



## **5.0 STANDARDS AND CRITERIA**

### **5.1 Standards**

Watershed preservation is based on maintaining the hydrologic balance within a watershed. The balance is achieved when ground water recharge is maintained, peak discharges for all stormwater events are not increased at any point within the watershed, and water quality is not compromised.

Site designs shall reduce the increase in stormwater by minimizing impervious areas and promoting groundwater infiltration.

Stormwater runoff from development that discharges directly into wetlands or waters of the Commonwealth shall be treated through the use of water quality BMP's.

Infiltration systems will be designed to maintain the existing condition recharge to ground water. These systems attempt to replicate the natural hydrologic regime during periods of rainfall and also serve to provide base flow to streams and maintain in-stream water quality.

The post-development peak discharge rate shall be less than or equal to the pre-development discharge rate.

Structural and non-structural BMP's shall be utilized to preserve the integrity of stream channels and protect the physical, biological and chemical qualities of the receiving surface water.

Stormwater discharges to waters of the Commonwealth classified as High Quality (HQ) and Exceptional Value (EV) streams will be subject to State regulations and guidelines for development in Special Protection Waters.

All structural BMP's shall have an enforceable operation and maintenance agreement to ensure that the system functions as designed.

The following thresholds for "total impervious area" are recommended as they have been regionally accepted by DEP:

- 1,000 square feet or less your project is exempt and you can proceed with construction as planned;
- 1,000 square feet to 2,500 square feet you are required to submit the application to the municipality and you can then proceed with your construction as planned, (Note: Municipalities can require additional information if it is determined that there exists a possible threat to property, health or safety from the increased stormwater runoff);
- 2,500 square feet to 5,000 square feet you are required to submit the application to the municipality, along with details on how you will manage the increase in runoff (implement volume controls);
- 5,000 square feet or more your project requires a SWM Plan prepared by a Pennsylvania Registered Design Professional experienced in the design of such control measures and to the requirements of the Stormwater Management Ordinance.