

# Minimize Building Footprint(s) BMP

## Minimize Impervious Area BMP

### Overview

A two-story house is better for watershed than a ranch style house of the same square footage. (Build up instead of out).



### Cost

The cost of building a two story house is higher than the cost of building a ranch style home of the same square footage, but you will save money on stormwater facilities later. The same is applicable if you are adding an addition to your home.

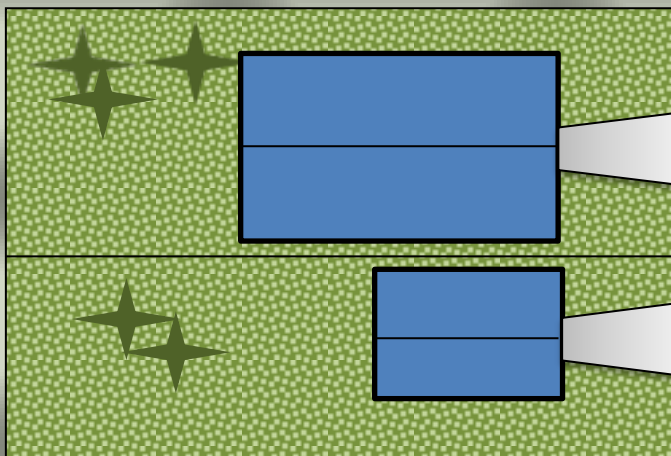
You can also opt for a smaller home, many people do not need all the space they have. Owning a smaller home can save money on rent/mortgage payments as well as energy efficiency.

### Design

Building codes dictate the maximum height of buildings.

This may not be the best BMP for residents with physical disabilities or challenges.

This BMP is not exclusive to residential land uses.



Top is a Ranch Style home.  
Bottom is a Two-Story home.  
The two homes have the same square footage but the Ranch style home creates much more impervious area for stormwater runoff.

