

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Bureau of Watershed Management

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- POLICY: The Department will ensure that activities and plans approved under its authority will employ stormwater management plans utilizing best management practices to control the volume, rate and water quality of post construction stormwater runoff so as to protect and maintain the chemical, physical and biological properties of waters of the Commonwealth. These best management practices must, at a minimum, protect and maintain water resources, preserve water supplies, maintain stream base flows, preserve and restore the flood carrying capacity of waters, preserve to the maximum extent practicable the natural stormwater runoff regimes and natural course, current and cross section of waters of the Commonwealth, and protect and conserve ground waters and ground-water recharge areas.
- PURPOSE: Clean, reliable water resources are critical for sustaining the environmental health of our natural resources, protecting the public's health and safety, and maintaining the economic vitality of the Commonwealth. The purpose of this guidance manual is to ensure effective stormwater management to minimize the adverse impacts of stormwater on ground water and surface water resources to support and sustain the social, economic and environmental quality of the Commonwealth.
- APPLICABILITY: This guidance applies to all persons conducting or planning to conduct activities that require a written post-construction stormwater management plan.
- DISCLAIMER: The policies and procedures outlined in this guidance are intended to supplement existing requirements. Nothing in the policies or procedures shall affect regulatory requirements. The guidelines herein are not an adjudication or a regulation. The Department reserves the discretion to vary from this guidance as circumstances warrant.

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# Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual

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