

Guide to MS4

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

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Are Non-Structural BMP's a Thing?

Yes, non-structural best management practices do exist. Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has provided a manual which lists approved structural and non-structural best management practices. Municipalities can refer to this manual when implementing resolutions for credits pertaining to BMP's. Currently, Lower Allen Township does not have a credit program for non-structural BMP's. The Lower Allen Township Stormwater Authority is considering adopting credits for non structural BMPs.

Structural BMP: What Is That?

Property owners in Lower Allen Township could apply for a credit on their stormwater fee if they have a structural BMP. But what is a structural BMP?

A Structural BMP (Best Management Practice) is a permanent structure on a property designed to prevent pollutants in stormwater run off from leaving the property and entering a storm drain or waterway. Some properties could have more than one structural BMP. Examples of structural BMP's are infiltration trenches, bioretention basins, permeable pavement, or water quality inserts, to name a few. Other structural BMP's can also qualify for a credit, for more information visit the Township MS4 page on the website.

Inspections



A structural BMP on a property in Lower Allen Township is required to be inspected annually in order to maintain a credit on the stormwater fee. Lower Allen Township maintains online inspection forms for the convenience of property owners. Property owners are mailed letters reminding them of the annual inspection in December with inspection reports due early the following year. Property owners have the option of completing the inspections themselves or hiring someone to complete the inspections.