



Porous Pavement

Description

Porous pavement provides the structural support of conventional pavement, but allows stormwater to drain directly through the pavement surface into an underlying stone bed and the soil below, thereby reducing surface stormwater runoff. Porous pavement surfaces include, but are not limited to, porous asphalt, porous concrete, permeable pavers, reinforced turf, and artificial, or synthetic, turf. Interlocking pavers have openings filled with stone to create a porous surface. For all of these pavement types, stormwater flows through the porous surface during a rain event, then drains into the sub-base beneath the pavement, where it is stored until it infiltrates into the soil.

Key Advantages

- Can be used in place of traditional paved surfaces
- Can fit into spaces of almost any size and be integrated into many different site layouts
- Reduces ponding and icing that can be associated with traditional hardscape surfaces
- Provides ancillary benefits such as better conditions for trees, reduced heat island effect, quieter vehicular traffic, and reduced vehicular glare compared to standard asphalt
- Eligible for inclusion in an Expedited PCSMP Review project

Key Limitations

- Not recommended for high traffic loading areas or on heavy industrial sites where vehicles or equipment may contribute heavy sediment or gross pollutant loads to porous surfaces
- Typically not suitable for steep slope applications
- Requires frequent maintenance with specialized equipment to maintain performance
- May degrade more rapidly if located in areas with frequent vehicular turning

DEVELOPMENT ATTRIBUTES

Construction Costs



Operations & Maintenance Costs



Likelihood of Failure



Ground-Level Encroachment



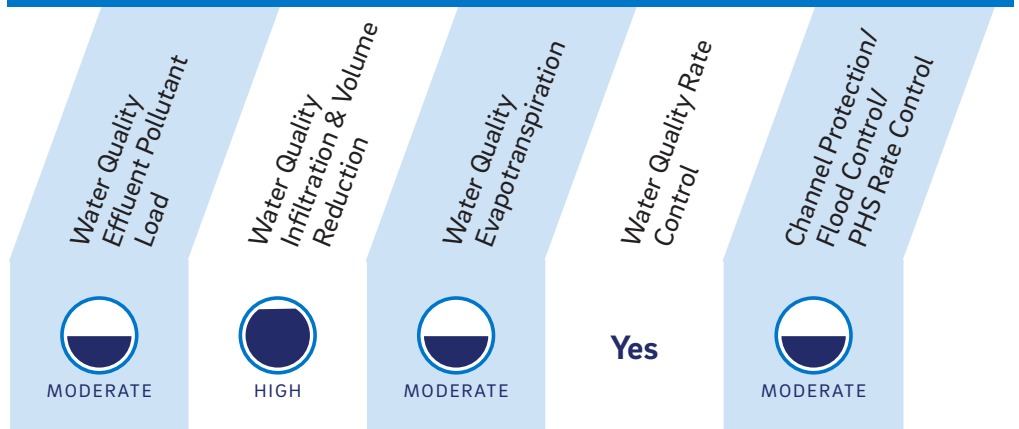
Building Footprint Encroachment



Triple Bottom Line Benefits



COMPLIANCE ATTRIBUTES



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