



Capitol Region Watershed District

“Our mission is to protect, manage and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District”

Capitol Region Watershed District Development Review Framework (Adopted 09/05/02)

The following is the framework to be used in reviewing development and redevelopment projects in the District. The framework is organized by general watershed management issues. The Watershed District’s policy statement from the Watershed Management Plan is provided as the basis for review. The standard that is provided is an interim standard that will meet the intent of the District’s goals, while being rooted in science. These standards give the Watershed District a numerical base for review development and redevelopment plans.

Rate Control

Policy Statements

Reduce runoff rates to levels that allow for stable conveyance of flow throughout the water resources of the District. (WMP page 14)

Require rate control practices on all new development and redevelopment to preserve runoff rates at a level that will not cause the degradation of water resources. (WMP page 14)

Development Review Criteria

Peak discharge rates for developments must be at or below existing rates for the 2, 5, 10, and 100 year storm events.

Volume Control & Infiltration

Policy Statements

Limiting runoff volumes by utilizing site designs that limit impervious or incorporating volume control practices such as infiltration practices is strongly encouraged by the District. (WMP page 150)

Include analysis of infiltration and groundwater recharge potential in all stormwater BMP implementation or retrofitting activities. (WMP page 208)

Minimize connectivity of impervious surfaces to the stormwater system. (WMP page 221)

Development Review Criteria

All land development and redevelopment activities must create stormwater volumes less than or equivalent to the volume of water produced from the site at existing level of impervious or 25% impervious whichever is less. This analysis is to be based on existing soils and geology. Refer to the Met Council Small Site BMP Manual for volume control BMPs such as the use of vegetated swales and redirecting impervious areas onto pervious areas.

Capitol Region Watershed District

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Water Quality

Policy Statements

Interim standard is NURP criteria for ponding or equivalent level of treatment. (WMP page 150)
Require the use of effective nonpoint source pollution reduction BMPs in development projects. (WMP page 12)

Development Review Criteria

Development and redevelopment projects must incorporate effective non-point source pollution reduction BMPs. Effectiveness will be defined as meeting NURP criteria or achieving 60% annual phosphorus reduction, 90% sediment removal and 95% heavy metal removal. Met Council's Small Site BMP Manual can be referred to for selecting and designing alternative BMPs.

Flooding

Policy Statements

Water quantity controls must be provided to ensure no net increase in the impacts or potential for flooding on or off the site and, where possible, address existing flooding problems. (WMP page 150)

Preserve existing flood levels on District water bodies, excluding the Mississippi River, at or below the 100 year flood elevations. (WMP page 13)

Restrict the construction of structures within the 100 year flood elevation of any water body, excluding the Mississippi River, within the District. (WMP page 13)

Development Review Criteria

A proposed pond 100 year high water level can be above adjacent existing structure's lowest floor elevation as long as the structure is at least 100 feet horizontally away from the pond's 100 year flood extent.

A structure's lowest exposed wall elevation must be 2 feet above the 100 year high water level of adjacent ponds and water bodies.

Wetland Management

Policy Statements

Manage wetlands to achieve no-net loss of acreage and values and where possible, strive to enhance the functions and values of existing wetlands within the District. (WMP page 14)

Identify wetland restoration and creation sites to enhance water quality and/or restore natural habitats. (WMP page 220)

Interact with cities in the administration of the Wetland Conservation Act if desired by the cities. (WMP page 224)

Development Review Criteria

In addition to the requirements of the Wetland Conservation Act, development and redevelopment activities within the watershed district shall not result in the net-loss of wetland acreages or functions and values. Proposed wetland alterations must be evaluated using the District's Modified MnRAM methodology and compared to the District's pre-development evaluation to determine the change in wetland functions and values.

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Erosion Control

Policy Statements

Require adherence to the Ramsey County Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook for all construction sites within the District. (WMP page 12)

Development Review Criteria

Erosion and Sediment Control plans must be in adherence to the recommendations of the Ramsey County Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook.

Integrated Resource Management

Policy Statements

Apply Integrated Resource Management principles to redevelopment projects. (WMP page 219)

Development Review Criteria

All BMP designs should consider the use of Integrated Resource Management principles including the use of native planting and providing wildlife habitat features. All developments and redevelopments are encouraged to provide open spaces and native plantings in site design.

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