

Letter of Preference:

Post-construction Stormwater Treatment Practice

Created by: Dean Yordi, Director of Community Services

Created for: Civil Engineers, Landscape Architects, and developers developing plans for renovations and new sites.

Objective: To notify site designers of a preference by the **City of Norwalk** for a particular storm water treatment goal.

Preferred Stormwater Treatment Practice:

- Vegetated swales and/or soft armor protection are preferred downstream of storm water runoff outlets (parking lots), overflow-structures, pipes, and culverts. This practice supports all bio-retention/filtration type practices as part of a tool box of vegetated, 'green' solutions for reducing, filtering, and preventing runoff pollution; and recharging groundwater; as well as helping us achieve our NPDES Phase II requirements.
- The vegetation in these swales would be reinforced, as needed, by transition mats (or equal) at potential scour areas, and turf reinforcement mats (TRMs) in the channels.
- Calculate TRMs performance requirements using their **unvegetated**, or installation-day, performance ratings.
- 'Or equal' is defined by the performance standards (velocities and shear stresses) of transition mats (independent and third party verification testing). The party proposing an alternative product must provide their 'or equal data' at their own cost.
- NPDES Phase II Minimum Requirements and our stormwater permits **require** Post-Construction Storm Water Management, Inspection, and Maintenance. The **City of Norwalk** feels vegetated conveyances offer the best, most-economical long-term means for achieving these goals.
- When using hard armor protection practices, document the considerations for 'green' alternatives, and why 'green alternative' limitations mandated hard armor use.
- The **City of Norwalk** is attempting to get away from rock rip rap at outfalls because of the high maintenance issues involved over time.



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