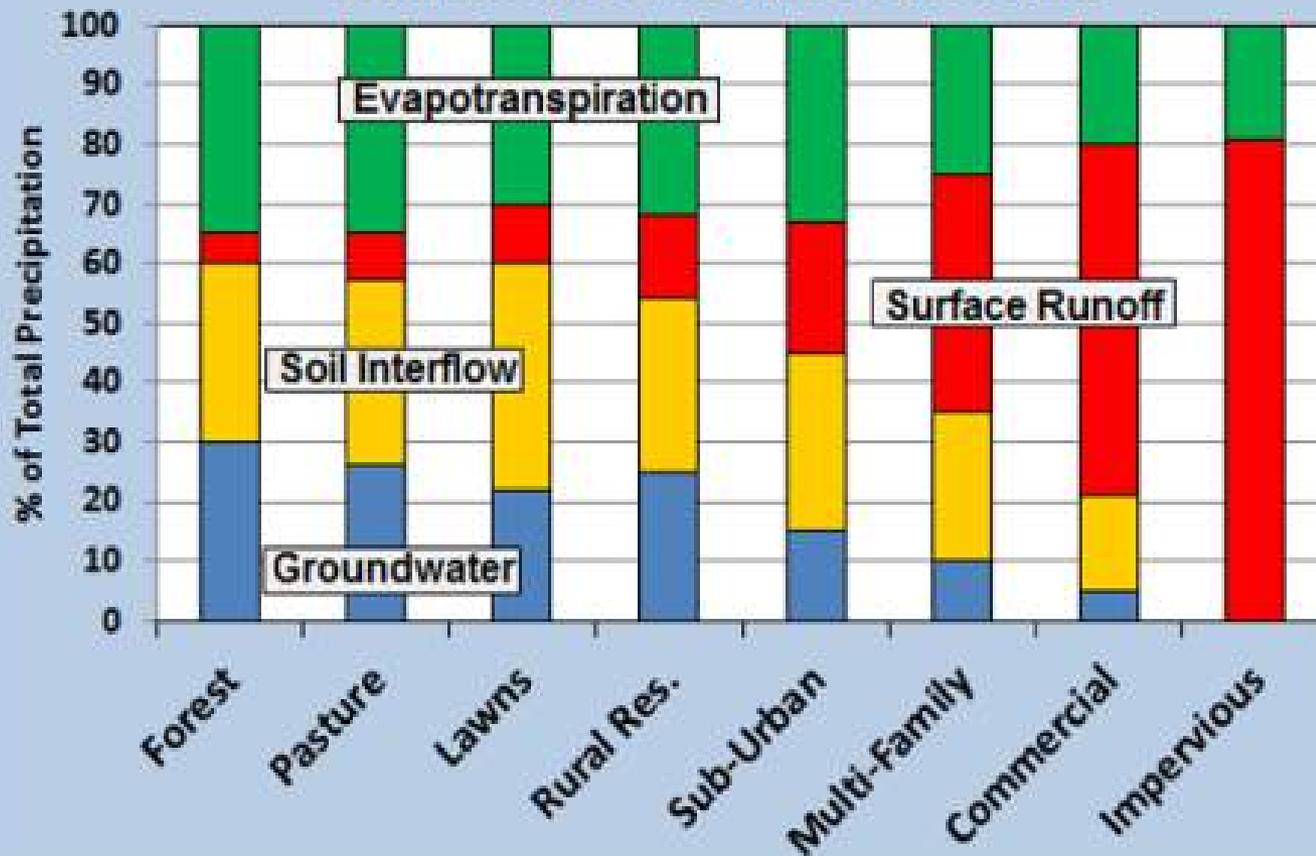


# Urban Stormwater Management



## Land Use Effects on How Rainfall Moves through Four Components of the Hydrological Cycle



# Impervious Surfaces and Conveyance Systems = Increases Pollution

## Typical Non-Point Sources of Pollution (NPS)

Deposition of atmospheric pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>)

Nutrient & Pesticides from applications to lawns, golf courses, right-of-ways

Land clearing and construction activities

Accidental spills and illegal dumping of waste



Vehicle traffic, wear and tear exhaust fumes and leaks in parking lots

Organic Materials and pathogens from animal wastes (pets & wildlife)

Combined sewers and septic systems discharges

Commercial and Industrial runoff and discharge

## Traditional Versus New Approach to Floodwater Management

### Traditional Approach

Engineering, Structural

Get water off the land as quickly as possible by conveyance using pipes, structural channels & build protective structures in lowlands

### New Ecological Approach

Natural, Ecological

Spread & retain water on site by infiltration & detention to slow down & accommodate runoff. Mimic nature. Use soils, wetlands, buffers

Control Peak Flow

Resist Disturbance

Improve Prediction Capacity

Rigid Structural Boundaries

Seek Stability



Accept Peak Flow

Absorb Disturbance

Unpredictable

Flexible Boundaries

No Equilibrium, Unstable

## Floodwater Management Practices

### Traditional Approach

#### Engineering, Structural

**Upstream**  
Quick flow & Conveyance  
Push high water downstream

**Stormwater Pipes**  
**Streightening Channels**  
**Armoring Channels**

**In Floodplain**  
**Structural Engineering**  
**Dykes, Levees, Dams**  
**Protection Systems**  
**Flood Proofing**  
**Non-structural: Zoning**

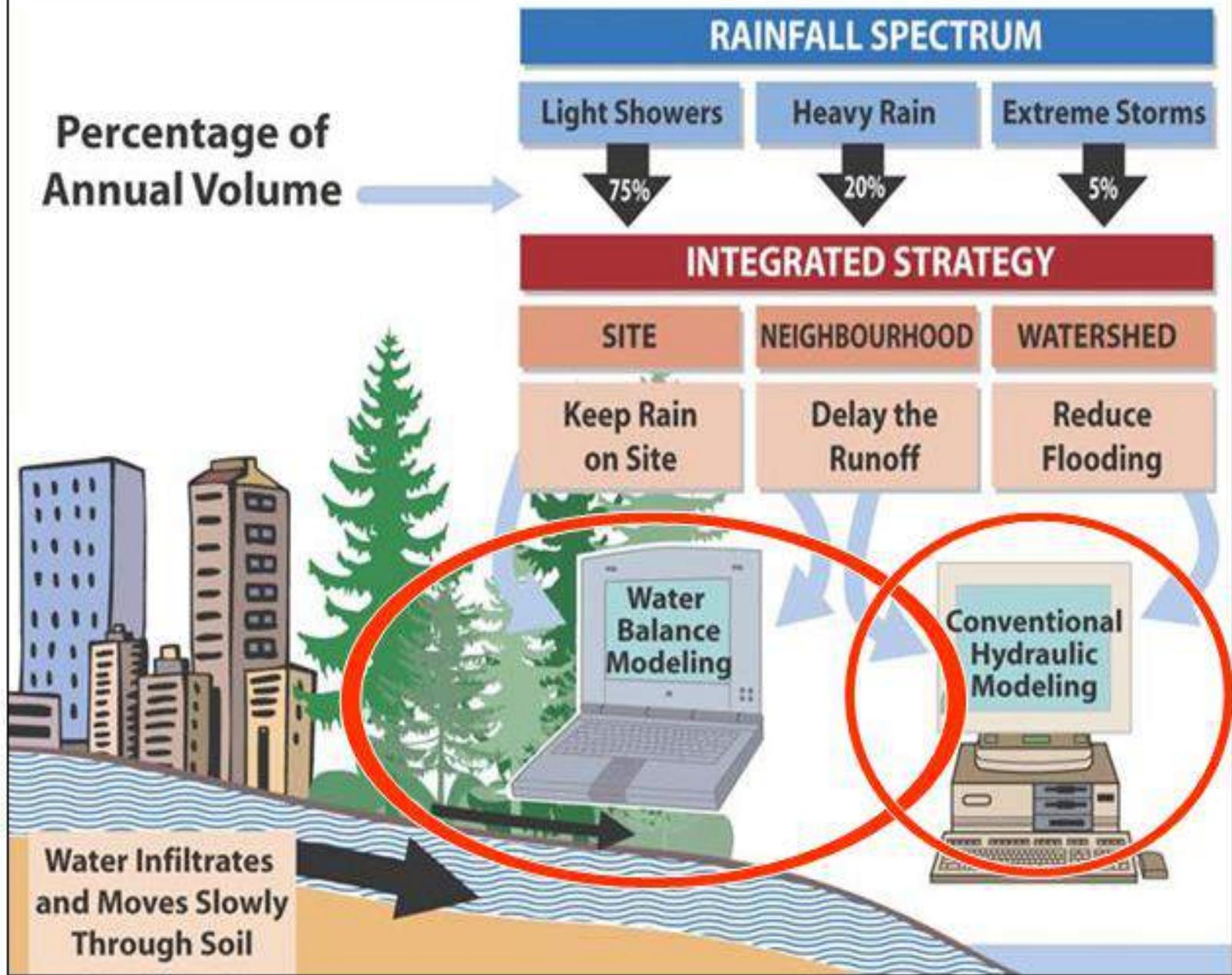
### New Ecological Approach

#### Natural, Ecological

**Upstream**  
Spread & retain water  
Infiltration and slow release

**Raingardens, Pervious Pavement**  
**Temporary Storage Ponds, Swales**  
**Wetlands, Wide Buffers**

**In Floodplain**  
**Recreate Natural Channels**  
**Wide Riparian Zone with Wetlands**  
**Create Side Channels**  
**Designate areas for Temporary**  
**Water Storage, Zoning,**



