
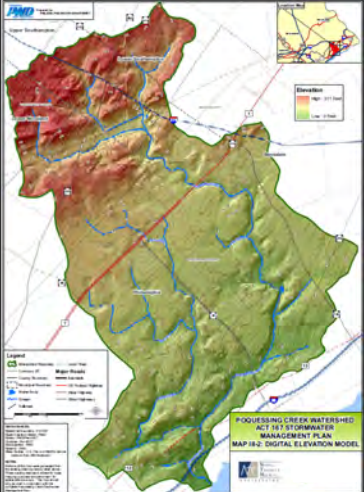



# Stormwater & Flooding: Connecting the Drops



Water  
Resource  
Center

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Paul A. DeBarry, PE, PH, GISP, D.WRE  
NTM Engineering, Inc.



NEWELL  
TERESKA &  
MACKAY  
ENGINEERING

1

## Agenda:

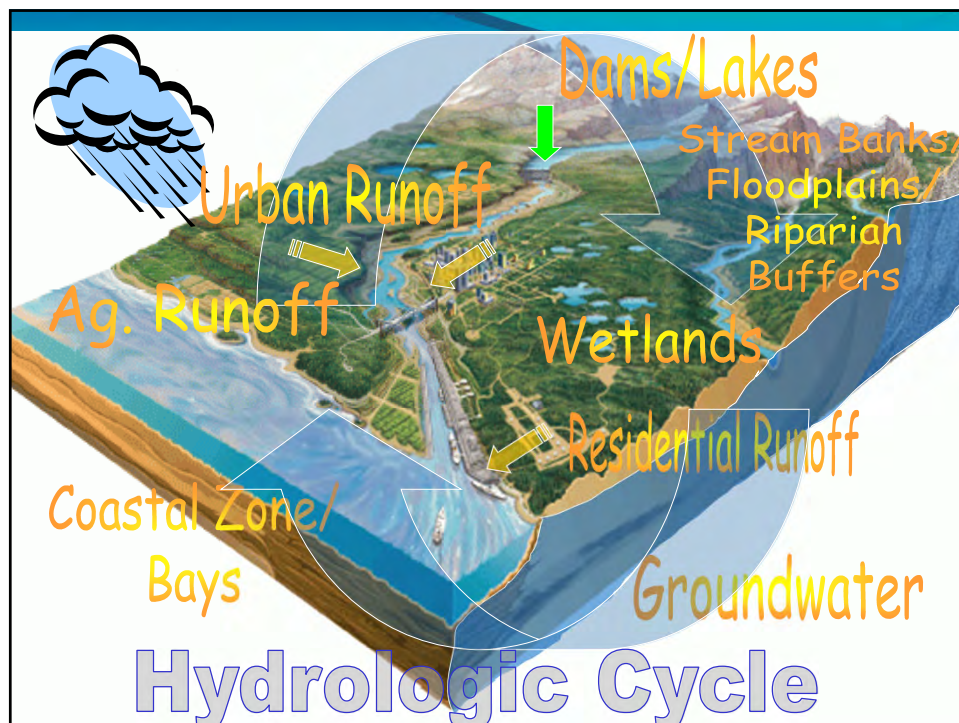
- Cause - Effect
- Programs
- Floodplains
- Stormwater
  - Infiltration
  - Volume Control (Water Quality)
  - Stream Bank Erosion
  - Peak Rate Control
- Watershed Assessment & Analysis
- Connecting the Drops

2

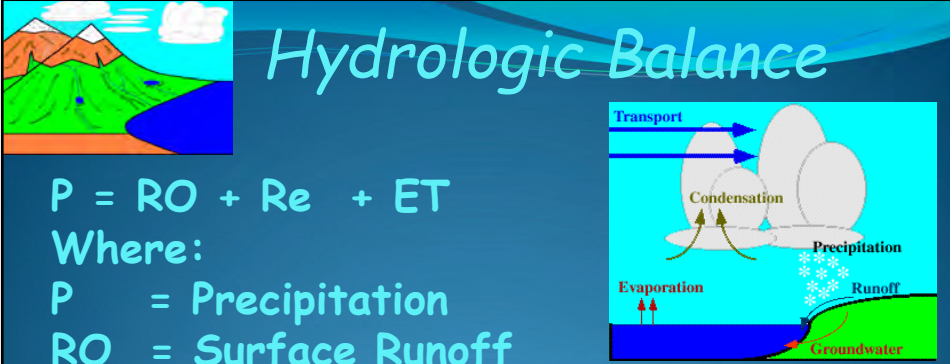
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## Hydrologic Balance

$$P = RO + Re + ET$$

Where:


- P = Precipitation
- RO = Surface Runoff
- Re = Recharge (Baseflow to streams)
- ET = Evapotranspiration

$$RO = P - Re - ET$$

Same Equation Whether:

P = .01 in, Trace      7.5 in/24 hr. 100-yr      or      45 in/yr. Annual Rainfall

5



$RO = P - Re - ET$

High Infiltration – Little Runoff

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# Hurricane Agnes – June, 1972



Susquehanna River Flooding from the Remnants of Hurricane Agnes, Wilkes Barre, PA, June 1972. Pennsylvania Army National Guard



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Floodplain Encroachment

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## Floodplains Flood



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## PA Act 166 – Floodplain Management Act (1978)

(a) Flooding of large areas of land within the Commonwealth causes unnecessary loss of life, destroys private and public property, damages means of livelihood and economic resources; etc.



(b) Extensive expenditures of public funds have been allocated to costly flood control projects...

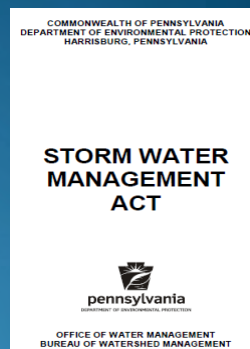
(c) The exclusive use of flood control measures, such as engineering projects, has failed to significantly reduce the human suffering and economic losses caused by recurrent flooding.

(d) A comprehensive and coordinated program of flood plain management, based upon the National Flood Insurance Program, is fundamental to the health, safety, welfare and protection of the people of the Commonwealth.

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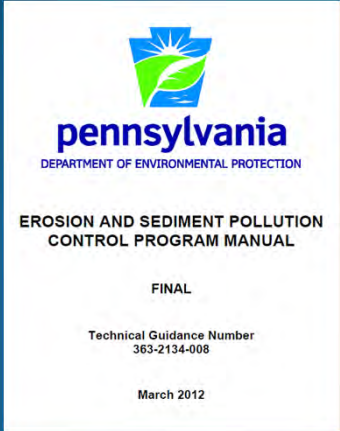
## PA Act 167 – Stormwater Management Act (1978)

- In response to the impacts of accelerated stormwater runoff resulting from land development in the state.
- Requires counties to prepare and adopt watershed based stormwater management plans.
- Requires municipalities to adopt and implement ordinances to regulate development consistent with these plans.



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## PA Chapter 102 – E&S

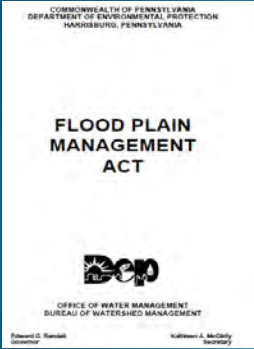


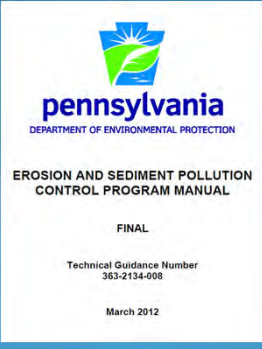
(a) This chapter requires persons proposing or conducting earth disturbance activities to develop, implement and maintain BMPs to minimize the potential for accelerated erosion and sedimentation and to manage post construction stormwater.

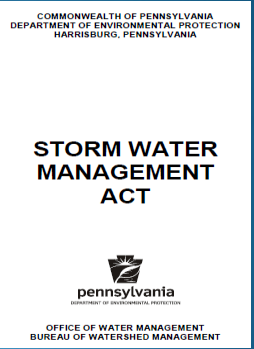
(b) The BMPs shall be undertaken to protect, maintain, reclaim and restore water quality and the existing and designated uses of waters of this Commonwealth.

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## Pennsylvania E&S, Stormwater & Floodplain Management Act

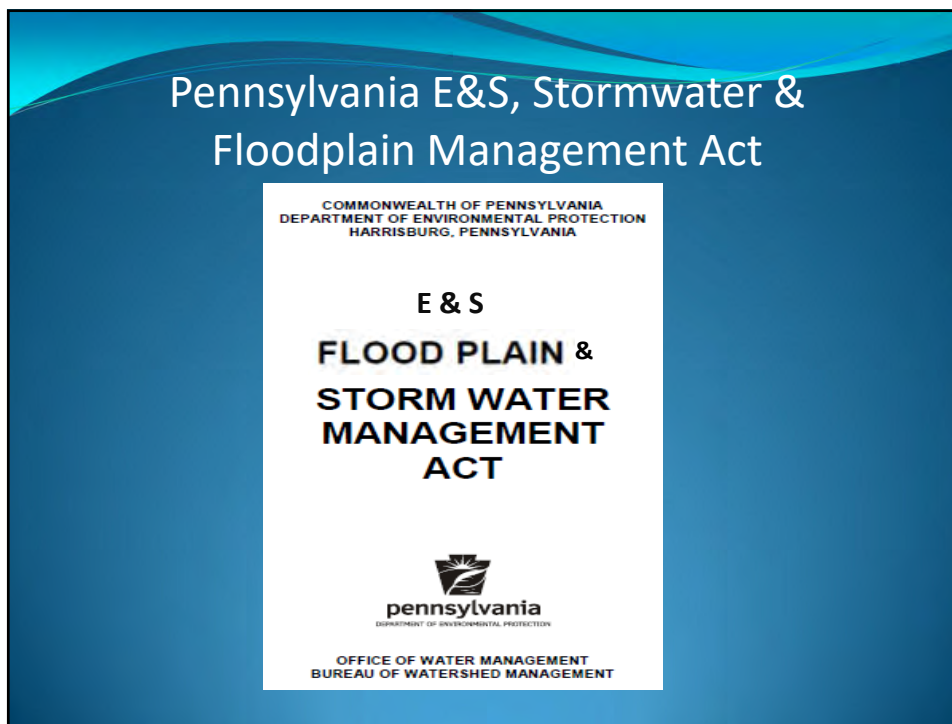






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### Updates to Regulations to Coordinate Stormwater, E&S and Flooding

- 2002, attempt to integrate its various stormwater management programs (including MS4 Permits, NPDES Construction Permits, and Act 167) and promote a comprehensive watershed approach to stormwater management, PA DEP finalized a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Policy, DEP Policy No. 392-0300-002.
- 2006 PA BMP Manual
- 2010 New Ch 102 – incorporated PCSM into E&S.
- 2013 Act 68 amended the purposes and powers of Municipal Authorities to include financing working capital; stormwater planning, management and implementation.
- 2021? – New (BMP) PCSM Manual

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## Other Policy / Programs:

- NPDES Program
- TMDL's
- FEMA FIS
- USACE Projects
- Pa DCNR Rivers Conservation Plans
- Growing Greener
- State Water Plan
- Dam Safety Program
- DRBC, SRBC, etc.

