

# Downstream Sediment Interception

A Unique Application for Proprietary Best  
Management Practice (BMP) Technology

Peter Enright



# My Background

## Role at WSP

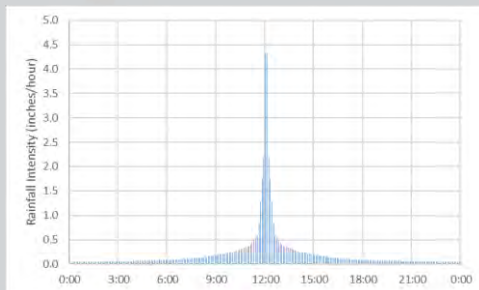
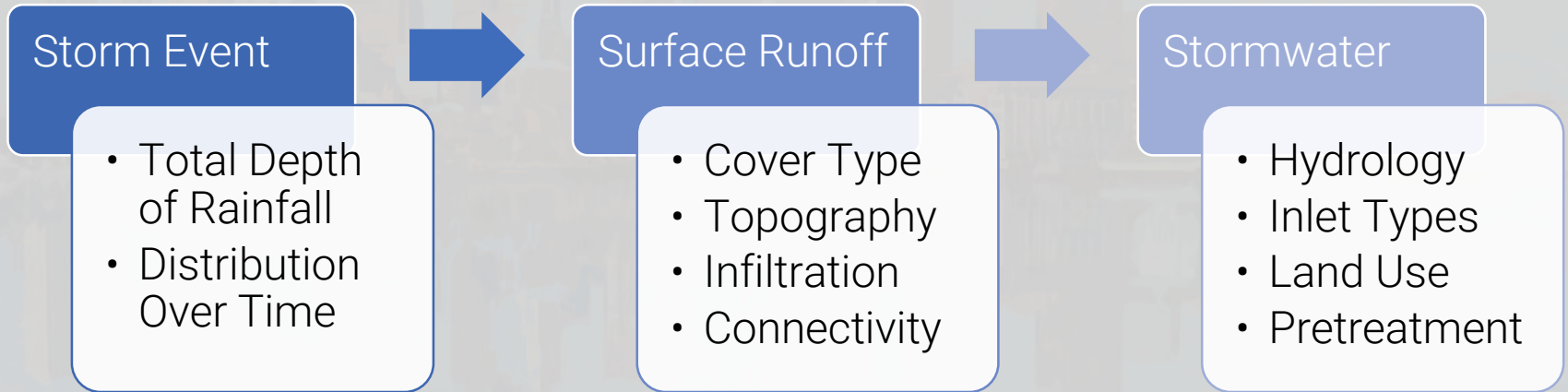
- Civil Site and Infrastructure Group
- 6.5 years in the water/engineering industry
- Design of water/wastewater/stormwater infrastructure
- Master planning and hydraulic/hydrologic modelling



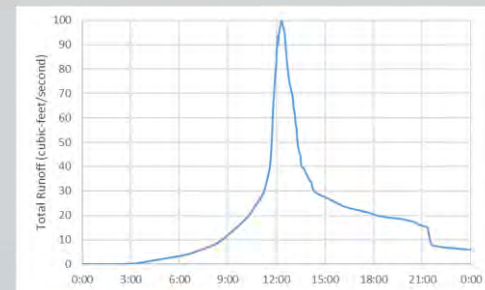


# Rainfall, Runoff and Water Quality

## Catchment Response



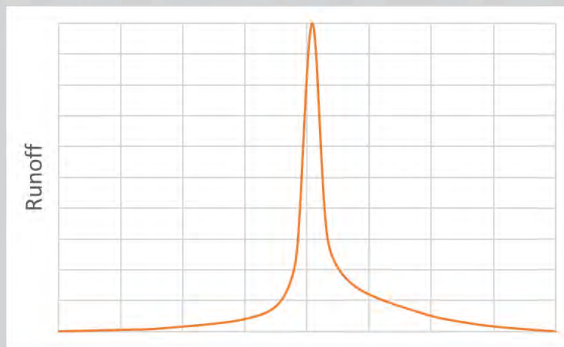
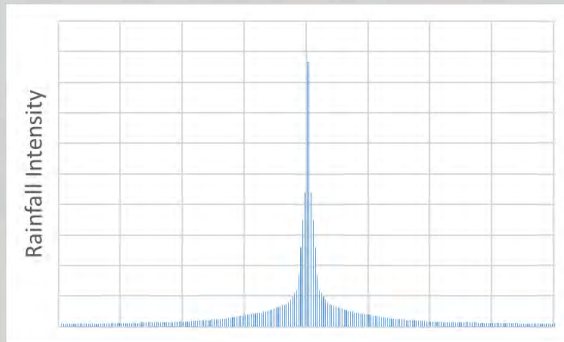
Hyetograph