# Urban Stormwater Management

**SCALE**

**TRADITIONAL  
APPROACH**

**INNOVATIVE  
APPROACH**

**Site (Property)**

**Drain & Remove  
(Piping)**

**Retain Rain on Site**

**Neighbourhood  
(Subdivision)**

**Drain & Remove  
(Piping)**

**Store & Delay Runoff**

**Watershed**

**Store Runoff (dams)  
Channalize Flow  
Protective Structures**

**Delay & Reduce  
Floods, Large Buffer  
Zones & BMP's**

### Site or Property

Keep Rain on Site  
Detention & Infiltration  
Focus on Light Rain

### Innovations

Green Roof  
Roofwater Harvesting and Re-Use  
Minimize Impervious Surfaces  
Pervious Pavement  
30 cm Topsoil Requirements  
Encourage Urban Tree Planting

### Neighborhood Scale

Delay Runoff  
Detention & Filtration  
Focus on Heavy Rain

### Innovations

Smaller Roads (no Curbs & Gutters)  
Swales for Road Runoff  
Detention Ponds (Wetlands)  
Pervious Pavement  
Innovative Parking Lots

### Watershed Scale

Minimize Floods  
Detain, Devert and  
Temporarily Store

### Innovations

Large Buffer Zones  
Diversify Stream Channel  
Pervious Pavement  
Land Use Zoning  
Floodplain Management

# Site (Property) Scale : Green Roofs

Tradition



Innovations



Green Roofs

Rain Harvesting

Imperviousness

**Tradition:**  
Roofwater is  
Drained into  
Stormwater  
Pipes & into  
Streams



## Rain Falling on Roof

### Tradition

Traditionally Rainwater is directed from the roof into stormwater pipes

### Innovations

1. Green Roofs retain and slowly release runoff
2. Roofwater is infiltrated into Swales and Soils
3. Roofwater is harvested for outdoor use in gardens
5. Roofwater is harvested for indoor use

**Innovation**



# Site: Roofwater Harvesting



Tradition

Roofwater into Stormwater Drain

Green Roofs

Rain Harvesting

Imperviousness



Innovation



## Outdoor Water Use

Between 30% - 50% of Domestic Water is Used for Watering Lawns  
Roofwater Harvesting can reduce this demand by at least 50%





## Roofwater Harvesting for : Domestic and Outdoor Water Use



Traditionally Paved Driveways



# Site (Property) Scale : Minimizing Imperviousness

Tradition



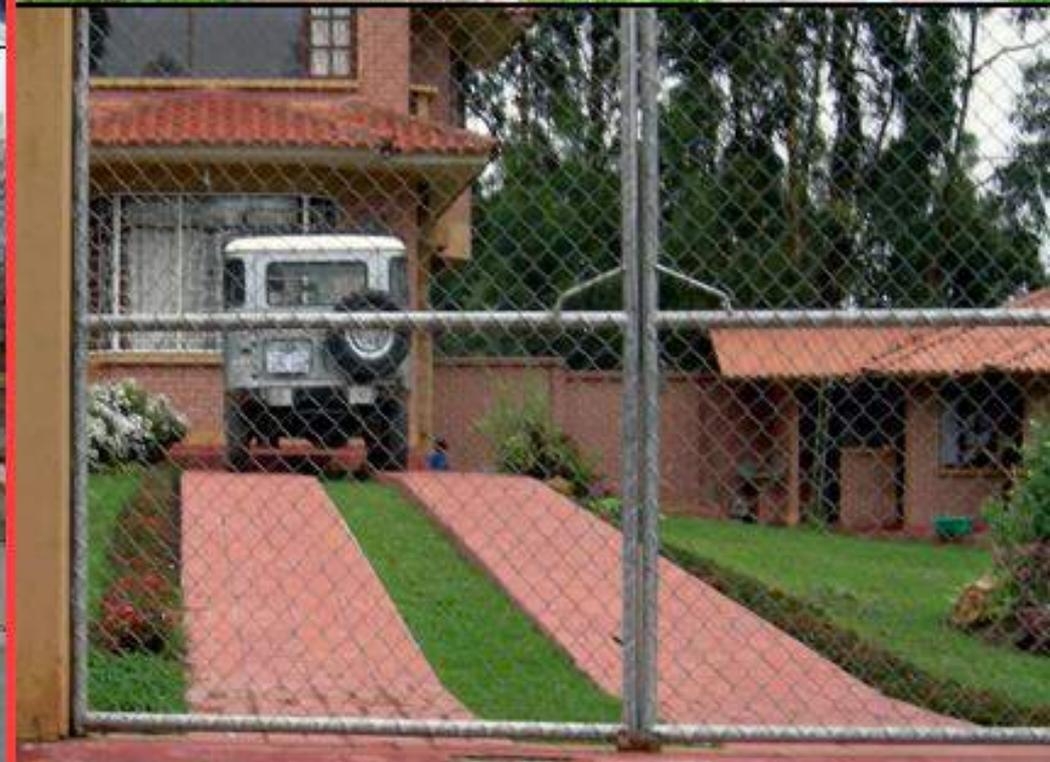
Innovations



Green Roofs

Rain Harvesting

Imperviousness



# Managing Lawns & Xeriscaping

**Traditional Approach:**  
Remove Soil before house construction  
Compact remaining soil during construction  
Add turf before new house is completed

**Innovative Approach:**

Adding 30-50cm of topsoil before adding turf can reduce irrigation water requirements by 30% and allows large amount of rainfall to be stored in the soil  
(Green Water Management)

