

Better Site Design: Model Development Principles to Protect Our Streams, Lakes, and Wetlands



Presented by:



Model Development Principles

Three Categories of Development:

Residential Streets and Parking Lots

Lot Development

Conservation of Natural Areas

Model Development Principles

Need to be adapted to meet unique conditions in your community

Will not apply to all developments

Act as benchmarks, but are not cookie cutters

Do not address infill and redevelopment

Need to be consistent with environmental and watershed plans

Residential Streets and Parking Lots

1. Street Width
2. Street Length
3. Right-of-Way Width
4. Cul-de-Sacs
5. Vegetated Open Channels
6. Parking Ratios
7. Parking Codes
8. Parking Lot Design
9. Structured Parking
10. Parking Lot Runoff

Lot Development

11. Open Space Developments
12. Setbacks and Frontages
13. Sidewalks
14. Driveways
15. Open Space Management
16. Rooftop Runoff

Conservation of Natural Areas

17. Aquatic Buffers
18. Buffer Maintenance
19. Clearing and Grading
20. Tree Conservation
21. Conservation Incentives
22. Stormwater Outfalls

Summary

While these better site design principles are not national design standards, they identify areas where existing codes and standards can be changed to better protect streams, lakes and wetlands. Used in conjunction with the other tools of watershed protection, better site design can significantly help reduce the amount of impervious cover created and the corresponding impacts to receiving waters.