Hydrograph

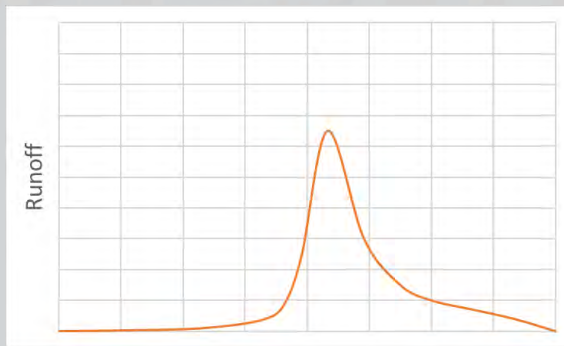
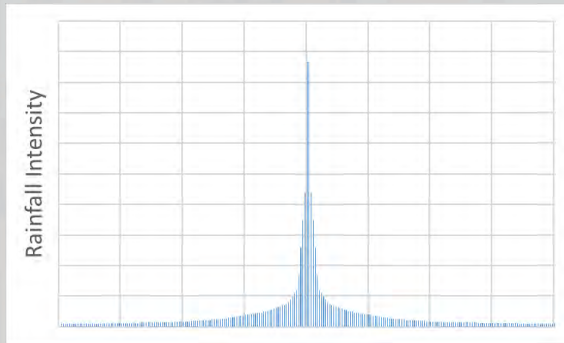
# Catchment Response Examples

## Parking Lot



# Catchment Response Examples

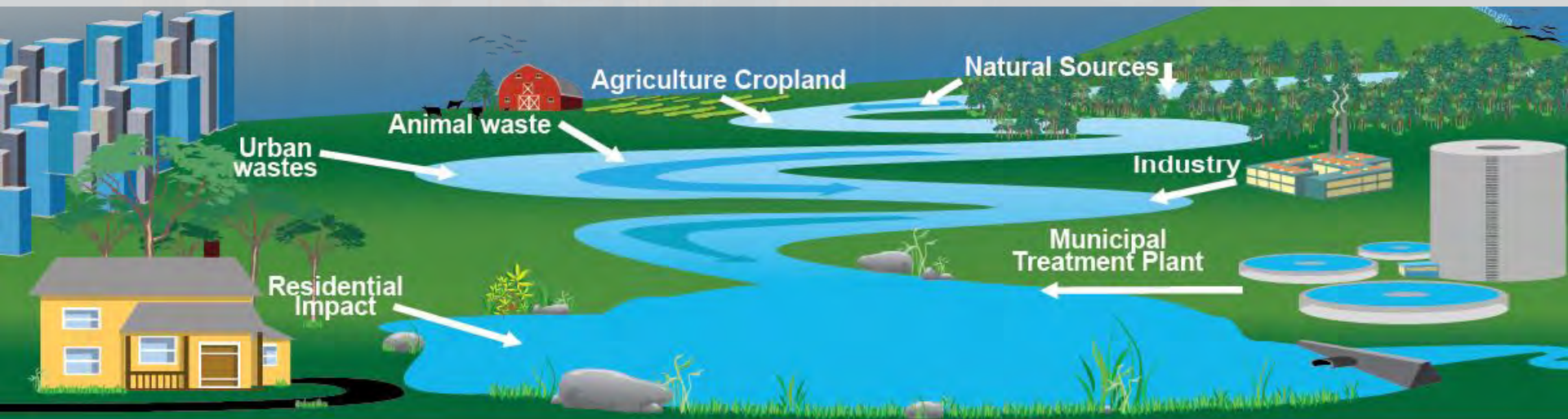
## Sports Field



# Water Quality Overview

## Typical Stormwater Pollutants

- Sediment AKA Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
- Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Chloride, and Hydrocarbons
- Micro-organisms and Toxic Organics