Soil Management  
at the Property Scale

Turf Farm

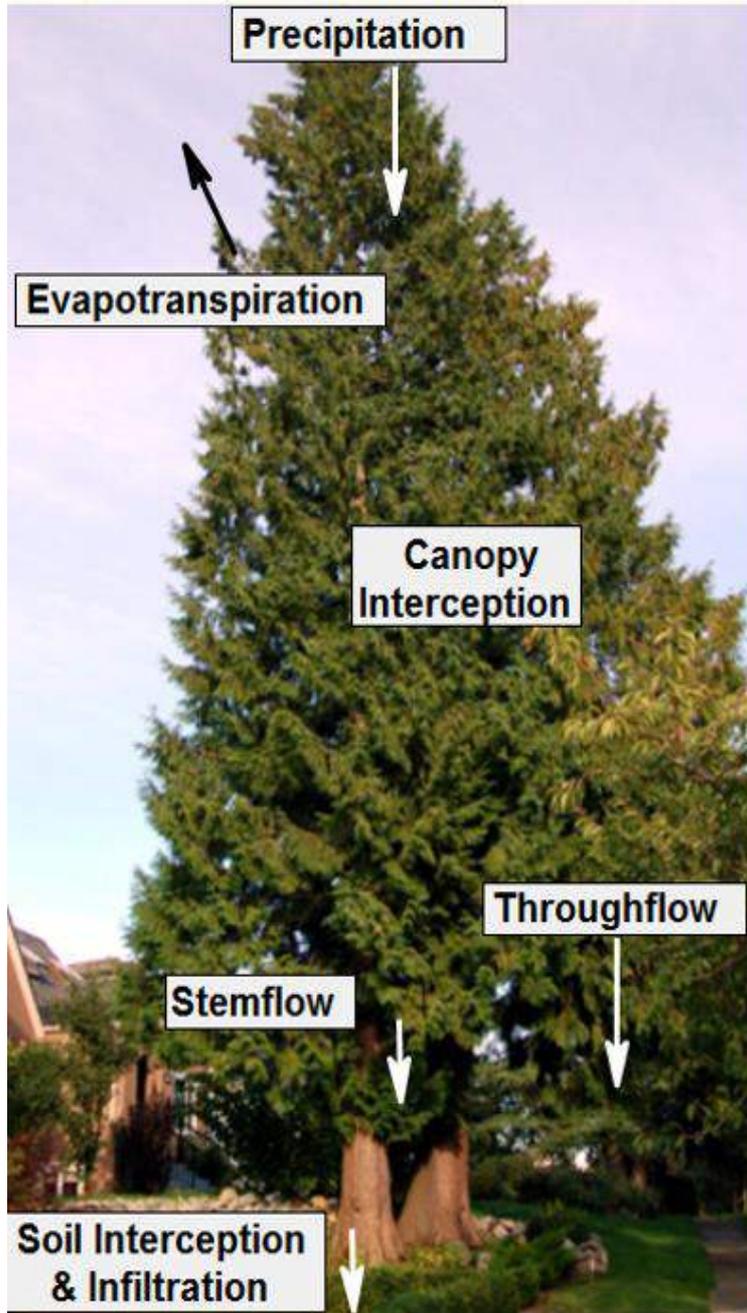


**Problem:** Turf with 5-10 cm of soil  
Requires addition of 30-50cm of  
topsoil before laying the turf !



**30 cm Topsoil Requirements can reduce the irrigation requirements by at least 30%**





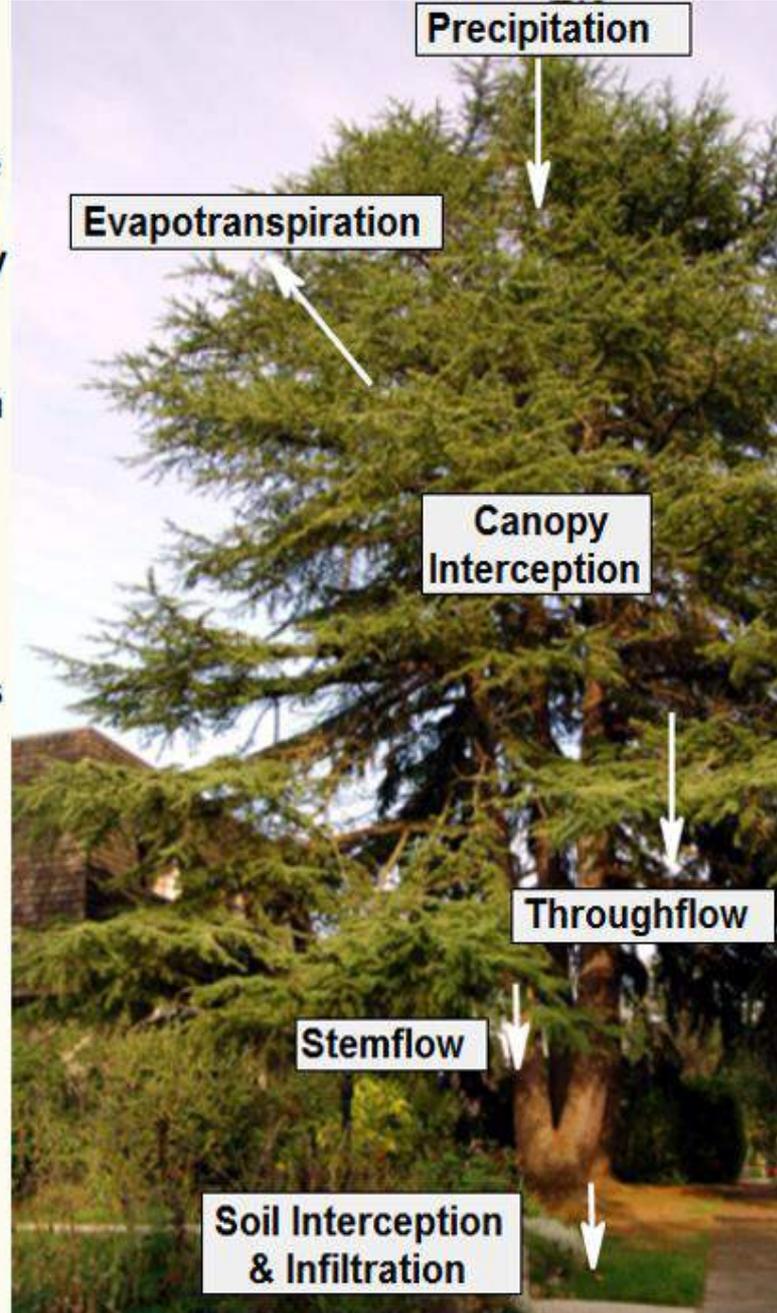
## Urban Trees

Trees are effective in reducing runoff from your property

by evapotranspiration and by delaying runoff and Infiltration

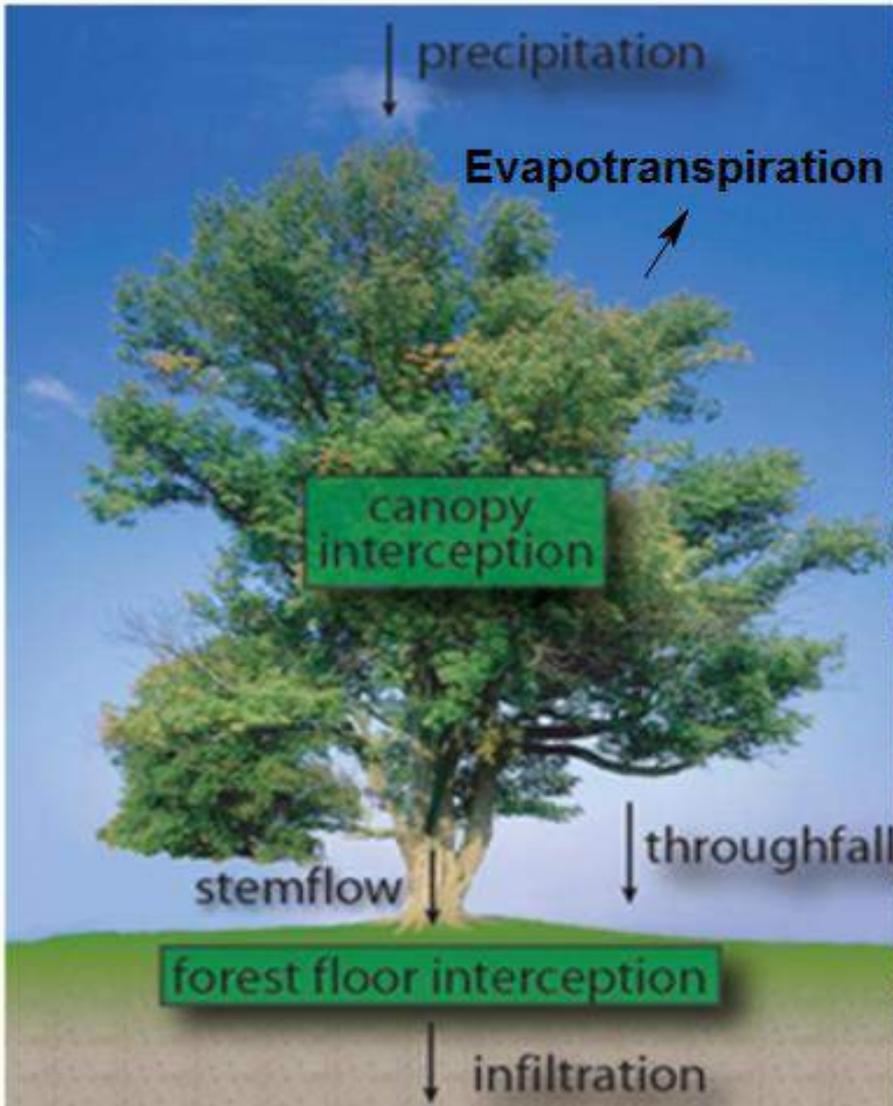
Additional Benefits  
CO2 absorption

Provides Cooler Temperatures During Hot Summers



# THE ROLE OF TREES IN URBAN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

## Measuring rain interception by urban trees



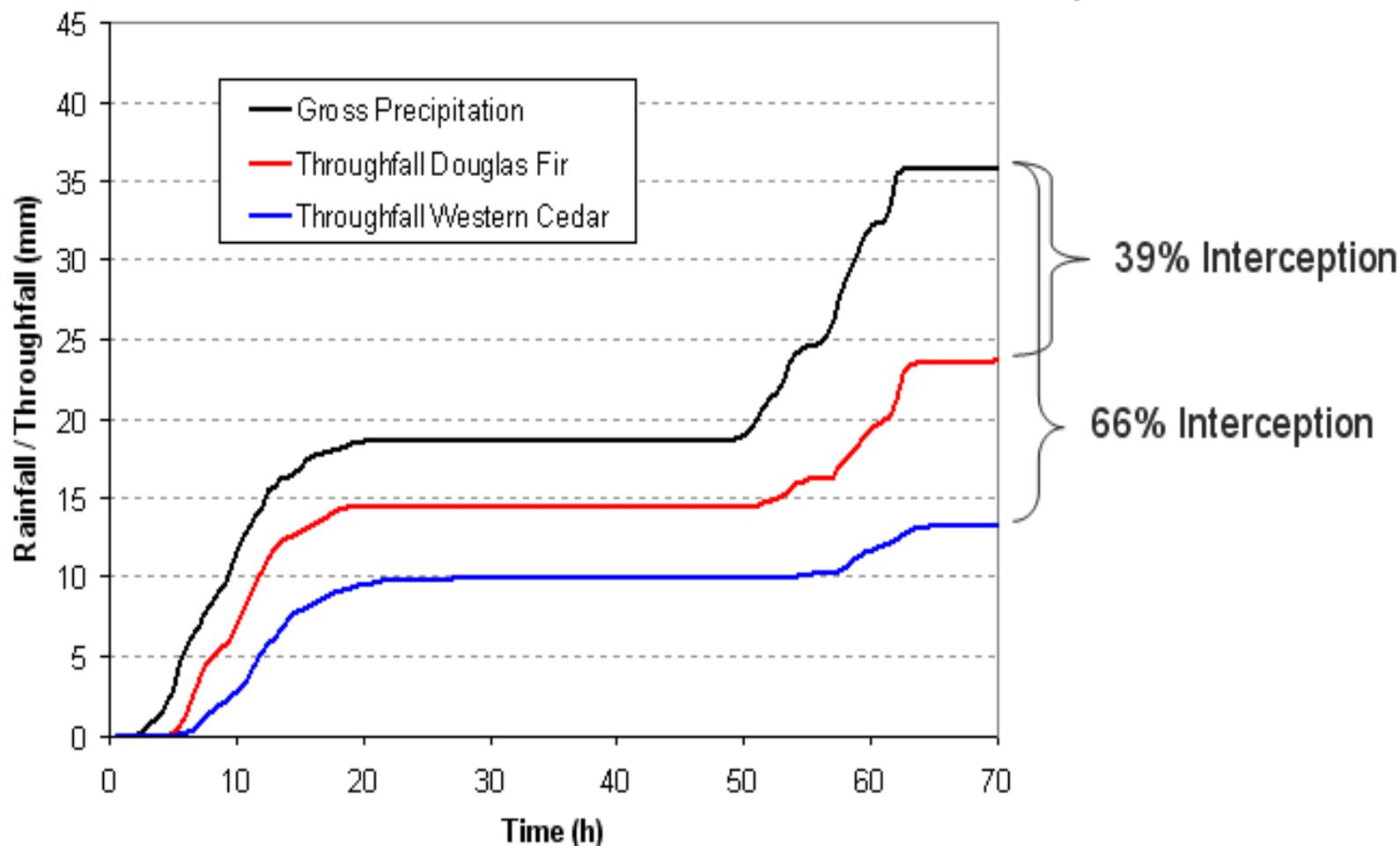
**Trees in forests intercept and evapotranspire about 25-35% of the Rainfall  
Urban trees have a much higher rate of interception & evapotranspiration**