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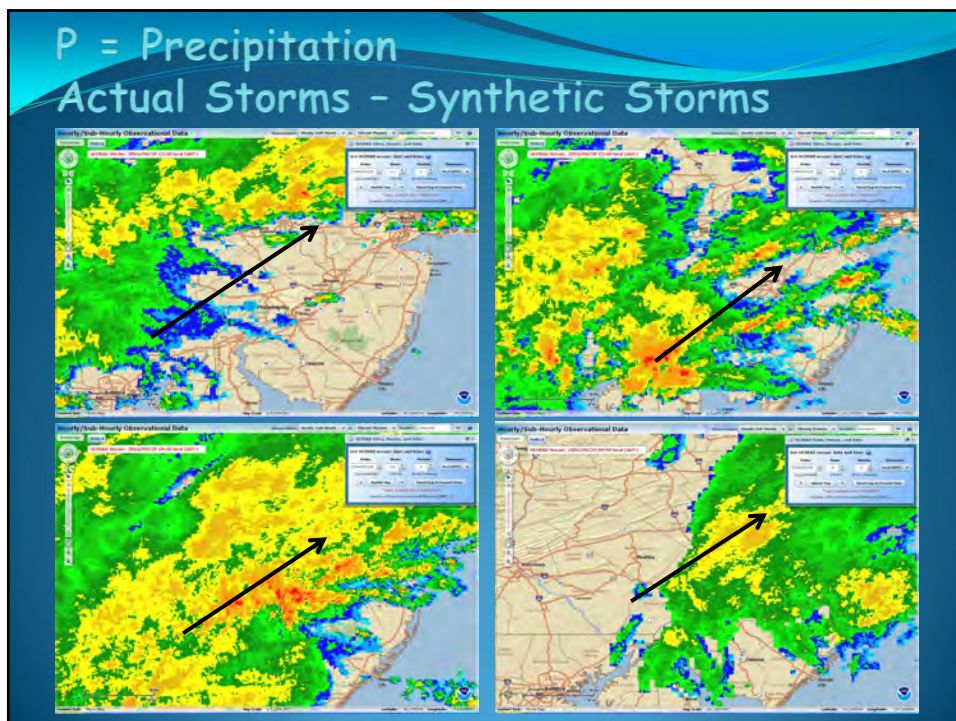
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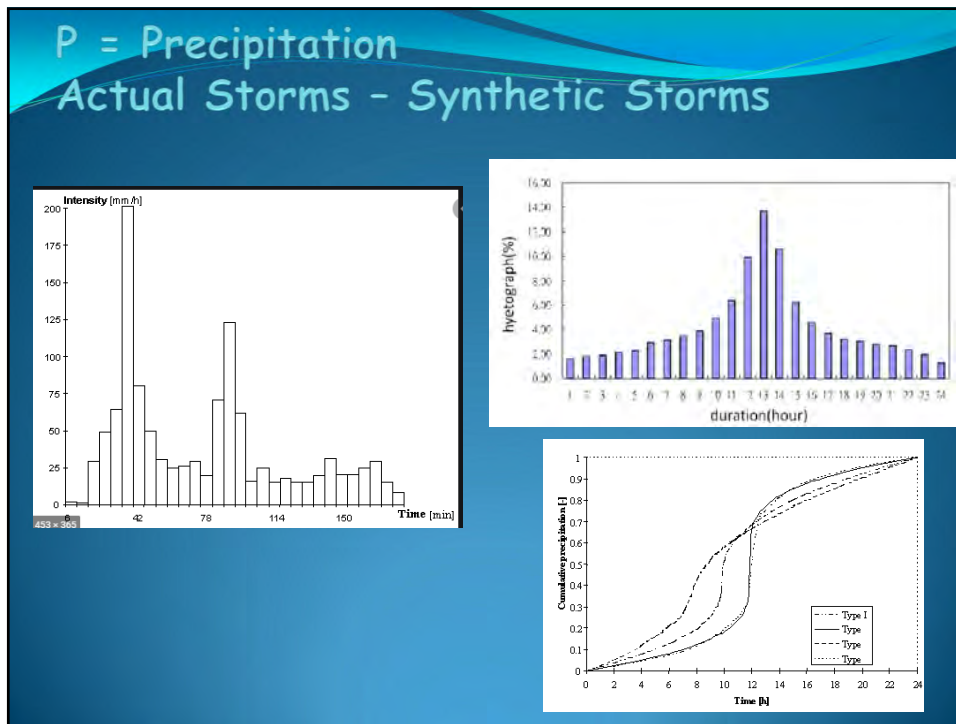
## Flooding Caused By:

- High Rainfall Amounts – Can't do to much to control
- Dam Breaks – Dam Safety Program
- Obstructions, Building in the Floodplain – FEMA Flood Insurance Program
- Runoff – Impervious cover – land use & stormwater management

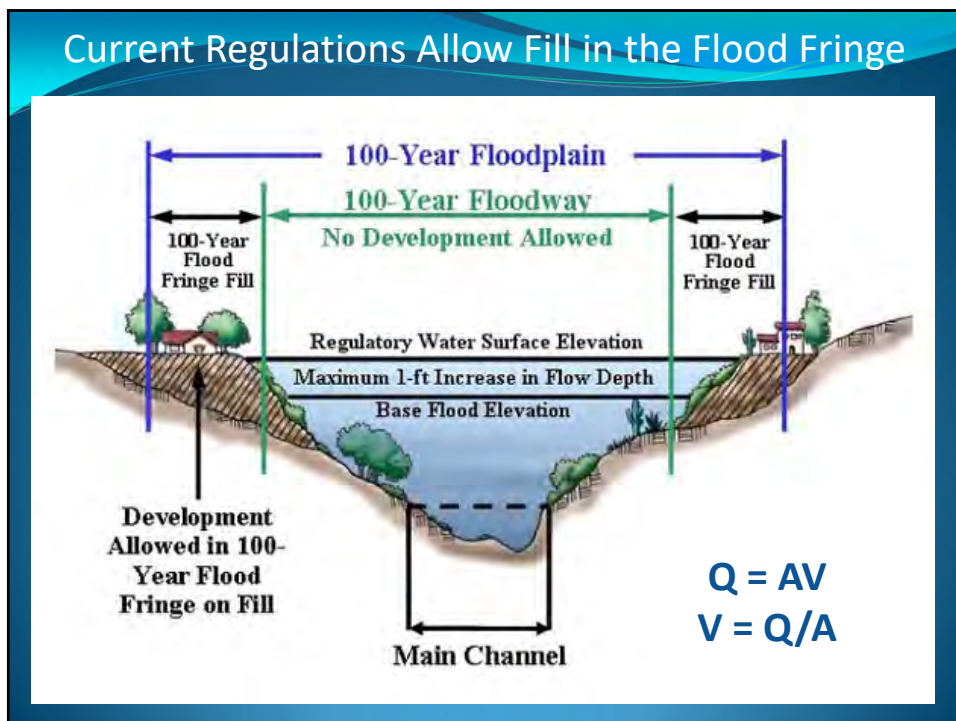
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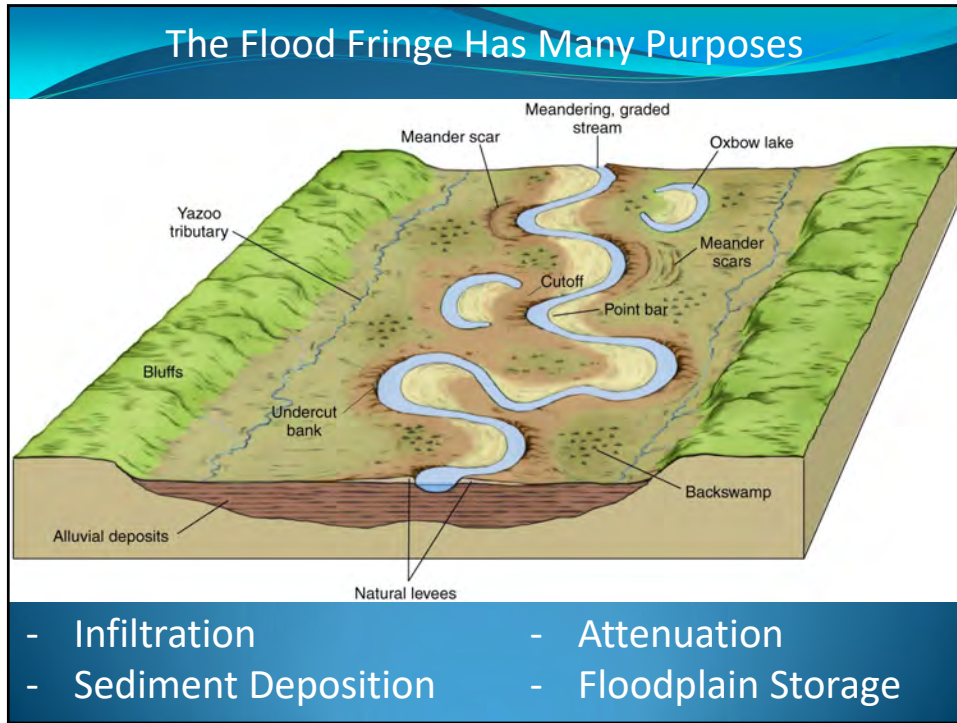
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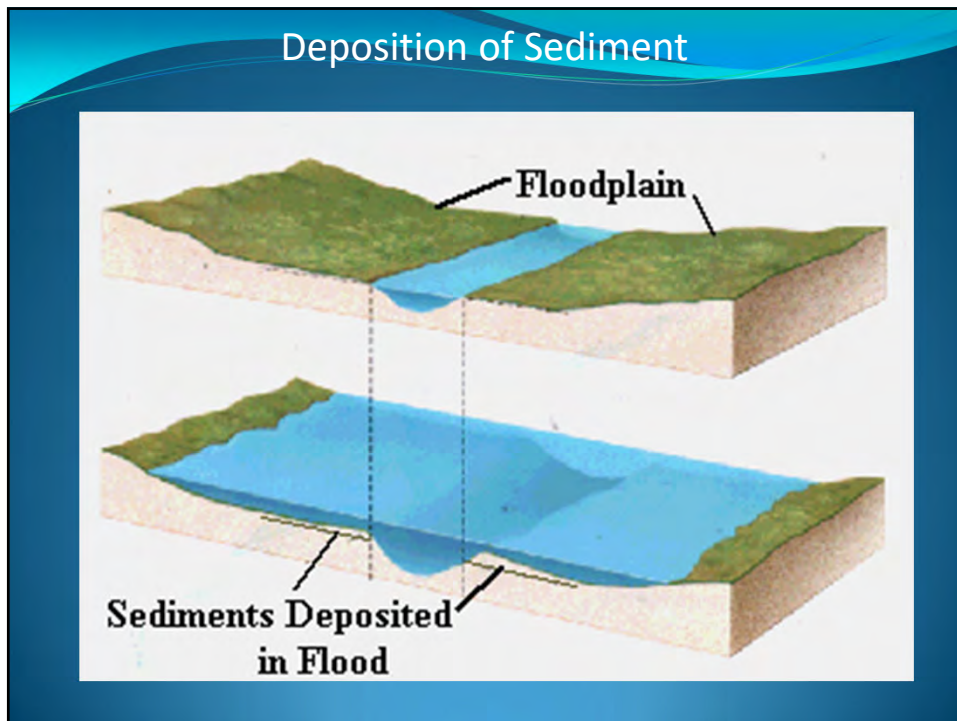
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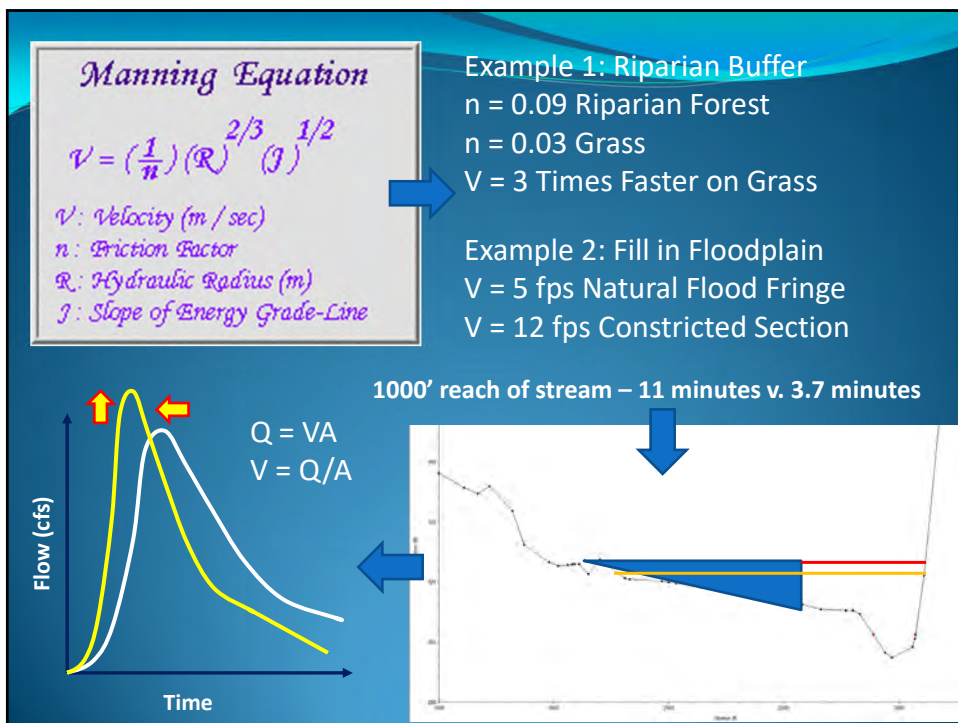