# Predicting Water Quality

## Factors Effecting Stormwater Pollutant Load

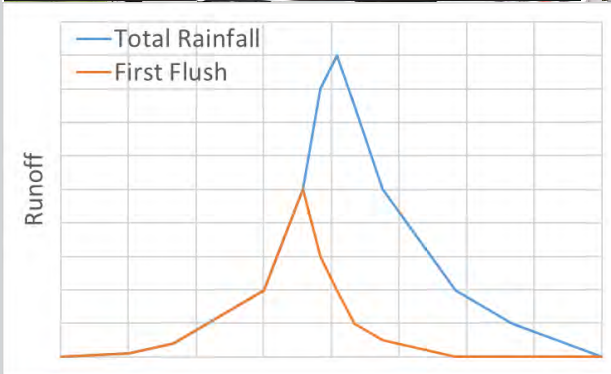
- Land Use/Type of Pollutants Present



- Frequency of Cleaning/Flushing Rainfall

- Hydrology and Treatment Train

- Intensity and Duration of Rainfall Event



## Concept of "First Flush"

➤ Pollutant concentration varies over time

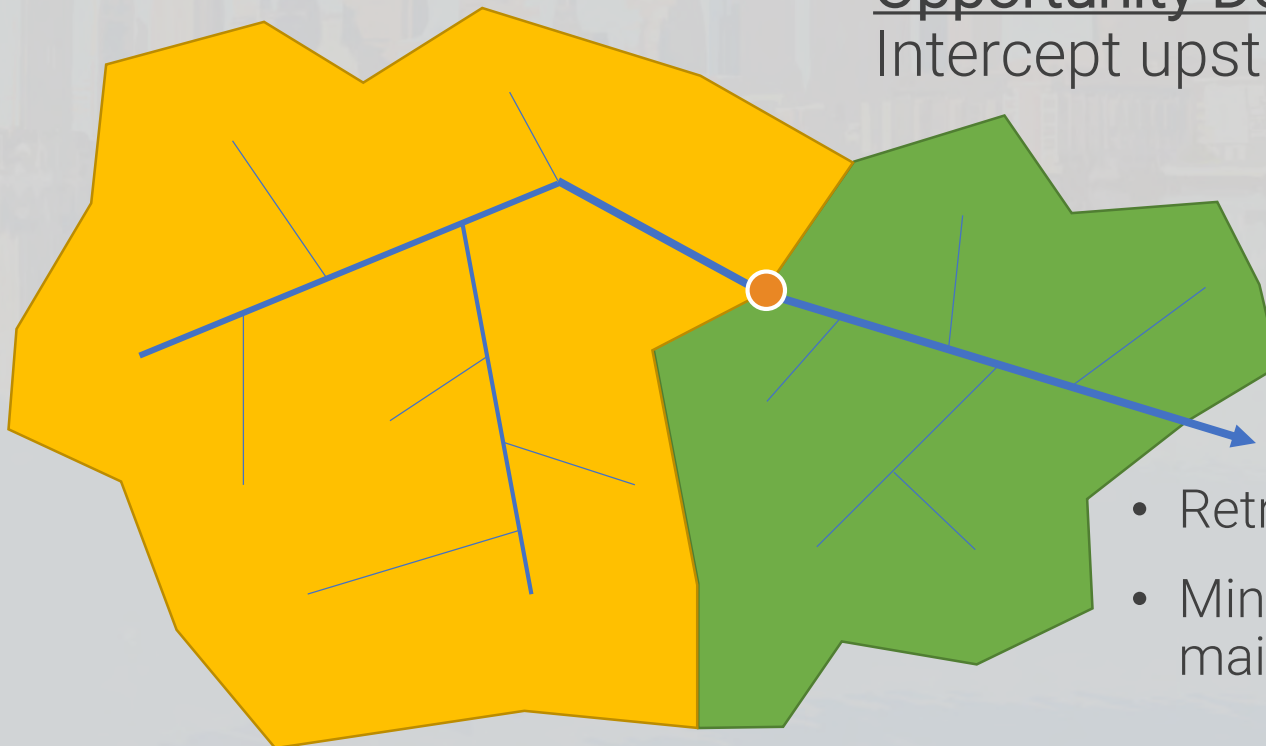
Sep Sept Sept Sept Sept  
October  
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# Unique BMP Application

