

STORMWATER BMP SURVEY PROCEDURES

BIRD RIVER RESTORATION CAMPAIGN

The purpose of the survey is to identify stormwater ponds and other Best Management Practices (BMPs) located in the 26 square-mile Bird River watershed which are in need of maintenance. In other Maryland watersheds, up to half of all existing BMPs have failed due to a lack of maintenance. Through this survey and your efforts we'll get failing BMPs fixed so they can once again protect Bird River from excessive pollution. You have the choice of doing this either as: a) part of a Road Trip, b) on your own or c) with a friend. There could be as many as 490 existing BMPs in the watershed. We'll be focusing on those BMPs which are most effective in keeping pollution out of our River and her 90 miles of tributary streams. These BMPs are deemed *High Priority*. There are about a hundred of the High Priority BMPs listed for our watershed. However, a portion of these BMPs may not have been built yet as indicated by *unbuilt* or *Null* under date built in the listings referenced below.

- A. Go to the Bird River Restoration Campaign website at: restorebirdriver.org;
- B. Along the left margin, click: [Stormwater Ponds & Other BMPs](#);
- C. Scroll down to Resources where you'll find a map and listings of existing BMPs along with various guidance documents;
- D. For the time being we suggest focusing on the High Priority BMPs;
- E. Click on the *Map of Bird River Watershed BMPs*. The High Priority BMPs have the green markers, not the red. Pick out several BMPs you'd like to evaluate, perhaps those near your home;
- F. While still viewing the map, zoom in so you can see roads and other landmarks allowing you to figure out where each BMP is located.
- G. Print out a detailed map of each BMP which you can use to find the BMP in the field;
- H. Go to one of the two BMP listings. Referring to the BA- identifier (ID) determine the type of each BMP. However, there are BMP type errors in the listing. You may arrive expecting to see a pond when in fact the BMP is a sand filter. ***See the guidance photos following this page to determine BMP type in the field;***
- I. Download the appropriate factsheet for each type of BMP you've selected. Be certain to read each factsheet before visiting BMPs;
- J. Complete a Bird River Stormwater BMP Checklist in the field for each BMP you evaluate; and
- K. At your earliest opportunity, transfer your field data to the online form posted at: ceds.org/birdriver/bmpform

Consider reading [Auditing Chesapeake Bay Watershed Stormwater Best Management Practices](#) and viewing [Assessing Stormwater BMPs for Maintenance Needs](#), both of which are in the Resources section of the Campaign's website.

IDENTIFYING STORMWATER POND-LIKE BMP TYPES



Wet Pond (WP) Always holds water



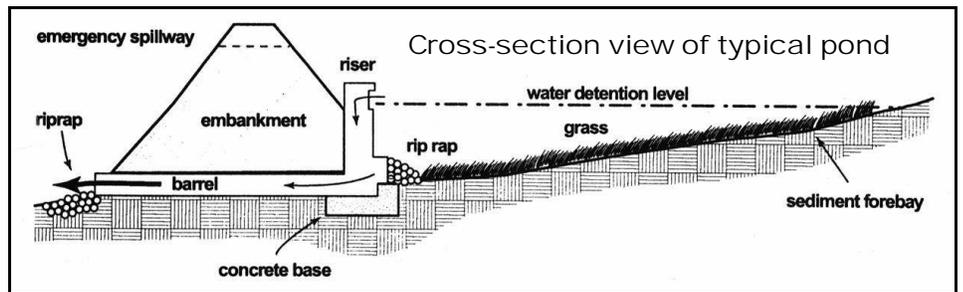
Extended Detention Structure Wet (EDSW) holds permanent pool but dewatering device next to concrete spillway allows slow release of floodflows



Extended Detention Structure Dry (EDSD) retains runoff up to 72 hrs; Inside gravel dewatering device is a perforated pipe that slows the release of runoff from the pond



Two examples of Dry Pond (DP) which drains very quickly once runoff ceases



Observation Well



Infiltration basins must hold runoff until it can soak into the sandy soils of the basin floor so the spillway usually lacks an opening until a foot or two above the floor.



Gravel trench to enhance infiltration of runoff into underlying sandy soils

Infiltration Basin (IB) Observation well usually present; holds no water during dry weather; gravel trench may be present; runoff must pond a foot or two before first opening in spillway.

IDENTIFYING FILTER TYPE STORMWATER BMPs



Bioretention (BR) Micro-Bioretention (ESDMB) or Rain Garden (ESDRG): Usually has storm drain inlet with openings one foot above mulched or grass surface; observation well usually present.



Infiltration Trench (IT) Stone or gravel usually exposed at surface often with observation well



Observation Wells



Swale (SW) usually has a wide bottom; observation well maybe present



Surface of Sand Filter (SF) maybe gravel



Though the floor of sand filters is supposed to be grass the sand is frequently visible



Sand Filter (SF) sometimes have numerous plastic caps present, which may be clean-outs or (if single) an observation well