

Healing Fractured Waters in our Urban Environments

Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting, September 29, 2015



The Panel

- Moderator: Bill Carr, Province of Ontario
- Presenters:
 - John Jackson, Greater Lakes Project
 - Christine Zimmer, Credit Valley Conservation Authority
 - Harriet Festing, Center for Neighborhood Technology
 - Aaron Koch, City of Chicago



The Fractured Water Cycle: The Problem - The Solutions

John Jackson, Greater Lakes Project Manager

The Greater Lakes Project





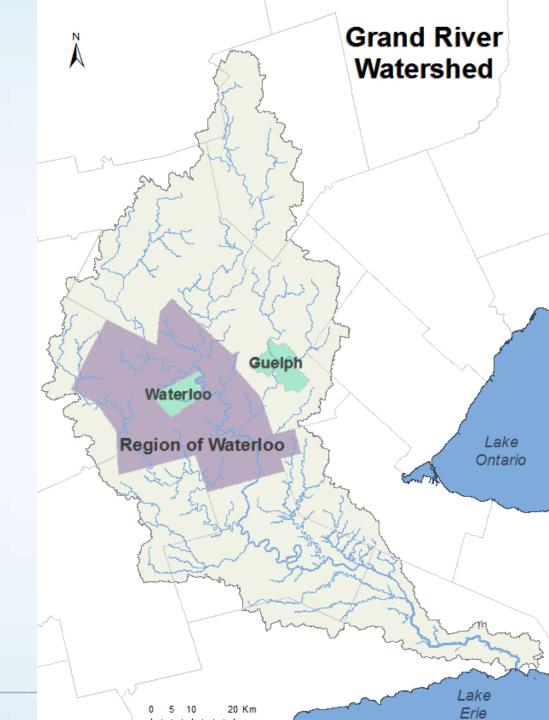








Our Ontario Municipalities





Our Michigan Municipalities



Participating U.S. Communities Oakland County, Michigan

Note:

Only the southwest portion of Oakland Township will be studied under this project.



The Problem

In urban areas, we have fractured water systems that disrupt natural water flows.



The Natural Water Cycle

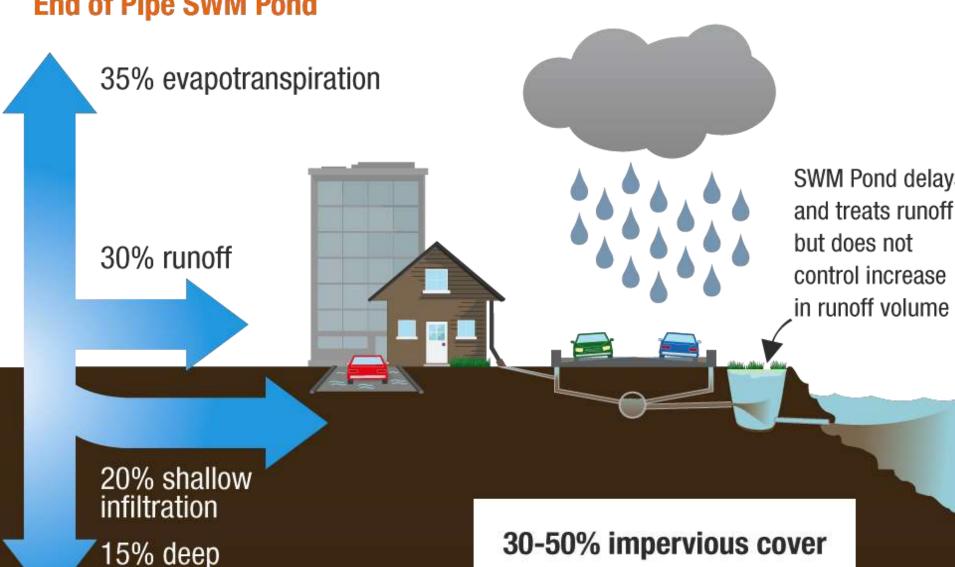


Urban Hydrology

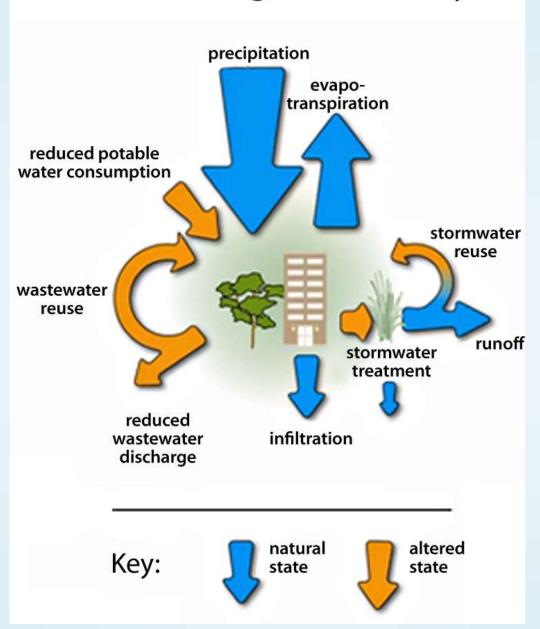
infiltration



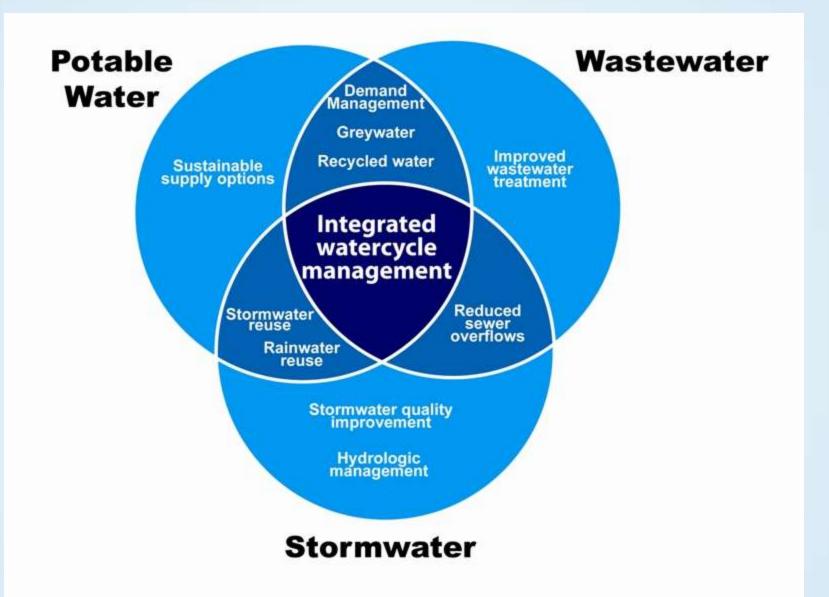
Typical development: Stormwater management using End of Pipe SWM Pond



Reconnecting the Water Cycle









Integrated water cycle management

(extends to catchment/regional scale; includes long-term water resource management and planning)

Water-sensitive urban design

(local scale; built environment focus)

Water-sensitive urban developments

(on-site scale; built environment)

Source: Australian Government National Water Commission



Take Actions towards Integrated Water Management

- Set up strong source water protection programs
- Engage in water efficiency and conservation
- Set up waste water reuse systems
- Use drinking-water quality water only for uses that require that level of purity
- Reduce impervious surfaces so that water can infiltrate into the ground



Action (cont.)

- Treat green and grey infrastructure as one system
- Set up cistern and rainbarrel systems to capture stormwater for indoor and outdoor uses