Existing Upstream Catchment Area  
Minimal TSS removal

Opportunity Downstream  
Intercept upstream TSS



- Retroactive treatment
- Minimize downstream maintenance

# Regulation of TSS and Sediment Removal

## MassDEP Stormwater Management Standards

- 10 Stormwater Standards

**Standard 4:** Stormwater management systems shall be designed to remove 80% of the average annual post-construction load of Total Suspended Solids (TSS). This standard is met when:

- a) Suitable practices for source control and pollution prevention are identified in a long-term pollution prevention plan, and thereafter are implemented and maintained;
- b) Structural stormwater best management practices are sized to capture the required water quality volume as determined in accordance with the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook; and
- c) Pretreatment is provided in accordance with the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook.

- Water Quality Volume (WQV) → MA Stormwater Handbook
- Proprietary BMP Evaluation Guidance → Vol. 2, Ch. 4

# Sizing of Flow-Based Proprietary BMPs

MassDEP Standard Method to Convert Required Water  
Quality Volume to a Discharge Rate

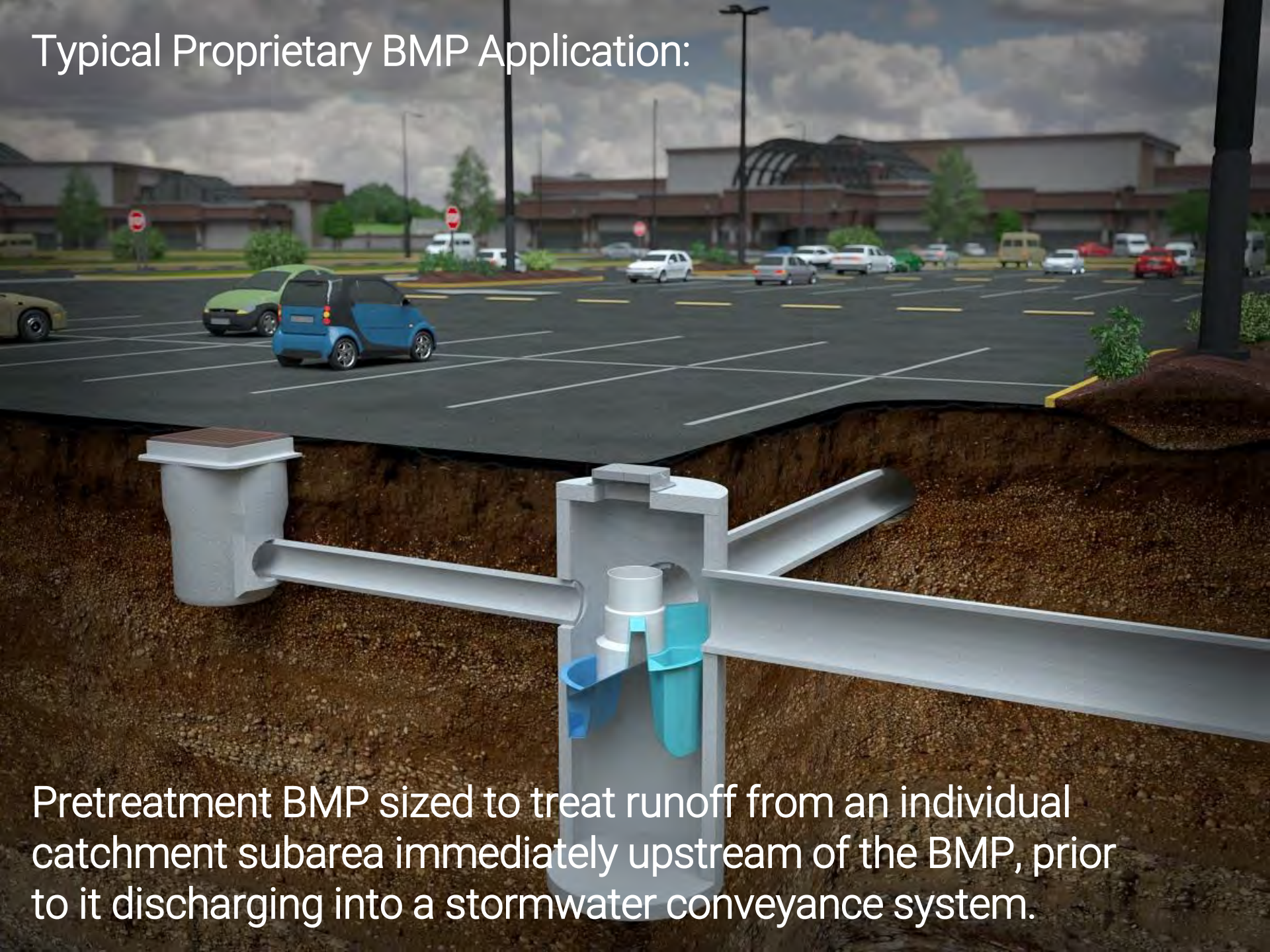
$$Q = (qu)(A)(WQV)$$

where:

$Q$	=	design discharge rate (cfs)
$qu$	=	unit peak discharge (cfs/mi <sup>2</sup> .inches)
$A$	=	impervious surface drainage area (mi <sup>2</sup> )
$WQV$	=	water quality volume (watershed inches)

...Intended for Typical Proprietary BMP Applications...