# Results from Urban Tree Interception Study

## Data Analysis - Total interception

Source: Weiler 2007

Example: 4 March 2007



## Snow Interception by Urban Trees

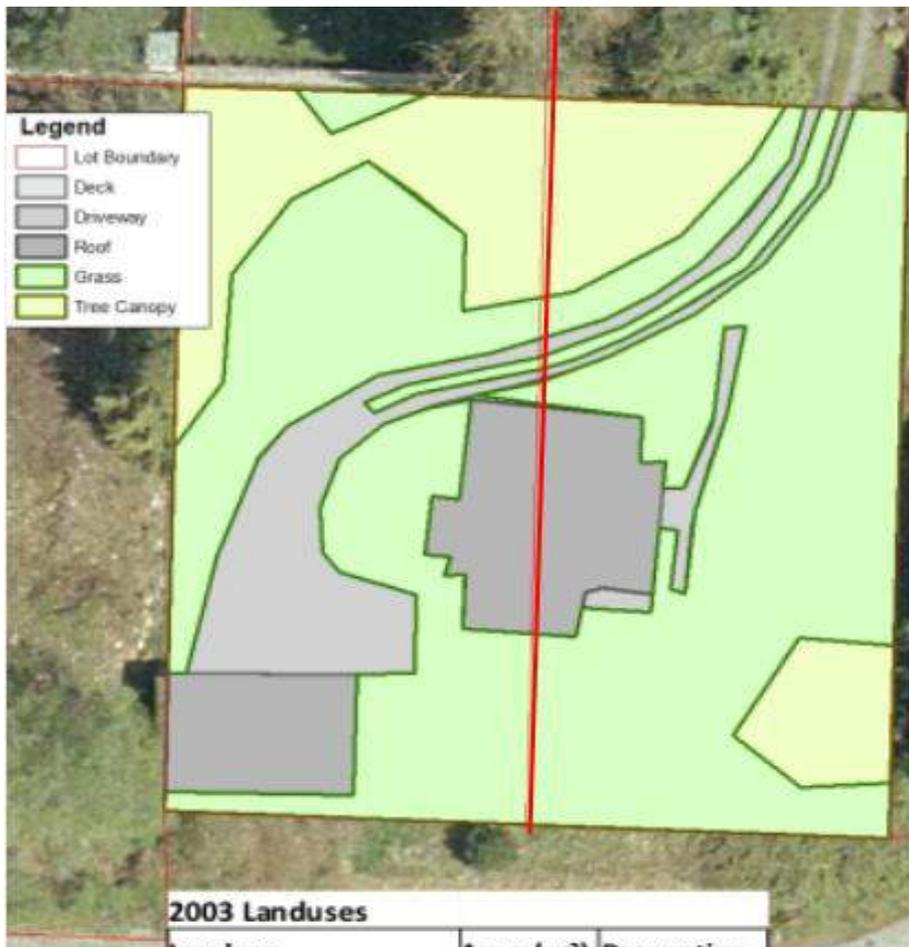


2003



2009





- Legend**
- Lot Boundary
  - Deck
  - Driveway
  - Roof
  - Grass
  - Tree Canopy

**2003 Landuses**

Landuse	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proportion
Driveway	186	11%
Roof	207	12%
Grass	961	57%
Tree Canopy	339	20%
Impervious	393	23%
Pervious	1300	77%

**2003 Imperviousness 23%**



- Legend**
- Lot Boundary
  - Deck
  - Driveway
  - Roof
  - Grass
  - Tree Canopy

**2009 Landuses**

Landuse	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proportion
Driveway	373	22%
Roof	463	27%
Deck	74	4%
Grass	723	43%
Tree Canopy	65	4%
Impervious	910	54%
Pervious	788	46%

**2009 Imperviousness 54%**

## Neighborhood Scale

**Delay Runoff  
Detention & Filtration  
Focus on Heavy Rain**

## Innovations

**Smaller Roads (no Curbs & Gutters)  
Swales for Road Runoff  
Detention Ponds (Wetlands)  
Pervious Pavement  
Innovative Parking Lots**



# Stormwater management

**Goal:**

**60% of rainfall detained in rock pits**

**30% of rainfall in infiltration galleries and detention ponds**

**Excessive storms into bypass storm system**



**Rock Pits**

**Stormwater Inflow**



**Detention Pond**

**CHILLIWACK Promotory Height**

**Low impact urban stormwater design**

## Neighborhood Scale

Delay Runoff  
Detention & Filtration  
Focus on Heavy Rain

## Innovations

Smaller Roads (no Curbs & Gutters)  
Swales for Road Runoff  
Detention Ponds (Wetlands)  
Pervious Pavement  
Innovative Parking Lots

Neighborhood: Small Roads (no Curbs or Gutters)

### Tradition



### Innovations



Small Roads  
Swales  
Detention &  
Pervious  
Parking Lots



## Traditional Roads

### Traditional Approach to Managing Road Runoff

Drain runoff using a stormwater piping system. Conway runoff into urban streams. No considerations is given to dealing with compaminants that accummulate on road surfaces from transport activities



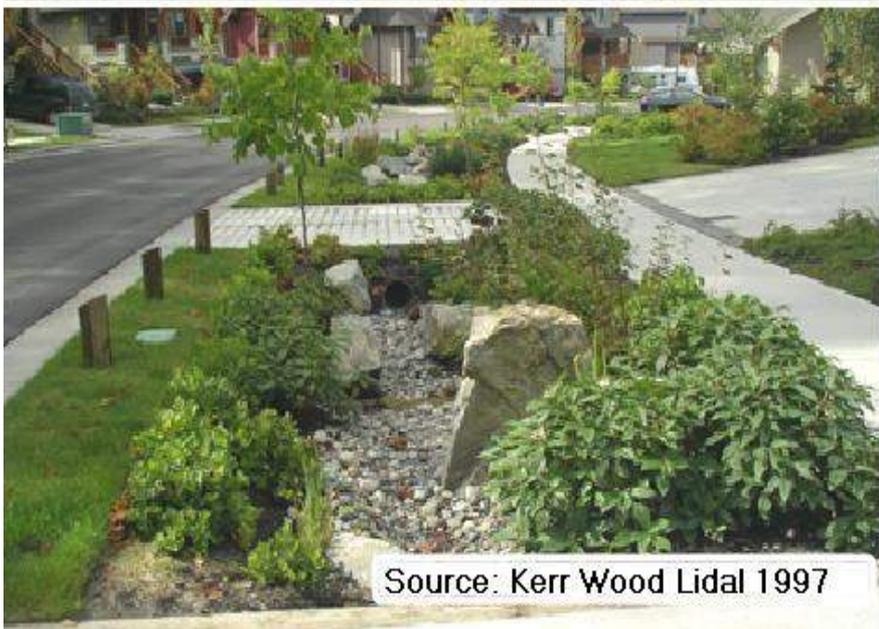
## Innovative Roads

No Curbs & Gutters  
all runoff is  
infiltrated in Swales

Roads are smaller  
Less impervious  
surfaces



# Road Runoff into Swales



Source: Kerr Wood Lidal 1997



Swales

# Traditional Parking Lots: Drainage & Contaminants are Conveyed into Urban Streams



# Neighborhoods: Innovative Parking Lots

Tradition



Innovations



- Small Roads
- Swales
- Detention &
- Pervious
- Parking Lots



Catching Parking Lot Run-Off



PONDS

WETLANDS

## WETLANDS IN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



# What about the Mosquito Problem ?

1. Prevent the build up of stagnant water
2. Minimize eutrophication
3. Use a wide range of wetland plants (biodiversity)
4. Assure open space between plants
5. Introduce fish as predators
6. Biological control with larvicide



Tradition



Innovations



Pervious  
Cement



Pervious  
Pavement



- Buffers
- Channels
- Pervious
- Zoning
- Floodplain

### Site or Property

Keep Rain on Site  
Detention & Infiltration  
Focus on Light Rain

### Innovations

Green Roof  
Roofwater Harvesting and Re-Use  
Minimize Impervious Surfaces  
Pervious Pavement  
30 cm Topsoil Requirements  
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### Neighborhood Scale

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### Innovations

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### Watershed Scale

Minimize Floods  
Detain, Devert and  
Temporarily Store

### Innovations

Large Buffer Zones  
Diversify Stream Channels  
Pervious Pavement  
Land Use Zoning  
Floodplain Management



