximum Extent Practicable, to reduce and disconnect post-development impervious areas on a site prior to consideration of structural stormwater BMPs. Once LID site planning and design techniques have been considered and applied appropriately, structural stormwater BMPs should be used to retain on-site or treat the remaining required post-development stormwater runoff volume. This approach incorporates LID as the industry standard for all sites and encourages the integration of non-structural LID techniques early in the site planning and design process, consistent with the CT DEEP stormwater general permits.

This chapter provides guidance on the use of LID site planning and design strategies, including LID credits for common impervious area reduction and disconnection techniques, to help project proponents use these measures to meet the runoff volume and pollutant reduction requirements of Standard 1. Local development regulations and ordinances often dictate the extent to which these strategies can be applied for a particular project. Therefore, communities may need to revise their local land use regulations and ordinances to allow the use of these strategies. This chapter also provides guidance to communities for revising local land use regulations to enable and encourage the use of LID site planning and design strategies.

What's New in this Chapter?

- ❖ Replaces and integrates the 2011 Low Impact Development Appendix into the revised Manual
- ❖ Streamlines content to focus on non-structural LID site planning and design strategies (Chapters 7 through 13 address structural LID measures)
- ❖ Provides design guidance for impervious area (simple) disconnection
- ❖ Incorporates LID credits to help quantify the benefits and incentivize the use of certain non-structural site planning and design techniques for meeting the runoff volume and pollutant reduction standard in [Chapter 4 - Stormwater Management Standards and Performance Criteria](#)