## Typical Proprietary BMP Application:



Pretreatment BMP sized to treat runoff from an individual catchment subarea immediately upstream of the BMP, prior to it discharging into a stormwater conveyance system.

# MassDEP Standard Method

$$Q = (qu)(A)(WQV)$$

$Q$  = design discharge rate (cfs)

$qu$  = unit peak discharge (cfs/mi<sup>2</sup>.inches)

$A$  = impervious surface drainage area (mi<sup>2</sup>)

$WQV$  = water quality volume (watershed inches)

# MassDEP Standard Method

$$Q = (qu)(A)(WQV)$$

- $Q$  = design discharge rate (cfs)  
 $qu$  = unit peak discharge (cfs/mi<sup>2</sup>.inches)  
 $A$  = impervious surface drainage area (mi<sup>2</sup>)  
 $WQV$  = water quality volume (watershed inches)

The required water quality volume equals 1.0 inch of runoff times the total impervious area of the post-development project site for a discharge

- from a land use with a higher potential pollutant load;
- within an area with a rapid infiltration rate (greater than 2.4 inches per hour);
- within a Zone II or Interim Wellhead Protection Area;
- near or to the following critical areas:
  - Outstanding Resource Waters,
  - Special Resource Waters,
  - bathing beaches,
  - shellfish growing areas,
  - cold-water fisheries.

OR

*MA Stormwater  
Handbook Vol. 1, Ch. 1*

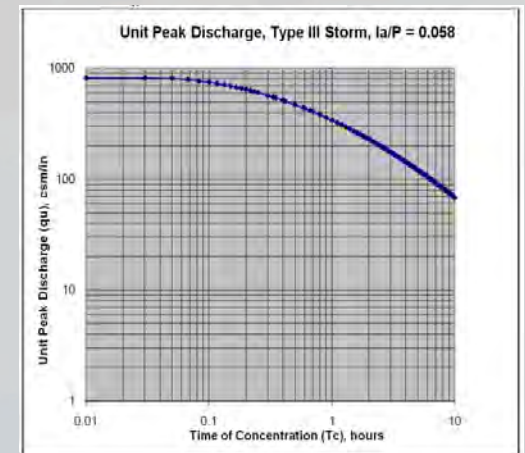
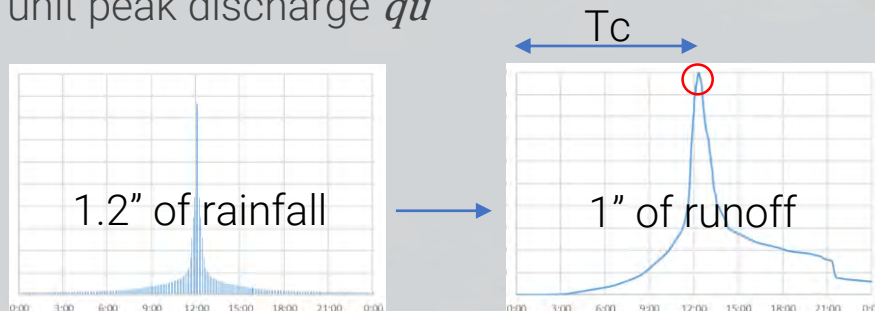
The required water quality volume equals 0.5 inches of runoff times the total impervious area of the post-development site for all other discharges.