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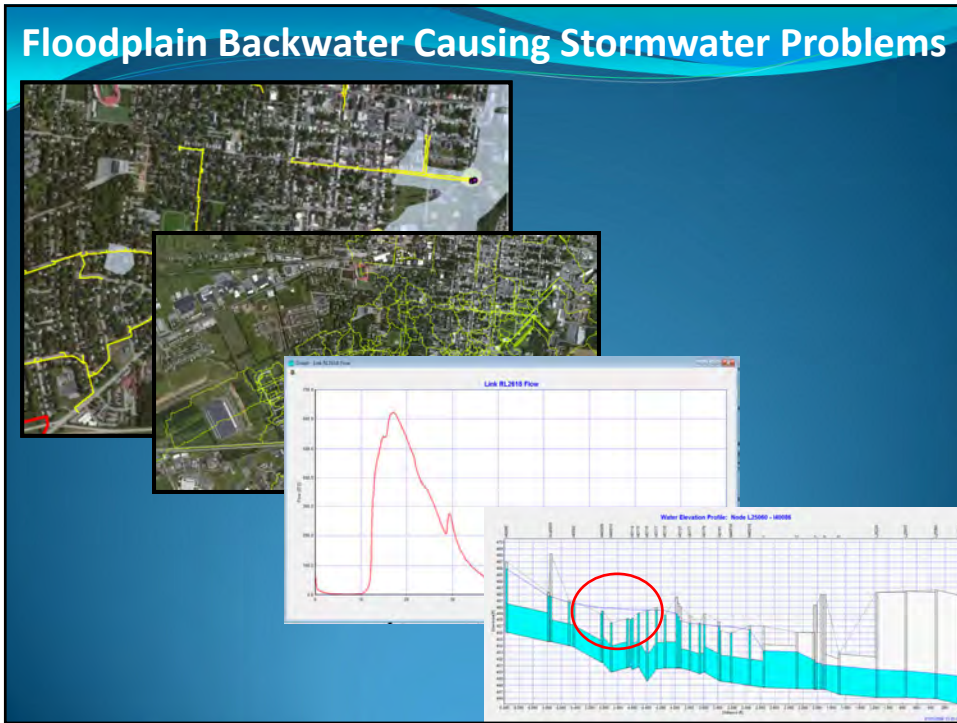




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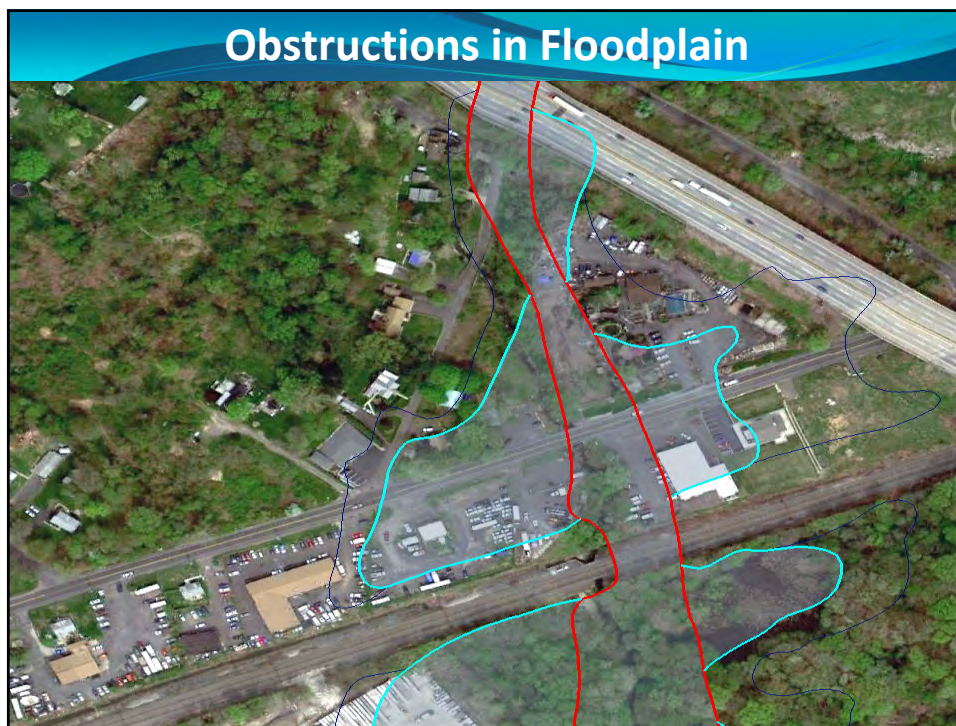


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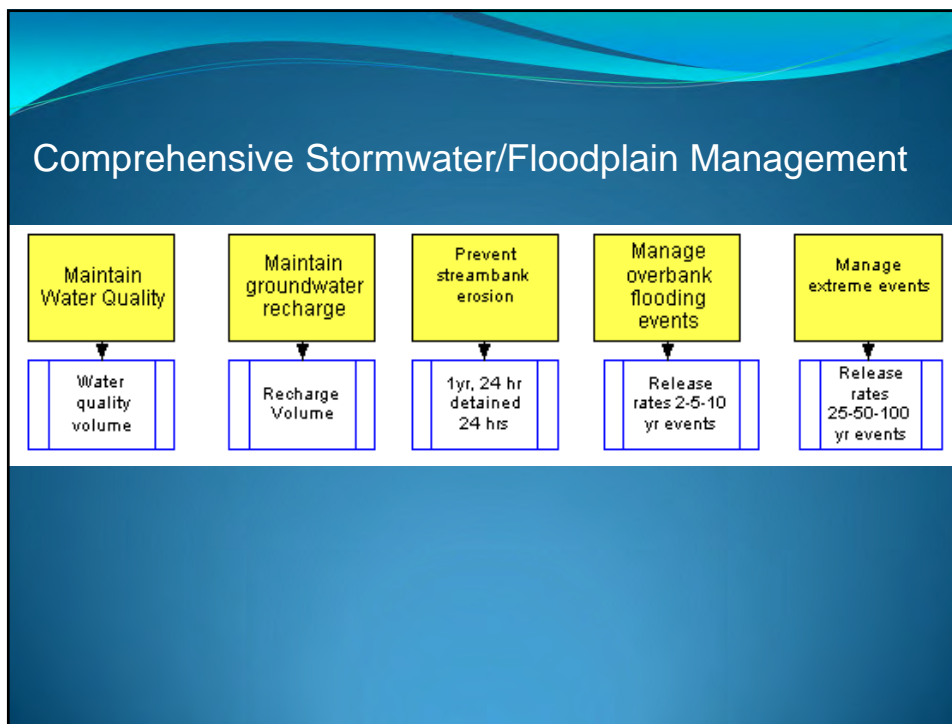
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### Agenda:

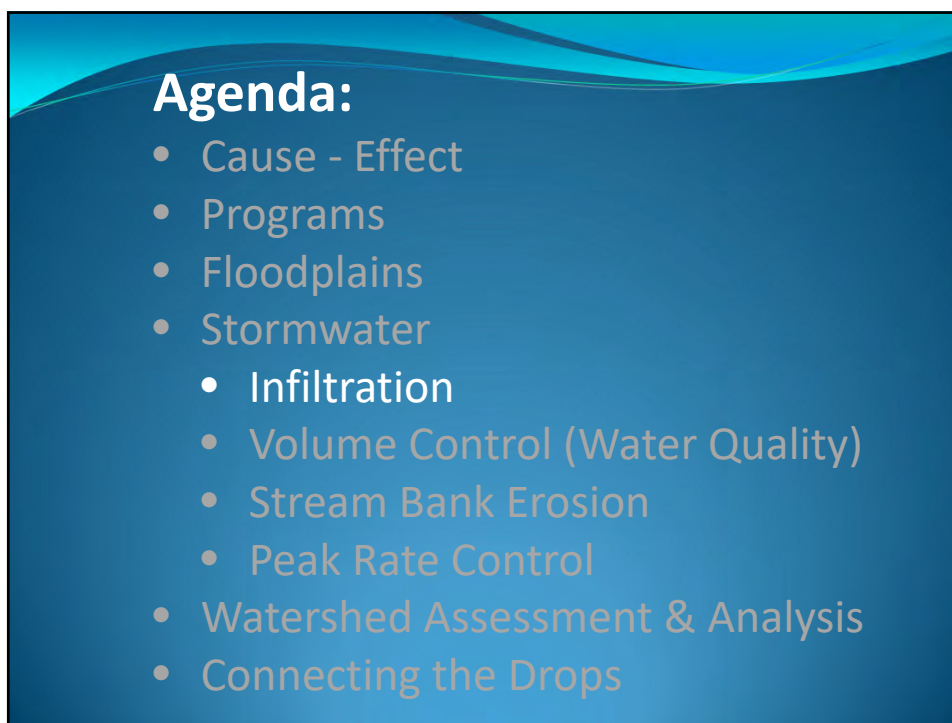
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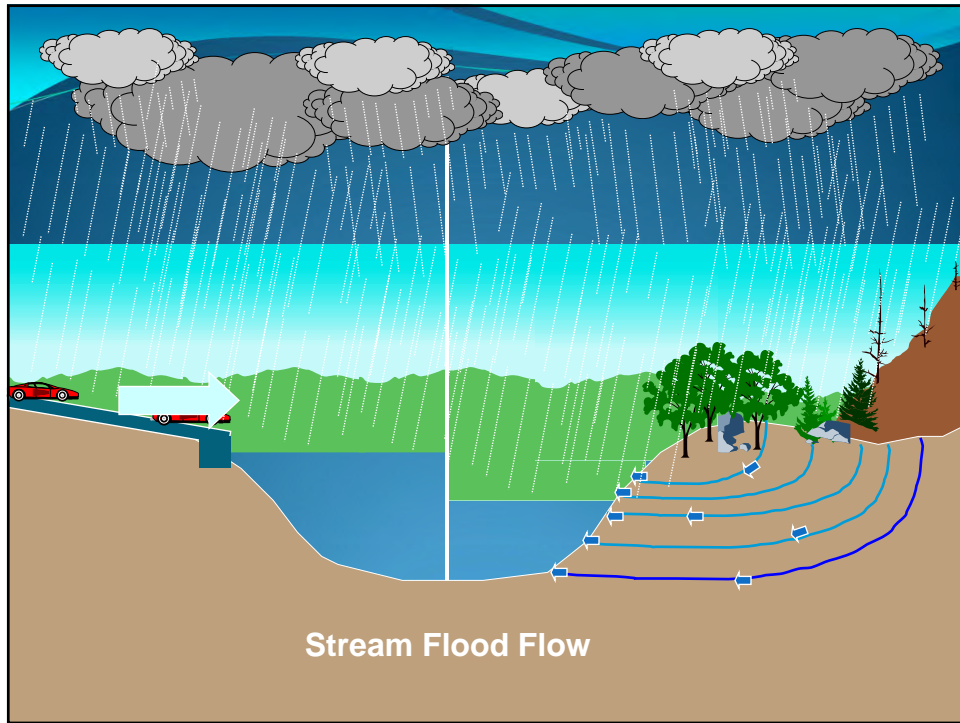




