

Stormwater Practices

For Single Lot Residential Projects

Stormwater volume control means reducing the amount of rain that runs off of your property into streets, stormdrains, ditches, lakes and rivers.

Why is stormwater volume control needed?

Stormwater can carry dirt, trash, and pollution down the street into storm drains and ditches. These drains and ditches carry pollution directly to lakes and rivers. Stormwater volume control keeps pollution out of Lake St. Croix by allowing water to soak into your yard instead of flowing off your property.

When is stormwater volume control required?

If the property is:

- In the St. Croix Riverway and adds 500 square feet or more of additional impervious surface.
- If the project requires a variance from the current local impervious surface zoning requirements.
- Creating or fully reconstructing 6,000 square feet or more of impervious surfaces.

How to control stormwater runoff:

1. Raingardens, which are bowl shaped depressions, capture rain during storms and soak it into the ground. Raingardens are planted with perennial plants, and can add beauty and provide habitat for pollinators.
2. Redirecting downspouts onto lawns and vegetated areas allows runoff from roofs to soak into the ground.
3. Grassed swales, which are very similar to raingardens, but use grasses instead of flowering plants.
4. Depressed lawn areas (generally 3" is sufficient to pond and quickly soak in water).

