

## Break Up Flow Directions From Paved Surfaces BMP 10

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**Description** Impervious surfaces are designed to allow storm water to runoff in a dispersed manner in several directions. The drainage of impervious surfaces is pitched onto adjacent vegetated soil and not onto other pavements or into storm sewers.

**General Information** Impervious areas can be designed so that precipitation is not collected and conveyed to one discharge point but rather is dispersed in several directions and discharged to adjacent vegetated areas. The drainage of driveways and sidewalks is directed onto adjacent vegetated soil and not onto other pavements or into storm sewers. Large parking areas are broken up with “infiltration islands” or served by underground storage or recharge beds. Stormwater bioretention areas, vegetated swales and filter strips can be integrated into landscape areas and traffic islands.

Retention grading can create slightly sunken and bermed lawn areas to hold rainwater from roofs, driveways, and sidewalks until it can percolate into the ground. A driveway drywell can be used to recharge groundwater if automobile fluids are contained or treated first. A grassed or mulched swale can provide further filtration and keep surface water on-site.

Street drainage can be detached from drainage inlets and diverted into vegetated swales on both sides of the right of way. Break up flow directions by locating roads on ridgelines, allowing water to drain naturally downhill. Curbless road design encourages infiltration via roadside swales, bioretention areas and buffers.