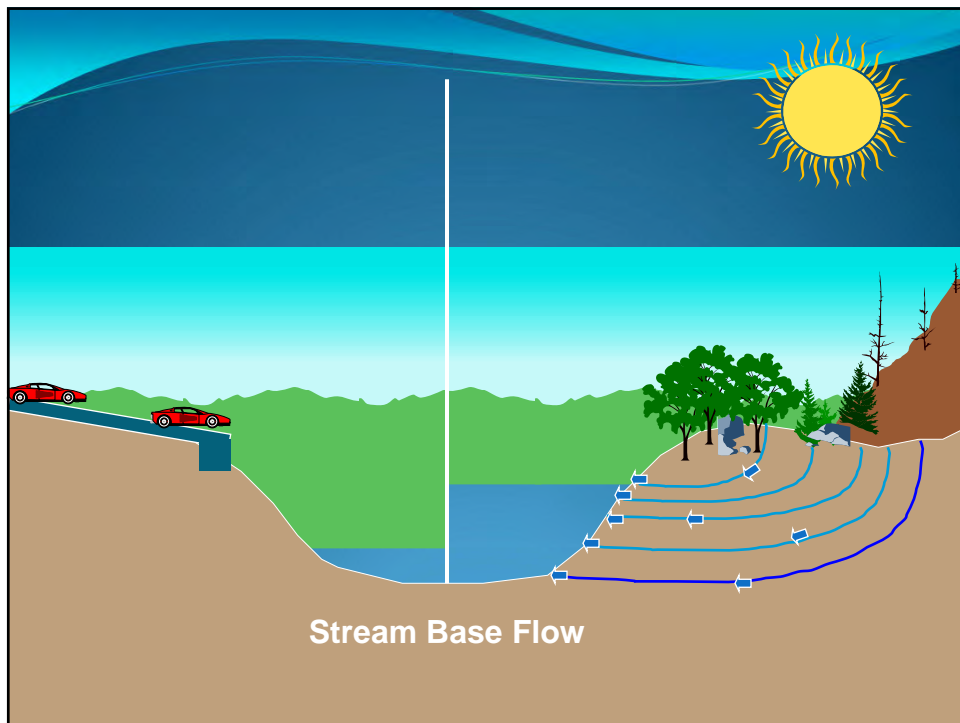
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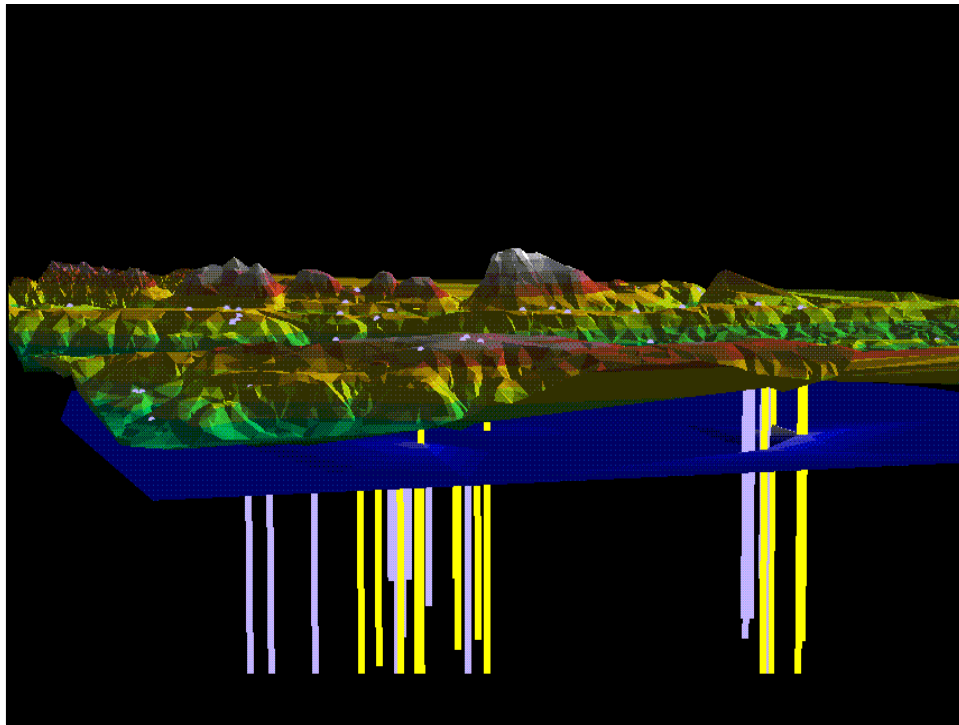
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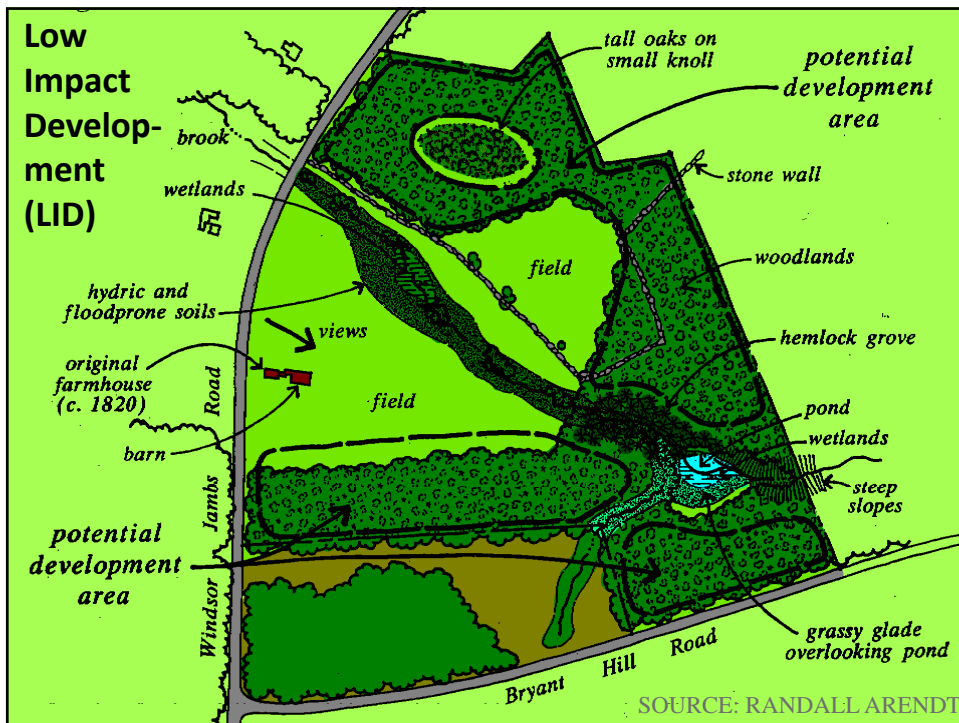
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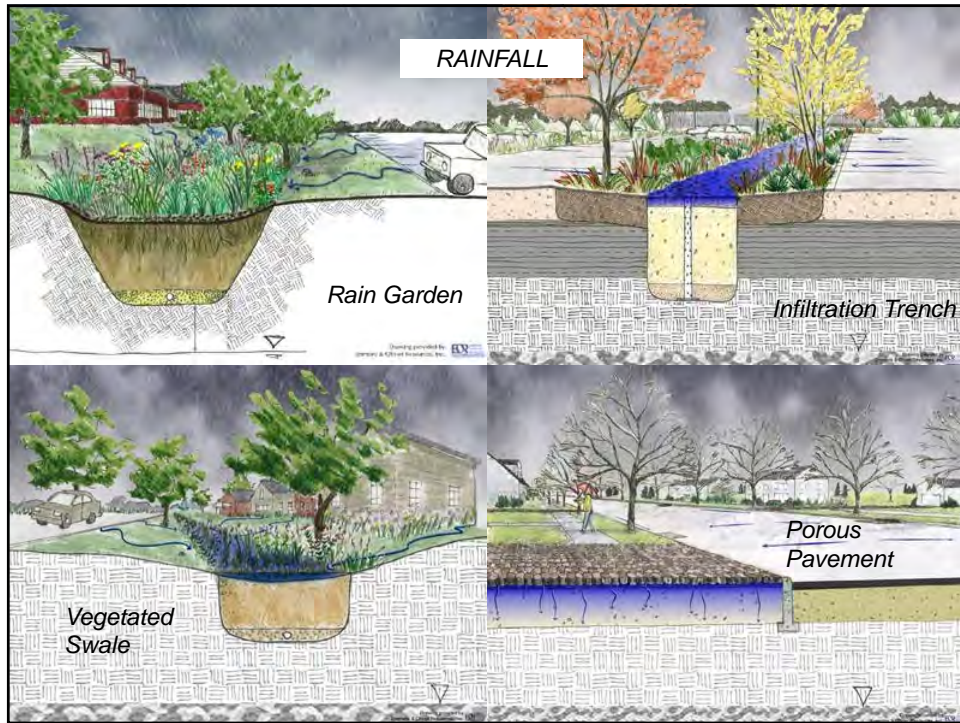


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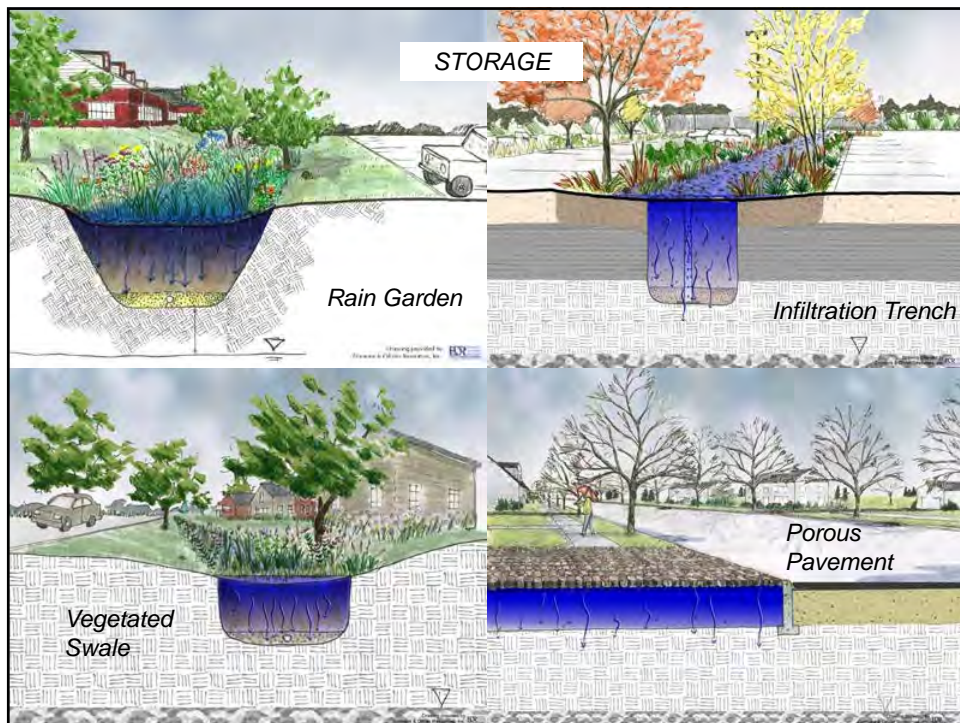