# Watersheds: Artificial Channels vs Diversified Channels

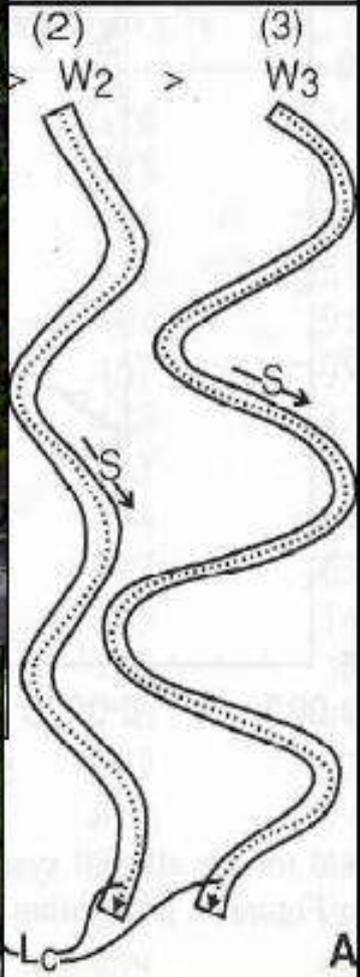
Tradition



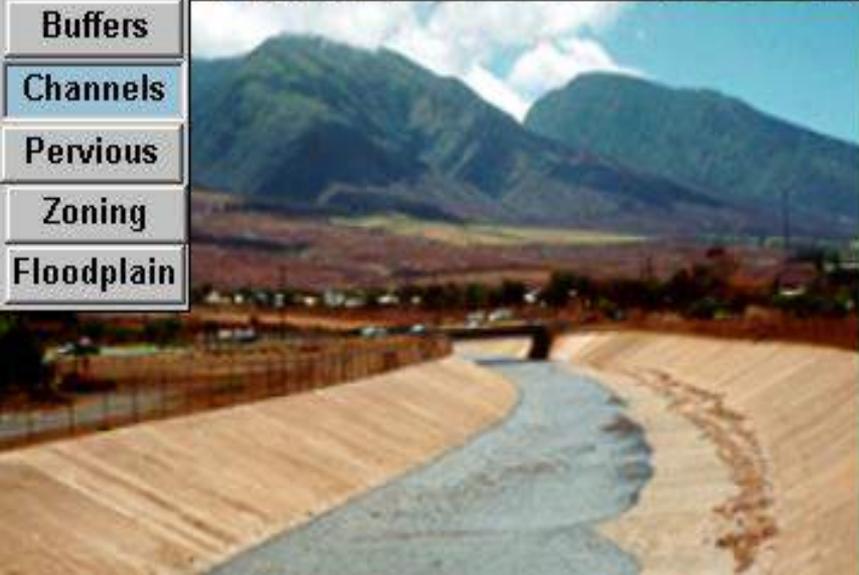
Innovations



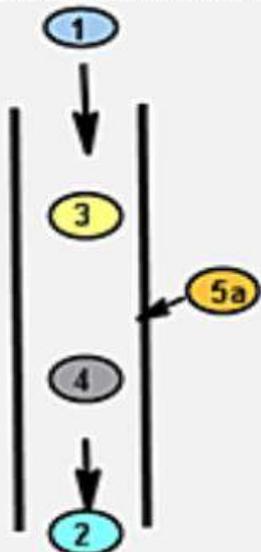
Channel Properties



- Buffers
- Channels
- Pervious
- Zoning
- Floodplain



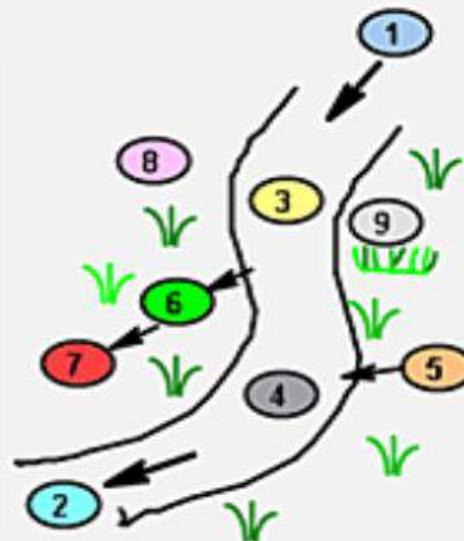
### Channelized River



### Differences

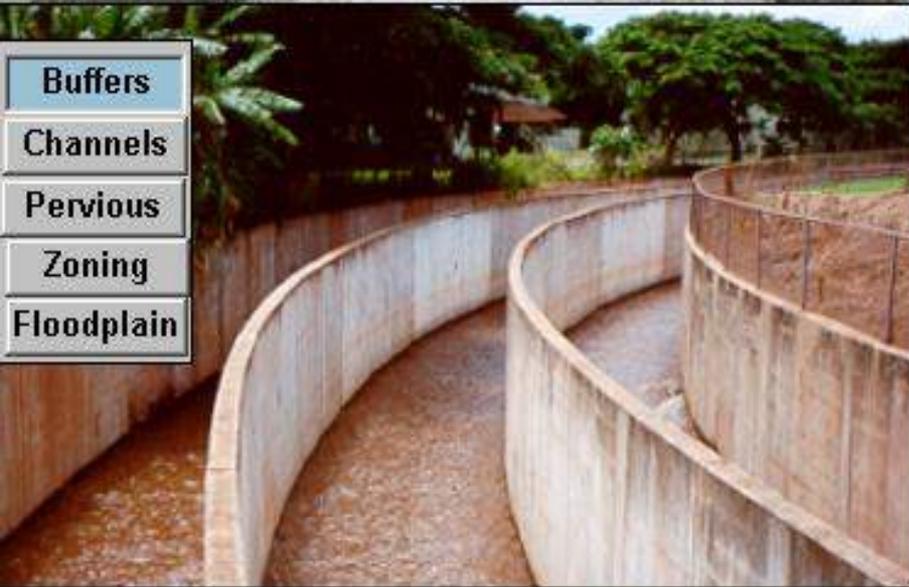
- 1 Inflow from Upstream
- 2 Outflow Downstream
- 3 Evaporation
- 4 Rainfall into River
- 5 Natural Inflow Drainage
- 5a Inflow from Piping System
- 6 Channel Outflow Seepage
- 7 Groundwater Recharge
- 8 Evapotranspiration
- 9 Wetlands

