



Ponds & Wet Basins

Description

Ponds and wet basins are earthen depressions constructed with a substantial permanent water pool to provide both temporary and long-term storage of stormwater runoff, and they can be used to attenuate peak flows and provide Water Quality treatment through both pollutant removal and slow release. These SMPs attenuate peak flows through the use of an outlet control structure and provide storage capacity above the permanent pool, while water held within the system, including the permanent pool, is treated through a variety of physical, chemical, and biological processes. Wet basins can also achieve minimal volume reduction through evapotranspiration.

Key Advantages

- Can be effective at providing Water Quality requirement treatment and flow attenuation while also providing aesthetic amenities and wildlife habitat
- Can easily be converted from a dry detention basin
- Can contribute to better air quality and help reduce urban heat island impacts

Key Limitations

- Require a dedicated, large ground surface area
- May contain deep water, which can pose a safety hazard and may require fencing to restrict access
- Can sometimes attract geese and other wildlife that may conflict with the intended site use of surrounding areas
- Can provide a mosquito breeding habitat along shallow edges if not designed appropriately

DEVELOPMENT ATTRIBUTES

Construction Costs



LOW

Operations & Maintenance Costs



MODERATE

Likelihood of Failure



MODERATE

Ground-Level Encroachment



HIGH

Building Footprint Encroachment



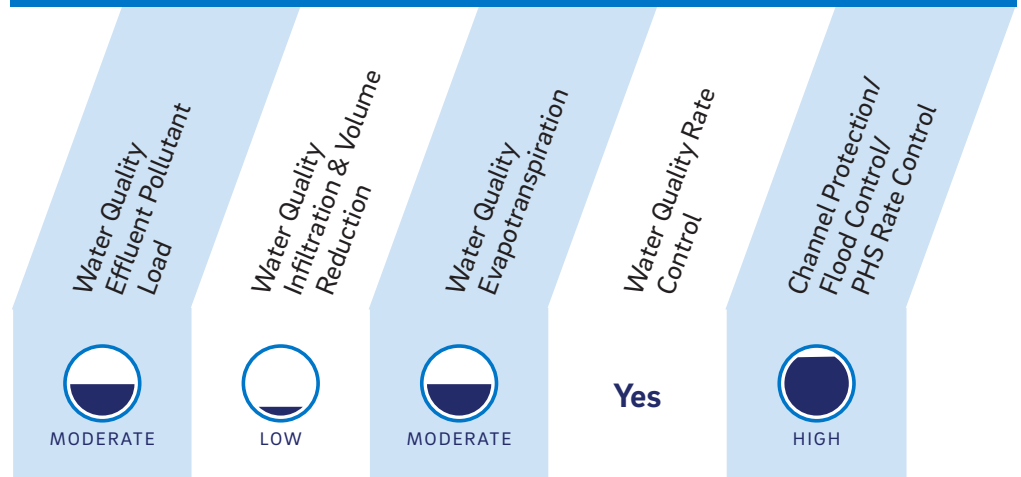
HIGH

Triple Bottom Line Benefits



MODERATE

COMPLIANCE ATTRIBUTES



A description of each evaluated attribute can be found in the SMP Hierarchy Ranking Criteria in [Section 3.2.4](#).