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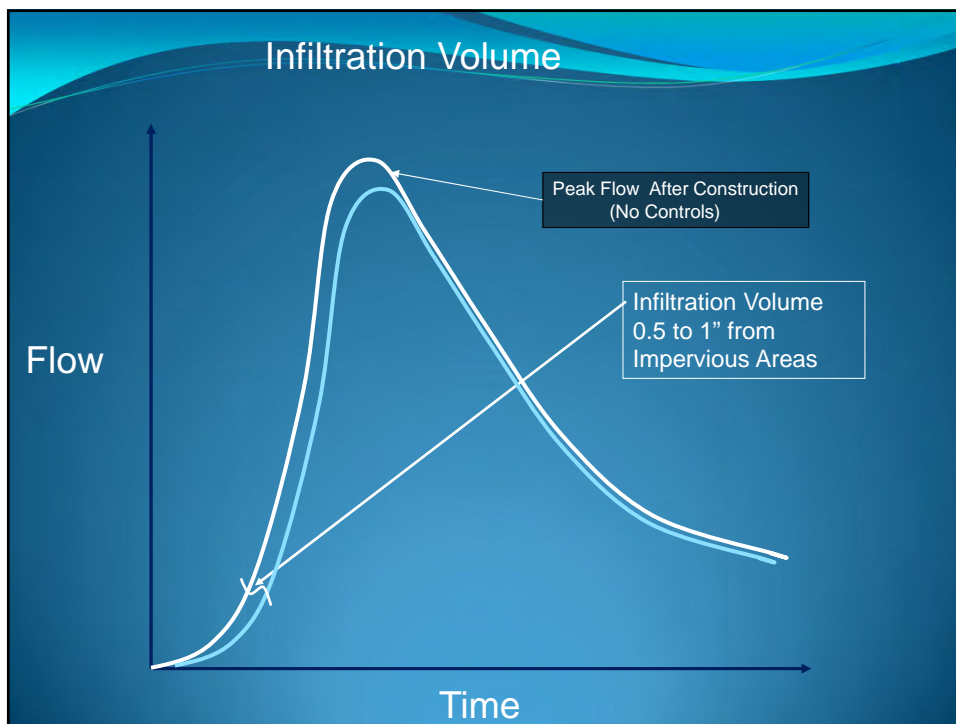


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## Agenda:

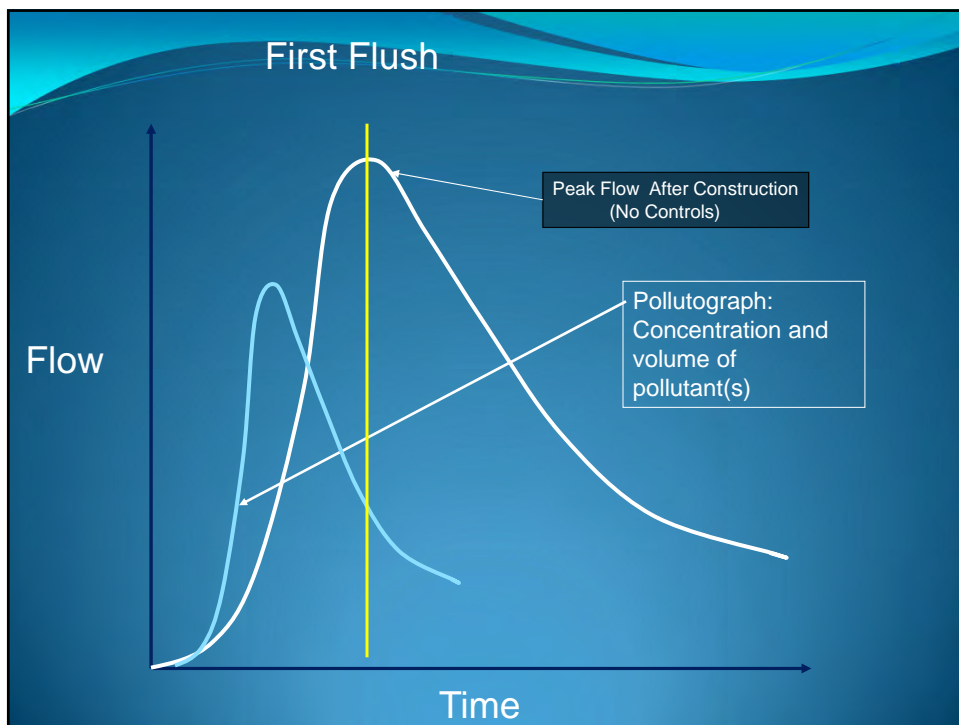
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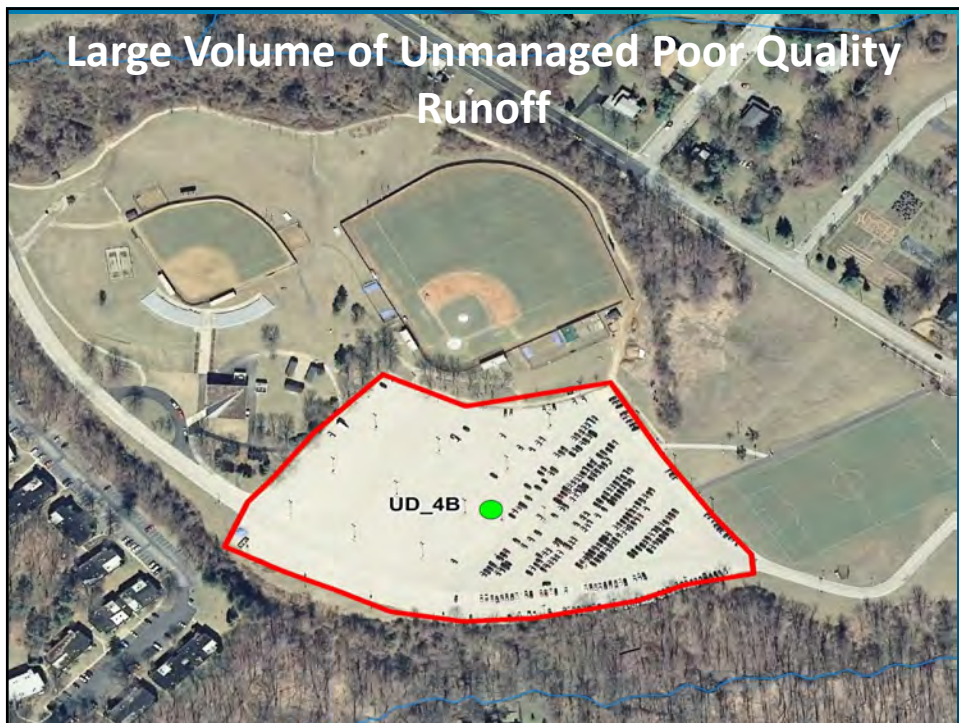


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**Detention Basin – Low Flow Channel**

55



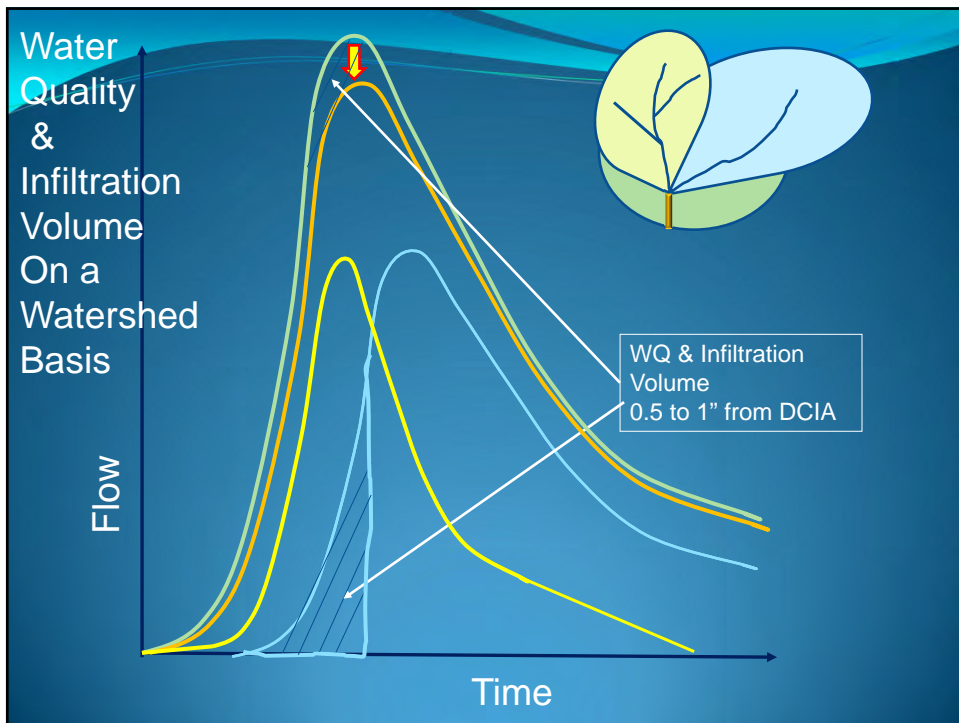
**Large Volume of Unmanaged Poor Quality Runoff**

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## Agenda:

- Cause - Effect
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- Floodplains
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- Solutions: Analysis/Tools
- Connecting the Drops

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### Bankfull Flow = Most Erosive

The diagram shows a cross-section of a river channel. A horizontal line at the top represents the 'Bankfull Channel Width'. A lower horizontal line represents the 'Active Channel Width'. The vertical distance between the active channel width and the bankfull width is labeled 'Height of the active channel'. The channel bed is shown with a dashed line, and the banks are shown with a solid line.

**Bankfull Capacity:  
1.5-Yr. Event  
(Leopold, USGS,  
Valley Ck)**

**Management:  
Reduce 2-Yr Post  
Event to 1-Yr Pre  
Event Using BMP**

Regional Curve -Channel Geometry, Eastern United States

The graph plots channel geometry parameters against drainage area on a log-log scale. The x-axis is 'Drainage Area (mi. sq.)' ranging from 0.1 to 1000. The y-axis is '(sq. ft. and ft)' ranging from 0.1 to 10000. Three data series are shown: Area (blue line with dots), Width (magenta line with squares), and Depth (yellow line with triangles). The equations for each series are: Area =  $22.18x^{0.66}$ , Width =  $14.73x^{0.38}$ , and Depth =  $1.44x^{0.28}$ .