### Natural Channel



# Watersheds: Riparian Buffer Zone

Tradition



Buffers

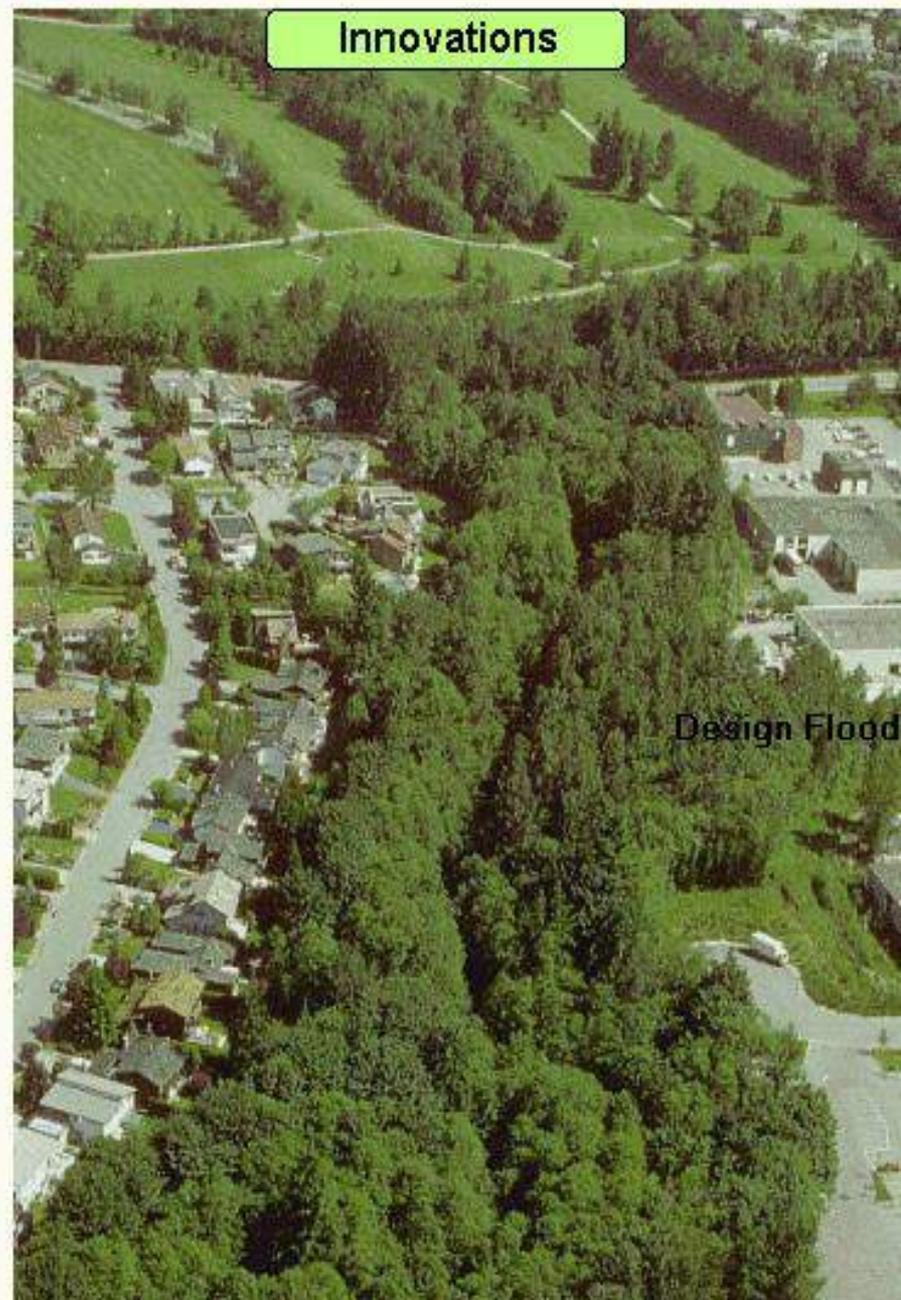
Channels

Pervious

Zoning

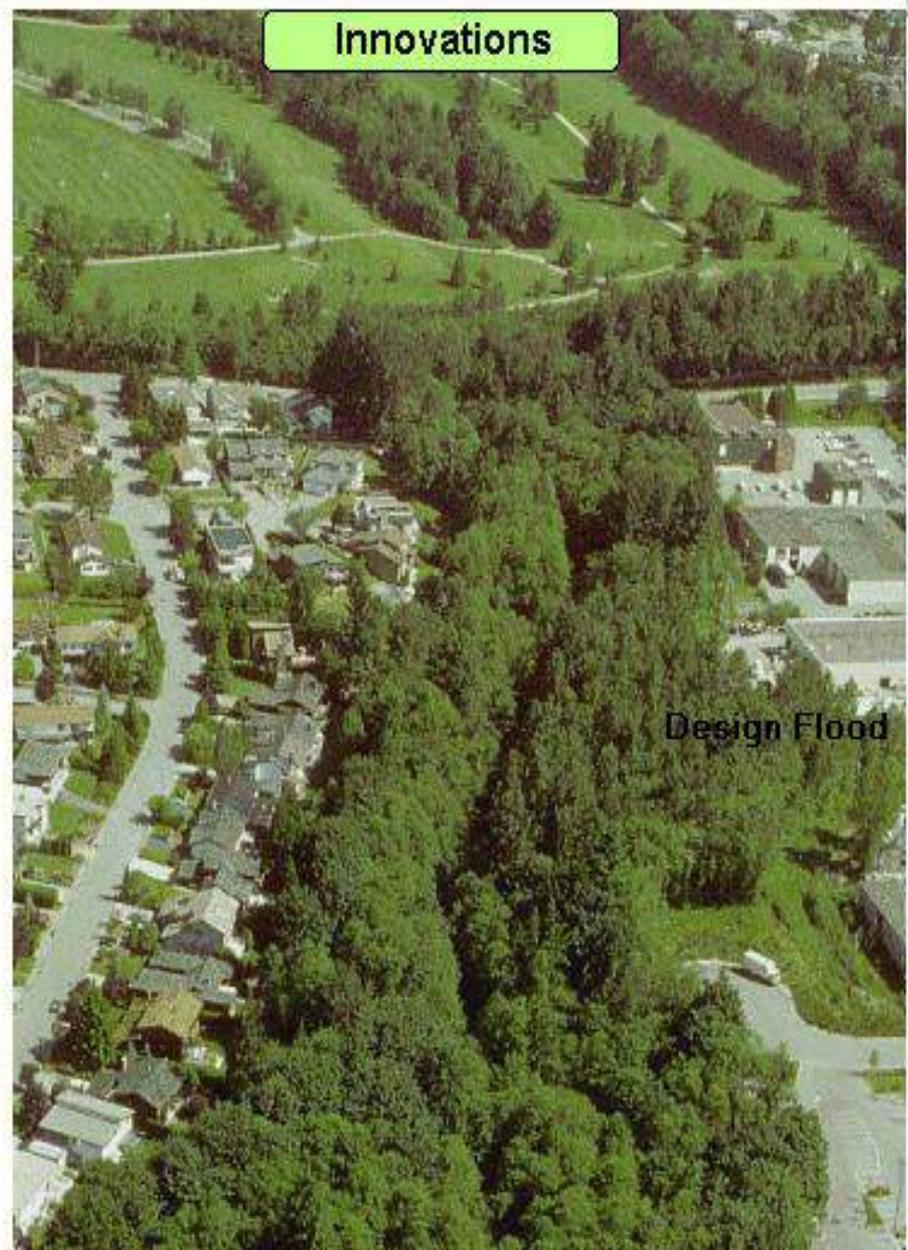
Floodplain

Innovations



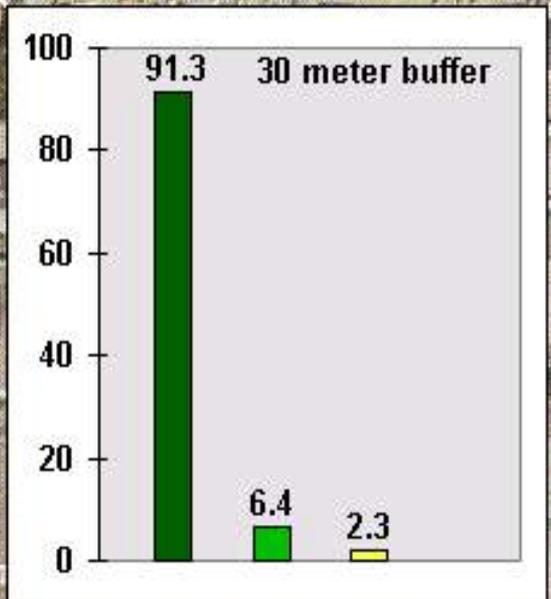
# Buffer Zones

sheds: Riparian Buffer Zone



## Innovations

landcover categories in selected zone as a % of total buffer area



- forest cover
- open and green space (non-forest)
- residential
- commercial/industrial/institutional
- roads and paved areas



