NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Chapter 251, PL 1975 as amended,
Engineering Policies - Technical Bulletin

Technical Bulletin: 2025-1.0	**Effective Date:** March 10, 2025
Subject: The evaluation of stormwater infiltration for offsite stability	**From:** John E. Showler, PE, Erosion Control Engineer John A. Matos, PE, Erosion Control Engineer

1.01 PURPOSE

To provide guidance to New Jersey Soil Conservation Districts for evaluating the practice of stormwater infiltration on soil erosion and sediment control applications.

1.02 SUMMARY

New state and local regulations have expanded the use of infiltration in virtually all forms of development including most individual single-family homes, small and large commercial development, transportation projects, etc. These new requirements often impact erosion and sediment control applications submitted to soil conservation districts and require careful consideration and some degree of engineering judgement.

In order to assist District staff who review such plans and designs, the following guidance is provided to help determine the applicability of offsite stability in several common scenarios. All District staff are encouraged to contact NJDA for technical assistance when questions arise concerning the applicability of these guidelines.

1.03 APPLICATION

Single Family Home Roof and Impervious Surfaces. When intended to treat roofs and other minor impervious surfaces for water quality or minimize minor increases often associated with new home construction, the use of dry wells is not addressed by the Standards. This applies to an individual home construction site and not to a home or homes proposed under a larger plan of development. District staff should not require computations for the dry well volumes, etc. but should ensure that discharge locations will not lead to erosion if overflow occurs. Examples of vulnerable locations are those next to or on steep slopes or those with highly erodible soils such as sands.

Small-Scale Infiltration. System designs such as single pipes within stone trenches intended to mitigate the increase of peak flows for small sites where some degree of runoff computation has been prepared, which does not include routing of the structure, should be submitted to the district along with a brief narrative indicating where the system would discharge if overflow occurs. A statement should be included from the designer that this is a “di minimis” system and that in their opinion, the discharge will not cause erosion.

Large-Scale Infiltration. Systems such as aboveground (open pit) or below ground (pipe networks, stone beds, chambers, etc.) intended to store large volumes of water which are accompanied by complete runoff and routing analyses should be fully analyzed in accordance with the applicable Standards including the potential of infiltration failure. A Stormwater Management Basin Summary Sheet should be prepared for each discrete structure as is required in NJAC 2:90-1.4 (b) - vi.