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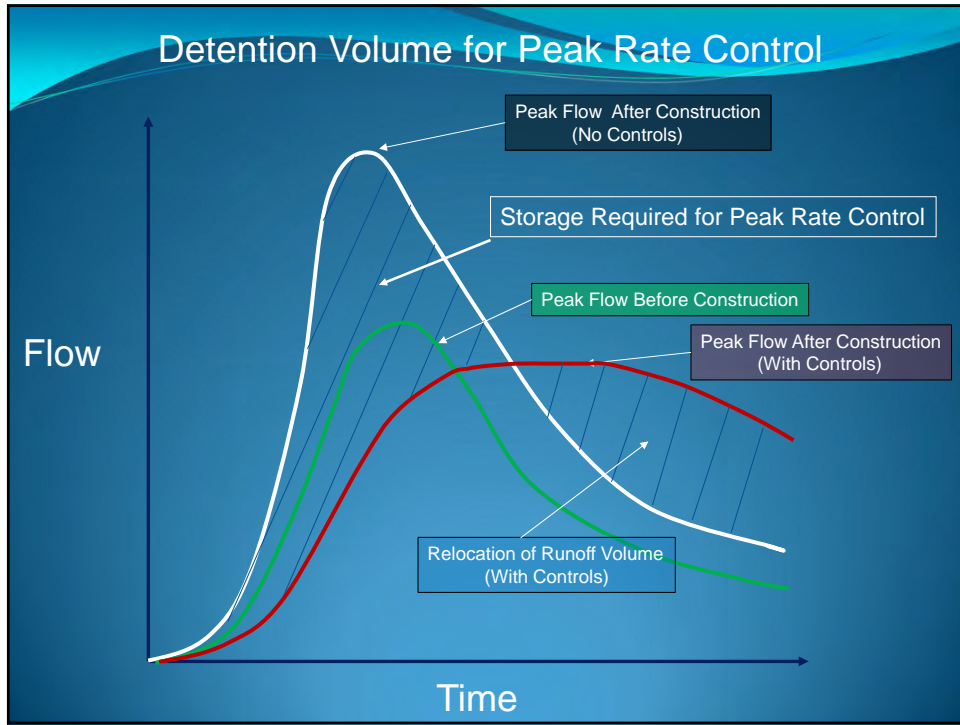
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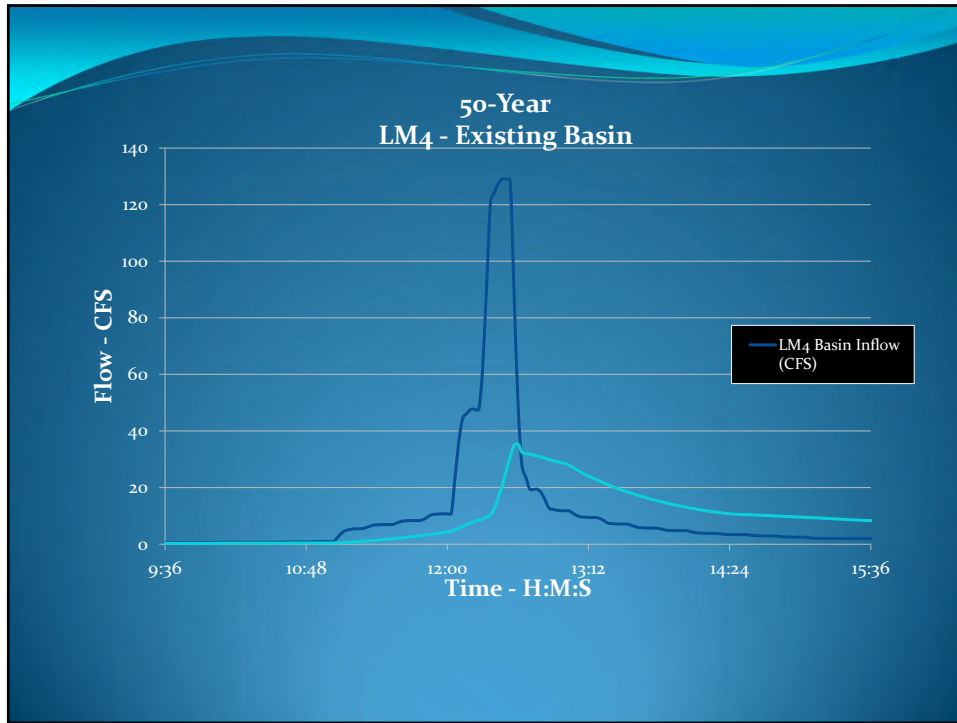




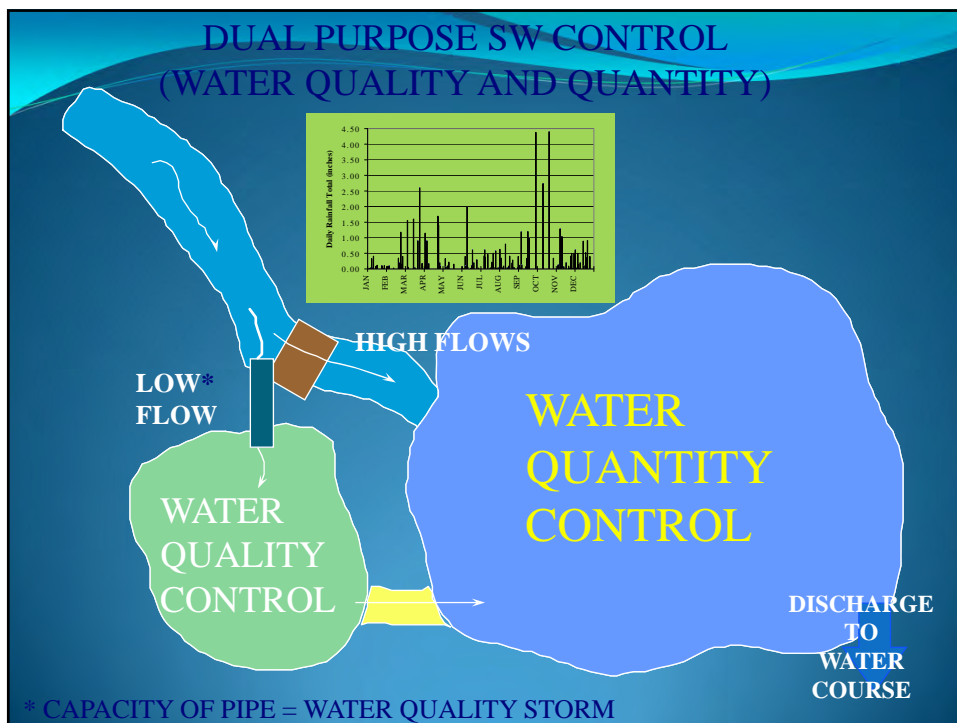
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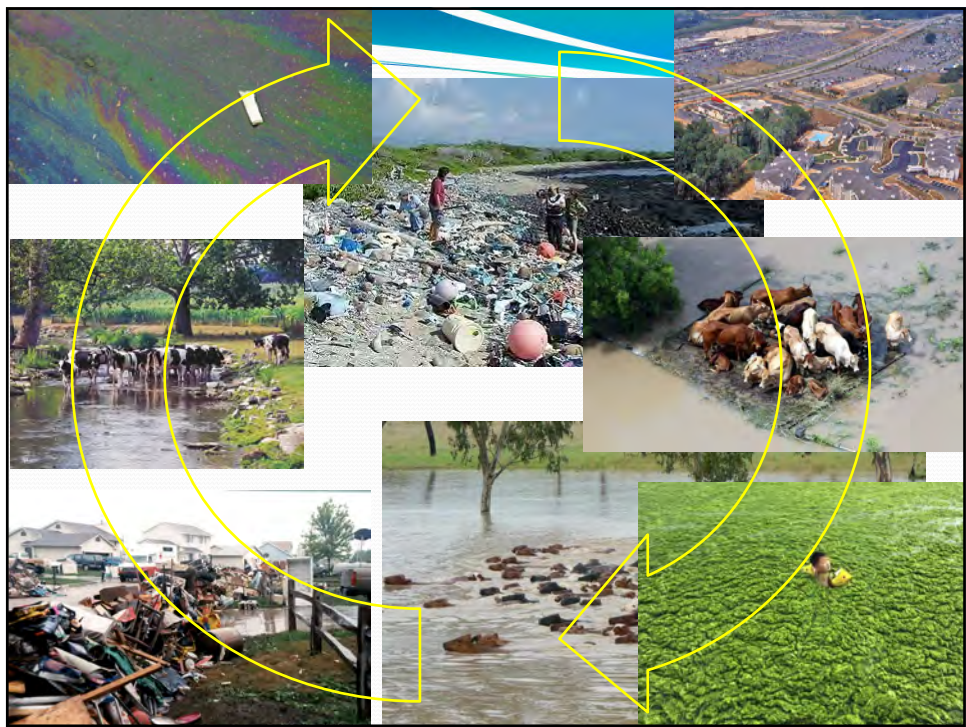


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## Solution: Holistic Watershed Approach

### Inventory watershed:

- Obstructions
- Problem areas
  - Stormwater (local) (volume/peak)
  - Flooding (regional)
  - Erosion / sedimentation
  - Water quality
- Roads / development
- Flood Insurance Studies data / claims
- Riparian buffers
- Etc.

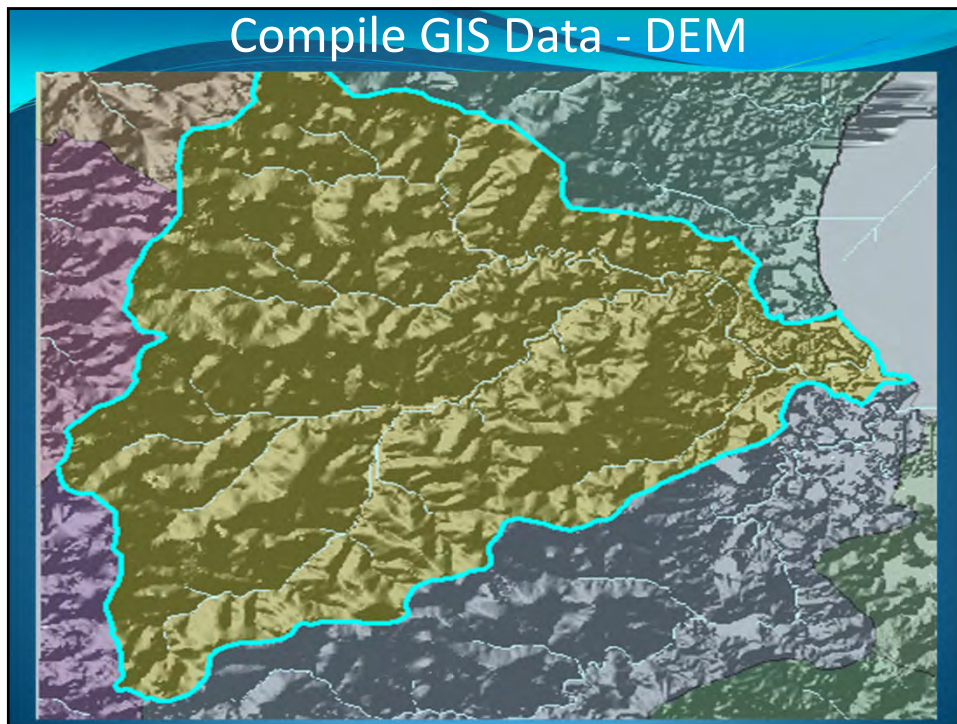


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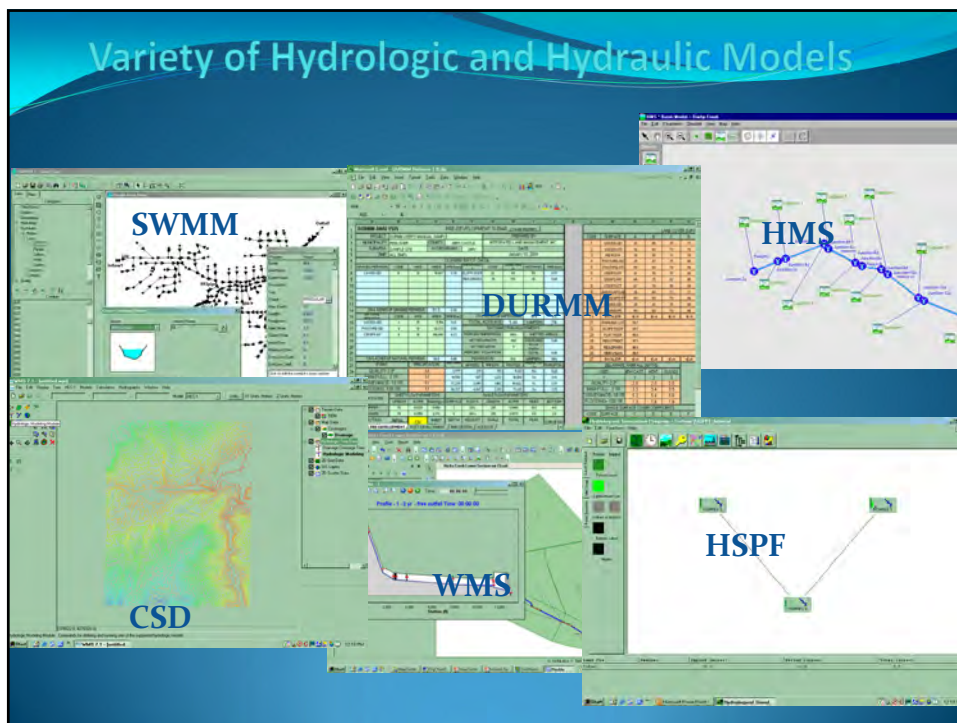
## Solution: Holistic Watershed Approach