## Buffer Zones

### Eagle Creek example

introduction

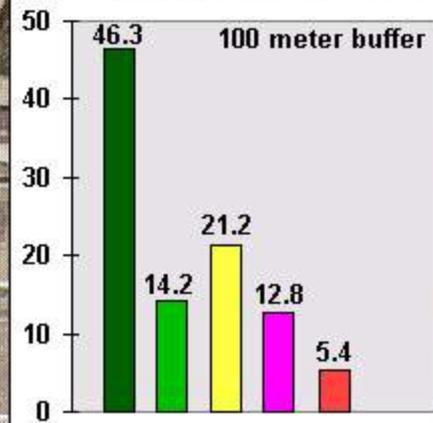
30 meter buffer

100 meter buffer

comparison

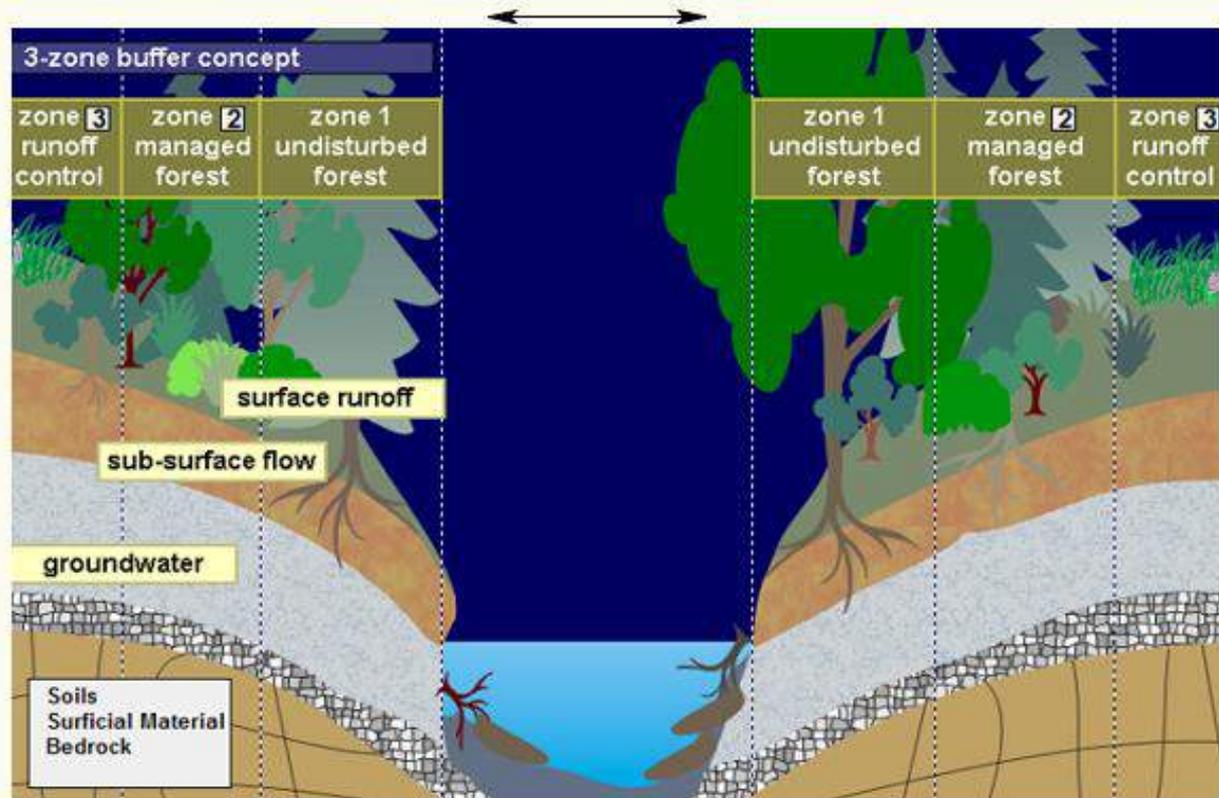
stormwater outfalls

landuse categories in selected zone as a % of total buffer area

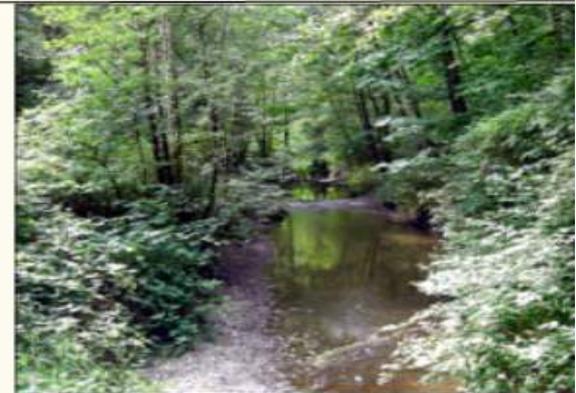
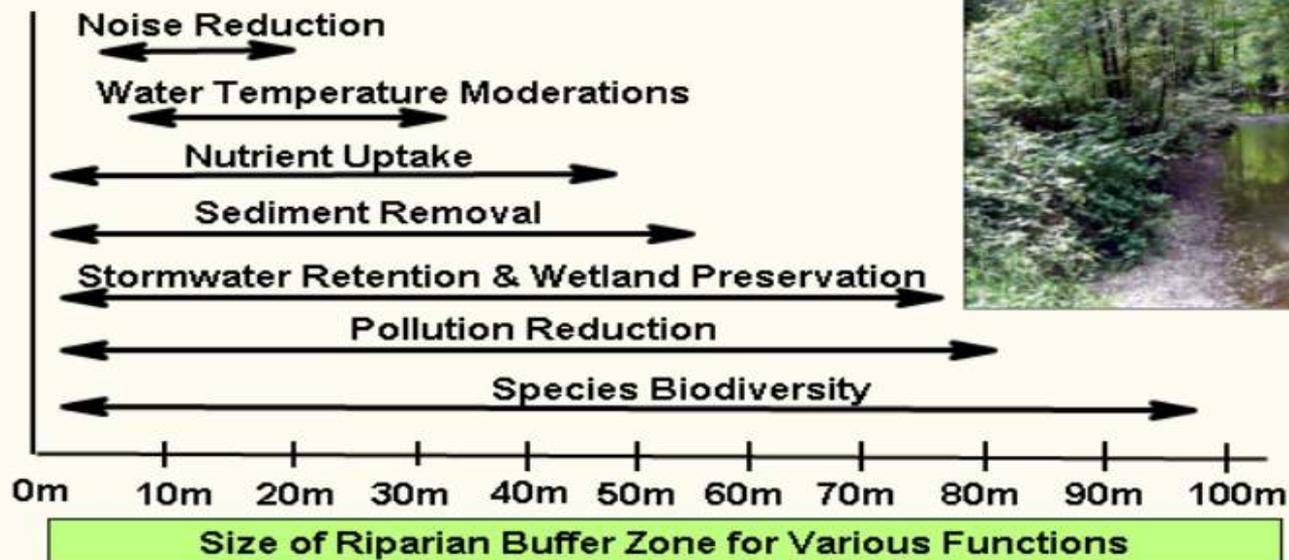


forest cover  
open and green space (non-forest)  
residential  
commercial/industrial/institutional  
roads and paved areas

## Three Zone Concept that Focuses on: Groundwater, Sub-Surface and Surface Flow



**Maintain Large Riparian Buffer Zones to Provide Many Functions:**



Okanagan River Restoration Initiative  
Nemes-Lougheed Re-Meandering Site 2006



**Before Flood**



**Before Flood**



**After Flood**



**After Flood**



**Building more protective structures is now longer sufficient:  
New Approach: Flood Design  
Designate Areas for Temporary Storage of Flood Water**



**Mississippi Temporary Flood Water Storage on Agricultural Land (2012)**



2007



2009



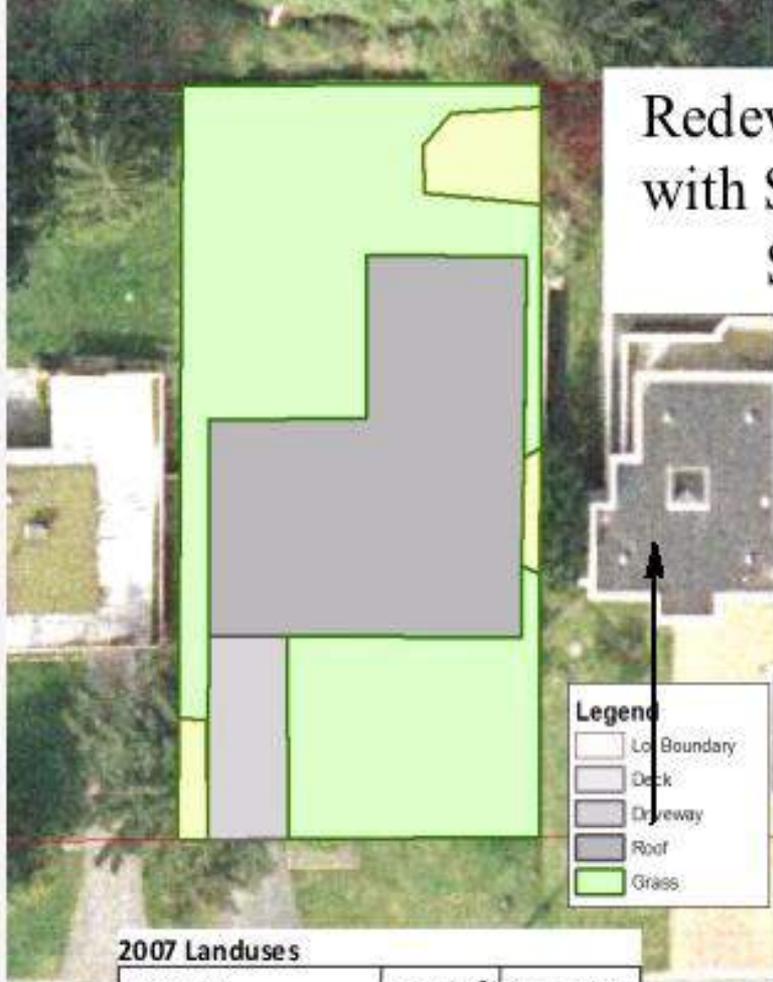
Change

EIA

Hydrology

Redevelopment : Addition of Suite

# Redevelopment with Secondary Suite



2007 Landuses

Landuse	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proportion
Driveway	47	6%
Roof	270	35%
Grass	420	54%
Tree Canopy	44	6%
Impervious	317	41%
Pervious	464	59%

