

Conserve Fast(er) Draining Soils BMP

Limit Disturbance BMP

Overview

There are two aspects/steps for placing impervious surfaces on the slower draining areas of a site:

- (1) Runoff Prevention** – conserve the faster draining soils, leaving them open to the sky to manage rainfall more effectively than slower draining soils or
- (2) Runoff Reduction** – plan for the runoff reduction BMPs that will infiltrate the remaining surfaces.

Siting

The first step of implementing this BMP is to identify faster draining soils through infiltration testing.

Infiltration Test Instructions: [Page 10](#).



Design

Once you have identified the location of the fast(er) draining soils your landscape areas can be set in those locations while impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, roofs, and roads can be set in slower draining soils. This minimizes the runoff from your property by maximizing the efficiency of some soils over other soils.

Maintenance

This BMP is very low maintenance, requiring no greater maintenance activities than for conventional landscapes where soils have not been protected.

Construction

Contractors should take care not to limit compaction in any future landscape areas. This can be achieved by choosing equipment that reduces the loads transferred through the soil.

Cost

It is low cost to protect your soils, particularly if you perform your own infiltration test.