- Inventory watershed (problem areas (volume/peak/water quality, streambank) , basins, obstructions, etc.)
- Compile GIS data (DEM's, land cover, soils, geology, inventory items)
- Subdivide & model watershed (HEC-HMS, SWMM, etc.)
- From modeling, determine hydrologic response of subwatersheds
- Formulate Plan with management measures and locations – LID, retrofit sites, BMPs
- Implement Plan

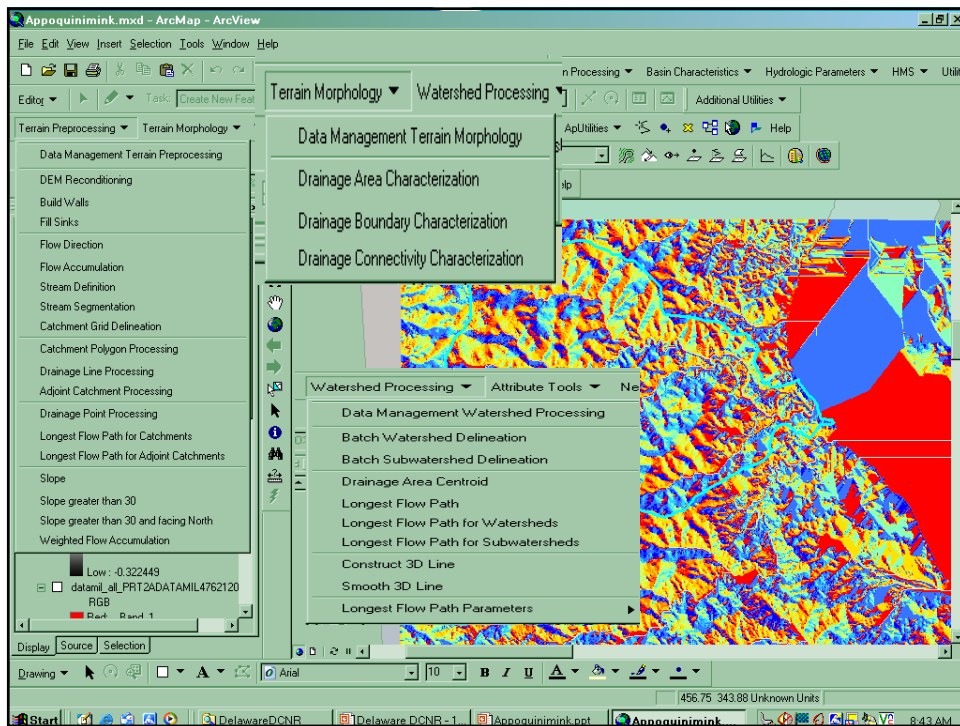
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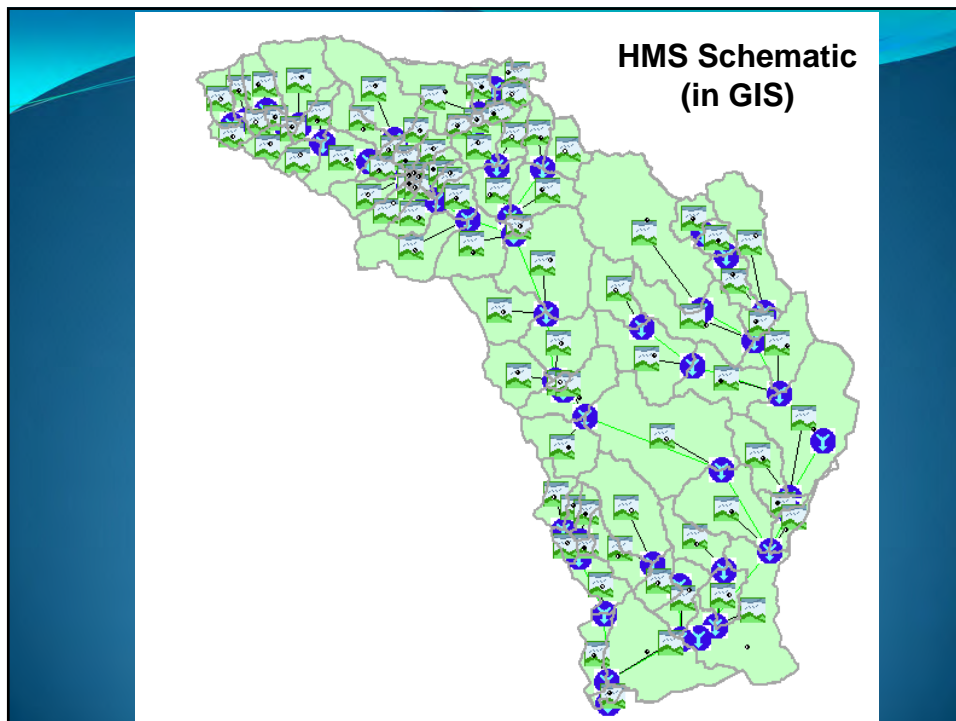
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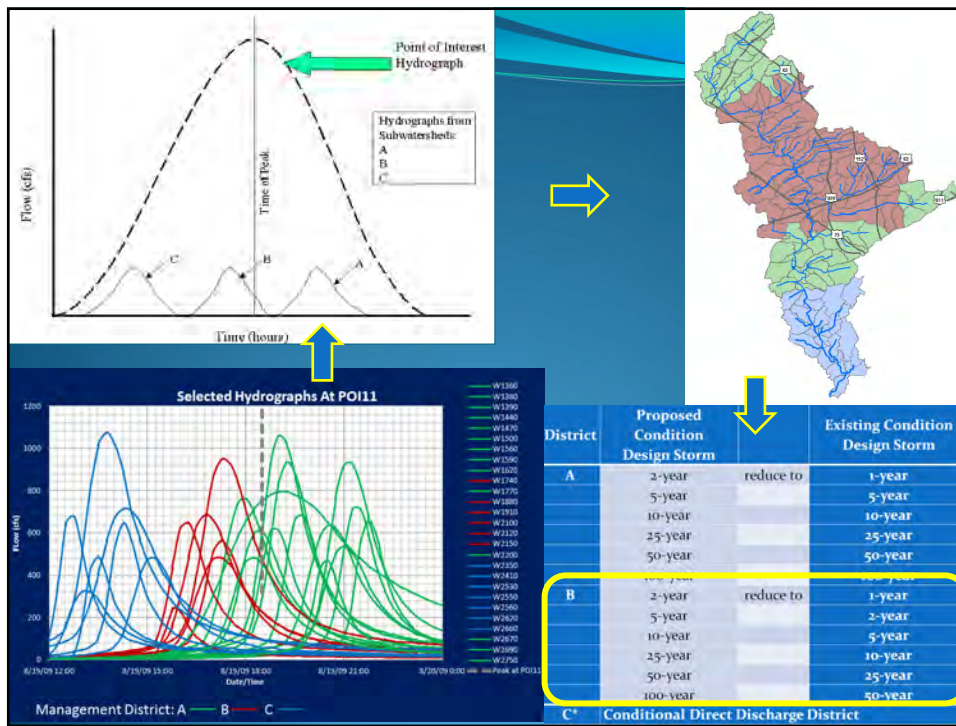


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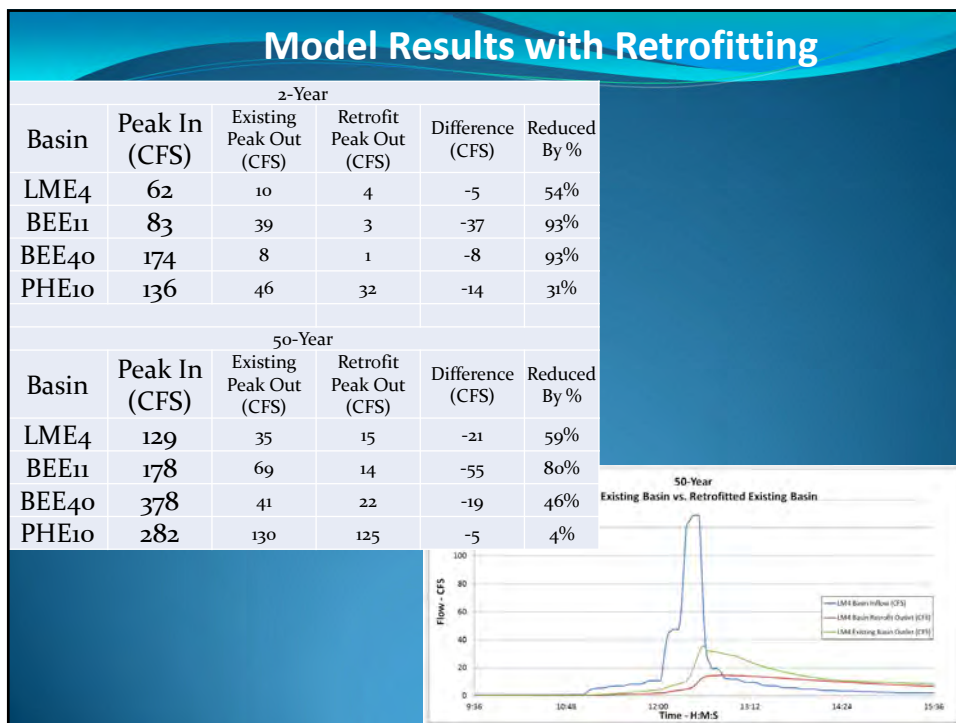