**2007**  
Imperviousness 41%



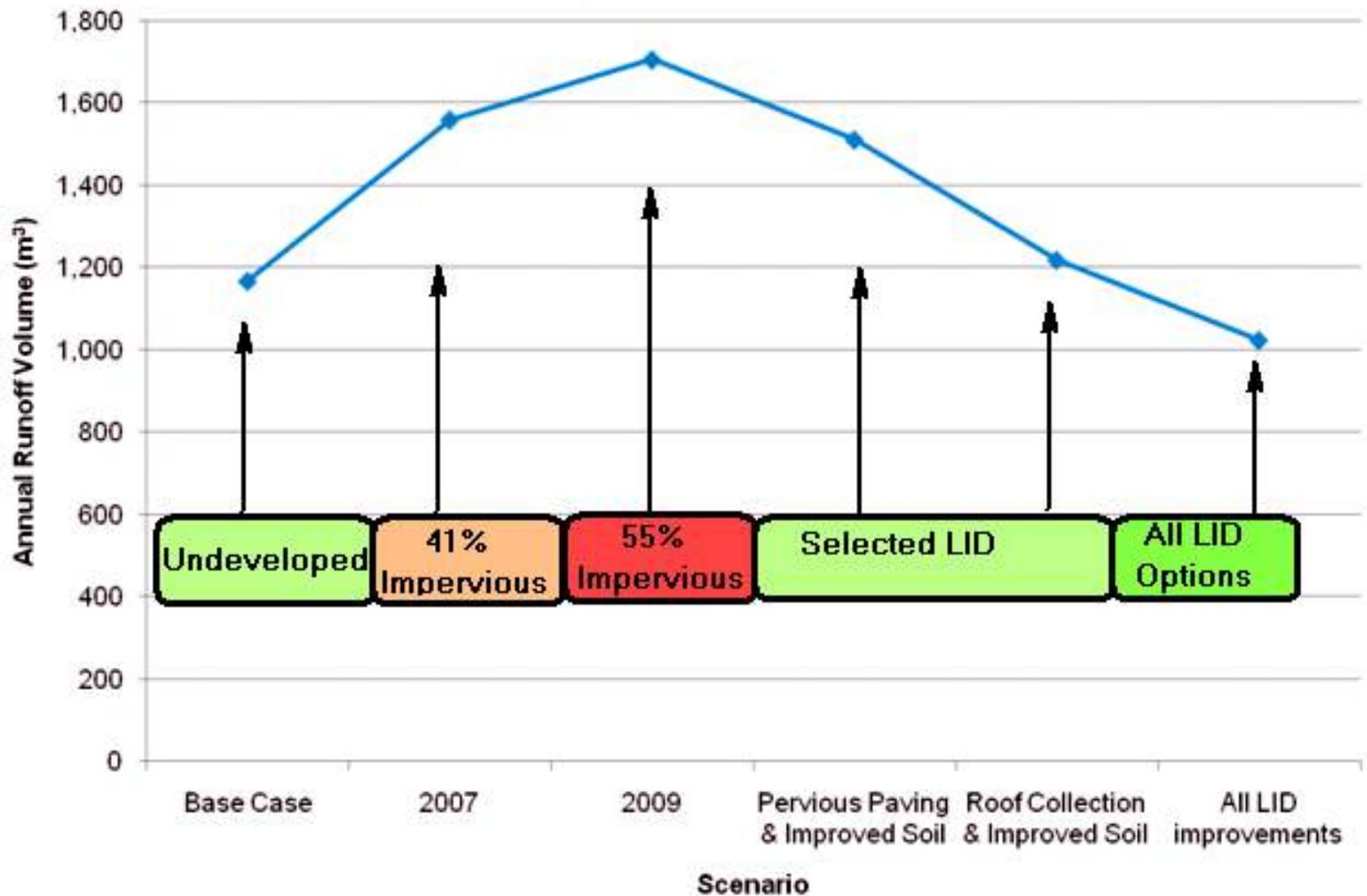
2009 Landuses

Landuse	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proportion
Driveway	55	7%
Roof	291	37%
Deck	80	10%
Grass	344	44%
Tree Canopy	11	1%
Impervious	426	55%
Pervious	355	45%

**2009**  
Imperviousness 55%

Change  
EIA  
Hydrology

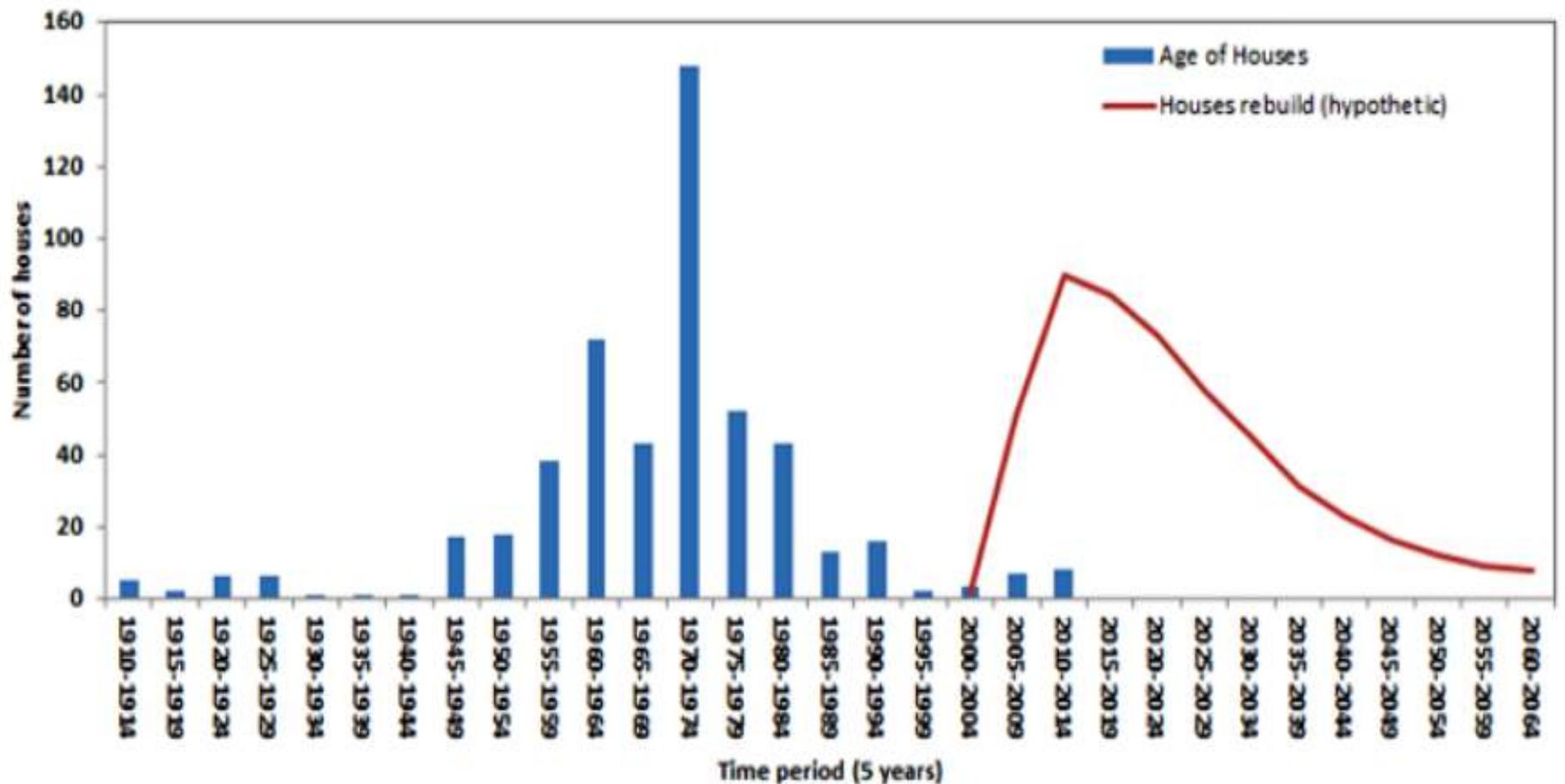
## Total Runoff from Site 5 and Reductions from Improvements



Change

EIA

Hydrology



Time when Houses were first built

Projected Rebuilding

Based on 2003-2009 Changes and  
 Rebuilding Rates based on House Age  
 Projected 50-80 % Urban Renewal over the next 30 years

# Summary: Managing Water at the Municipal Level

## WATER CONSERVATION

1. WATER METERS
2. VOLUME BASED PRICING
3. LOW FLUSH TOILETS
4. LABELING WATER USE ON APPLIANCES
5. OUTDOOR WATER USE REDUCTION
6. RAINWATER HARVESTING
7. 30 CM OF TOPSOIL BEFORE PLANTING GRASS
8. XERISCAPING (REDUCING SIZE OF LAWN)

## SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

### SURFACE WATER

1. SOURCE CONTROL
2. LAND USE CONTROL (ZONING)
3. BUFFER ZONES
4. WETLANDS
5. BENEFICIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### GROUNDWATER

1. CONFINED vs. UNCONFINED
2. VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT
3. LAND USE CONTROL OVER CAPTURE ZONE
5. SOURCE CONTROL



# Summary: Managing Water at the Corporate Level

## ACCOUNTING FOR WATER USE

1. LOCAL WATER ACCOUNTING
2. BLUE & GREEN WATER ACCOUNTING
3. WATER ACCOUNTING IN SUPPLY CHAIN
4. LABELING WATER USE ON APPLIANCES
5. INITIATING CONSERVATION METHODS
6. CONSIDERING GLOBAL WATER
7. USING LOCAL AND SUPPLY CHAIN WATER SUPPLIES IN A SUSTAINABLE MANNER

## ACCOUNTING FOR WASTEWATER

1. DETERMINING THE WASTEWATER LOAD
2. IDENTIFYING APPROPRIATE TREATMENT
3. SOURCE CONTROL (LIMIT WASTE INPUT)
4. GREY WATER REUSE
5. ACCOUNTING FOR WASTE IN SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION CHAIN
6. CONTINGENCY MEASURES FOR SPILLS AND ACCIDENTS RELATED TO WASTEWATER

## DEVELOP A CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY TO REDUCE RISKS



# Summary: Managing Urban Stormwater

## Detention, Infiltration, Temporary Storage

### Property Scale

1. RAIN INTERCEPTION BY TREES
2. GREEN ROOFS
3. ROOFWATER COLLECTION
4. SOIL IMPROVEMENT (Infiltration)
5. RAIN-GARDENS
6. REDUCING IMPERVIOUS SURFACES
7. PERVIOUS PAVEMENT

### Neighbourhood Scale

1. NO CURBS & GUTTERS
2. SMALLER ROADS WITH SWALES
3. DETENTION PONDS
4. WETLANDS
5. PERVIOUS PARKING LOTS
6. SWALES IN PARKING LOTS
7. INFILTRATION SYSTEMS

### Watershed Scale

1. LARGE BUFFER-ZONES
2. NATURAL CHANNELS
3. FLOOD ZONING
4. DESIGNATE AREAS FOR FLOOD STORAGE
5. WETLANDS FOR STORAGE AND TREATMENT
6. REDUCE IMPERVIOUSNESS



<http://mlws.landfood.ubc.ca/videos/>

## Innovations in Stormwater Management Video Series

The Master of Land and Water Systems program team has produced a series of videos that introduce the emergence of innovative designs applied to urban stormwater management. The series focuses on stormwater management at three different scales:

- [Introduction to Innovative Stormwater Management \(4:50\)](#)
- [Innovative Stormwater Management at the Property Scale \(15:35\)](#)
- [Innovative Stormwater Management at the Neighbourhood Scale \(14:19\)](#)
- [Innovative Stormwater Management at the Watershed Scale \(10:12\)](#)
- [Map of Locations](#)