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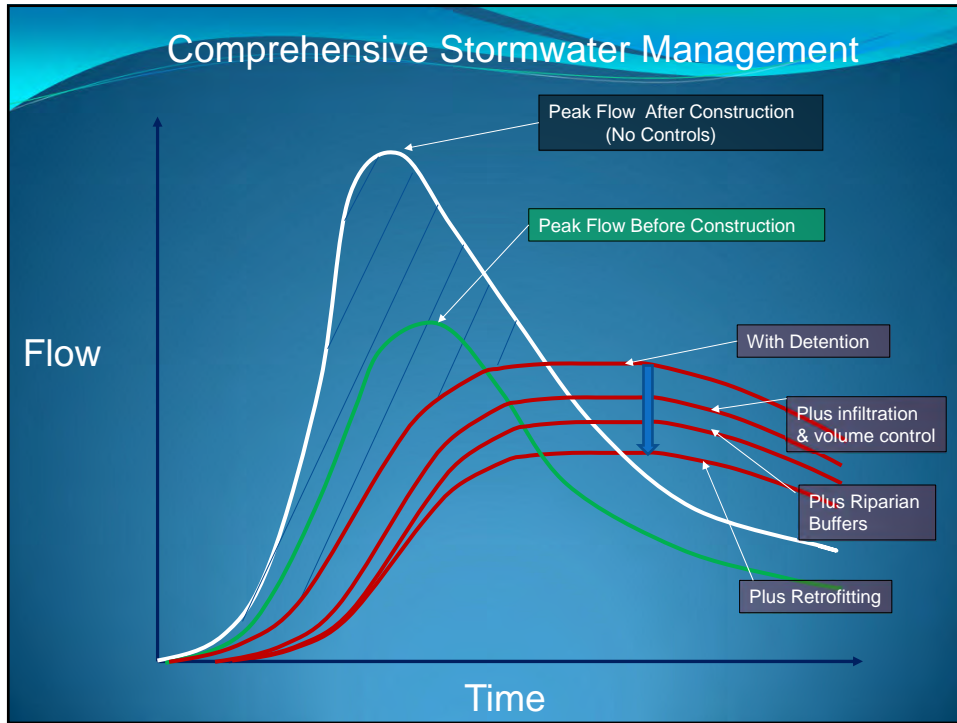




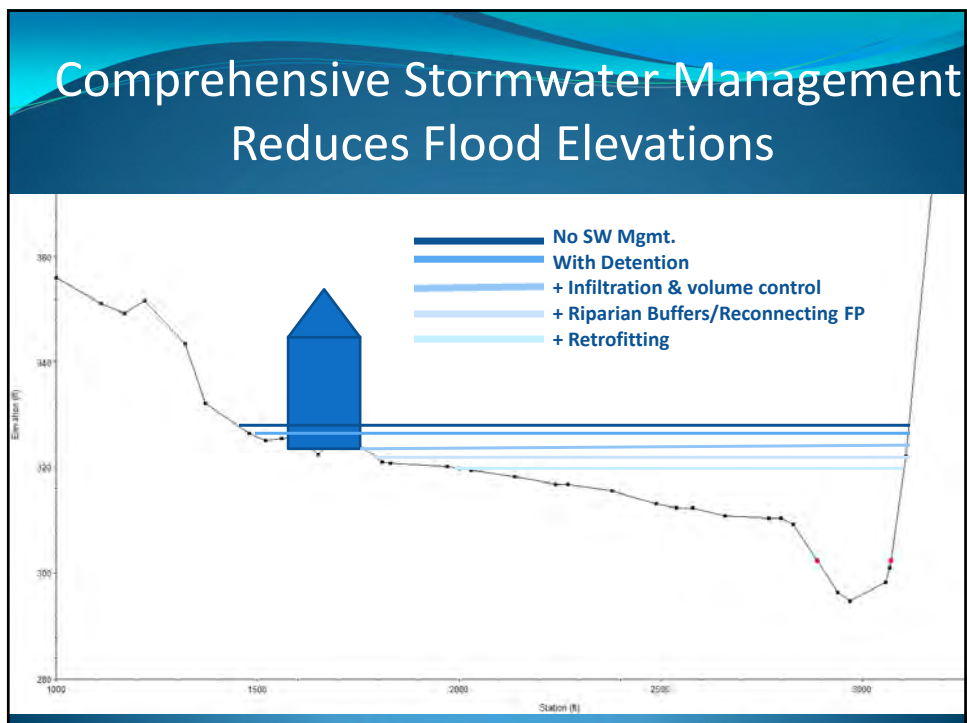
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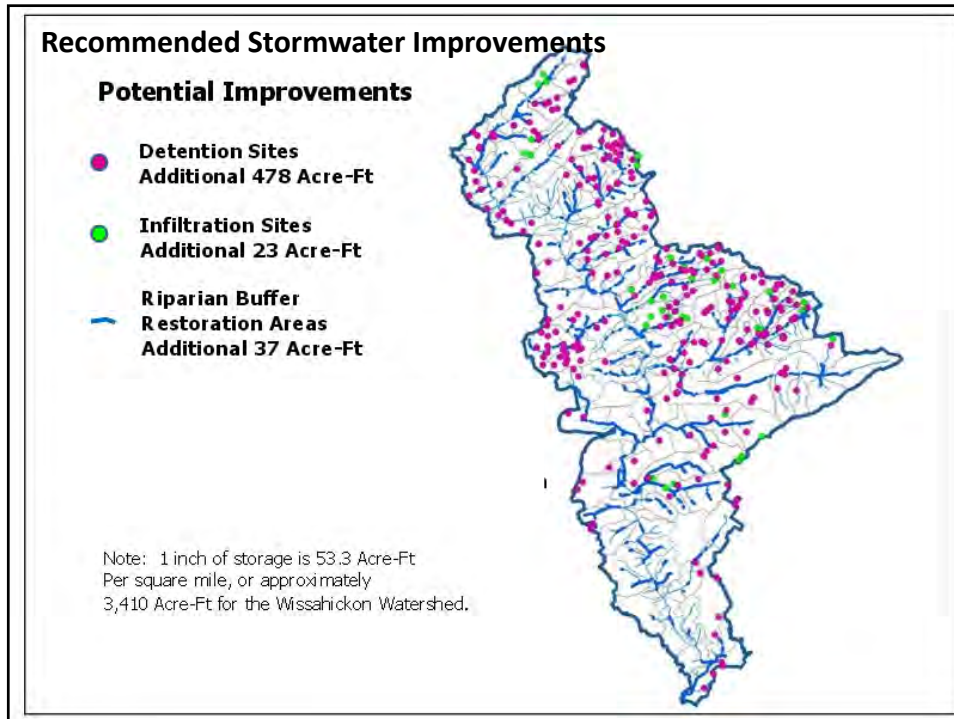
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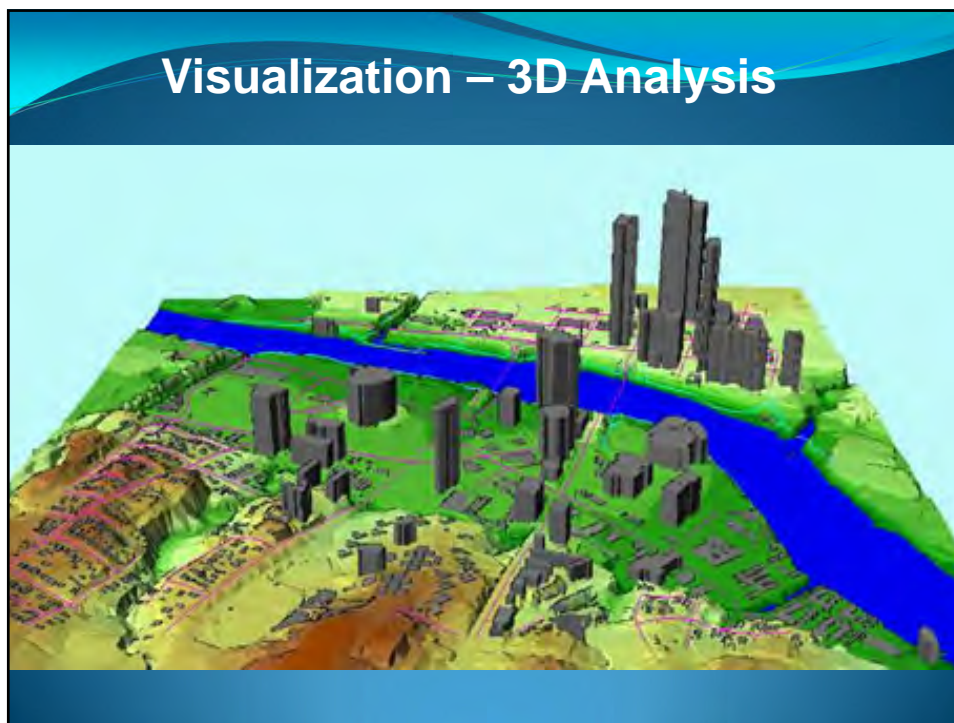
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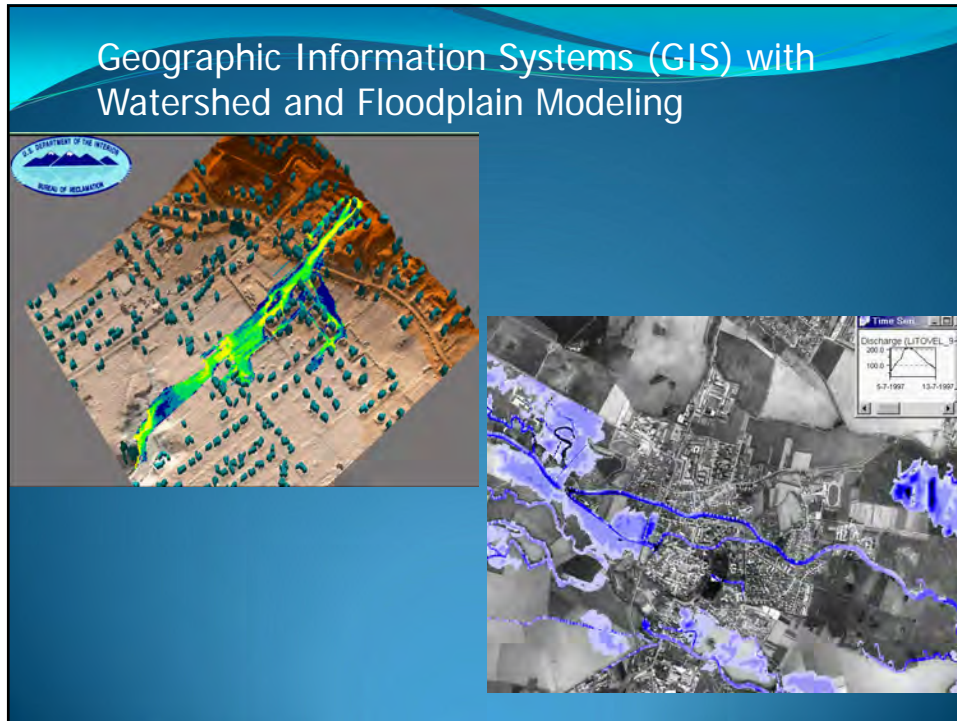


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|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL POND FRONT UNITS:</b>       | <b>16</b>        |
| <b>TOTAL INCREASE IN UNIT SALES:</b> | <b>\$7,500</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL INCREASE IN SALES</b>       | <b>\$120,000</b> |
| <b>TOTAL COST TO CONSTRUCT POND</b>  | <b>\$60,000</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL REVENUE</b>      | <b>\$60,000</b>  |

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The diagram is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section shows a green landscape with blue raindrops falling. Labels include 'Rainfall' at the top, 'Land Use' and 'Land Development' on the left and right respectively, 'Buffers' on the far left, and 'Infiltration' on the right. The middle section is a solid blue band with white text: 'Connecting the Drops: Watershed Stormwater Management Reduces Flooding'. The bottom section shows a blue landscape with blue raindrops. Labels include 'Obstructions' on the left, 'Detention Basins' on the right, 'Floodplains' on the left, 'Ordinances' on the right, and 'Flooding' at the bottom center.

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