# MassDEP Standard Method

$$Q = (qu)(A)(WQV)$$

$Q$  = design discharge rate (cfs)  
 $qu$  = unit peak discharge (cfs/mi<sup>2</sup>.inches)  
 $A$  = impervious surface drainage area (mi<sup>2</sup>)  
 $WQV$  = water quality volume (watershed inches)

- Assumes Curve Number (CN) 98 to represent runoff potential for impervious surfaces
- Compute Time of Concentration ( $T_c$ ) based on TR-55
- Use MassDEP-derived  $I_a/P$  curves to determine unit peak discharge  $qu$



# MassDEP Standard Method

## Fundamental Assumptions

- First flush passes through BMP immediately upon entering the drainage system
- No distinction between the hydrological time of concentration and the time it takes for the WQV to be conveyed to the BMP
- No additional inflow to BMP not associated with the WQV

Defines a static design flow rate based on first flush – not a direct assessment of the average annual TSS removal rate



# Applicability of MassDEP Standard Method

## Methodology and Use-Case Comparison

- First flush does not pass immediately through BMP
- Hydrological time of concentration is not equivalent to the time it takes for the WQV to be conveyed to the BMP
- Additional inflow, not associated with the WQV, will pass through BMP alongside WQV

Standard Method Assumptions  
Are Not Valid for this Use-Case

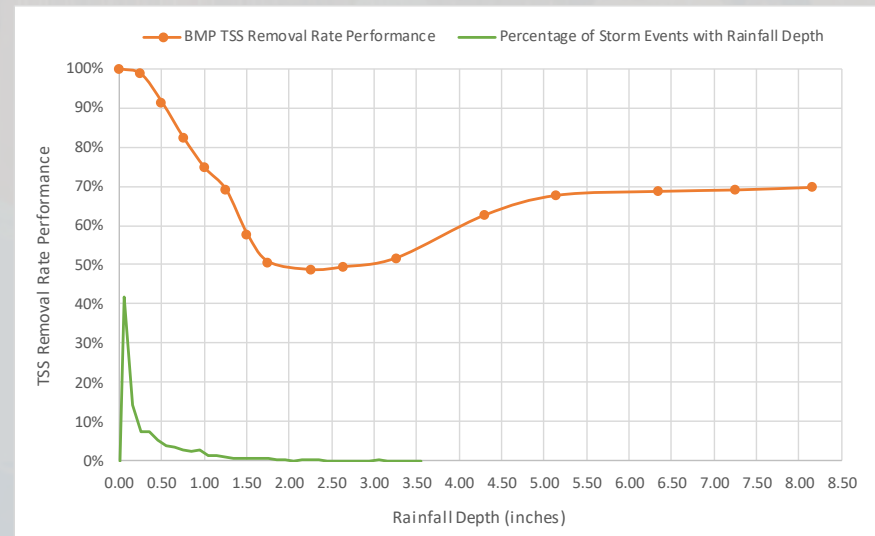


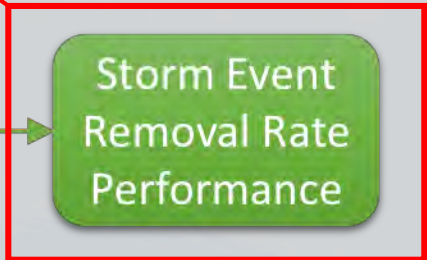
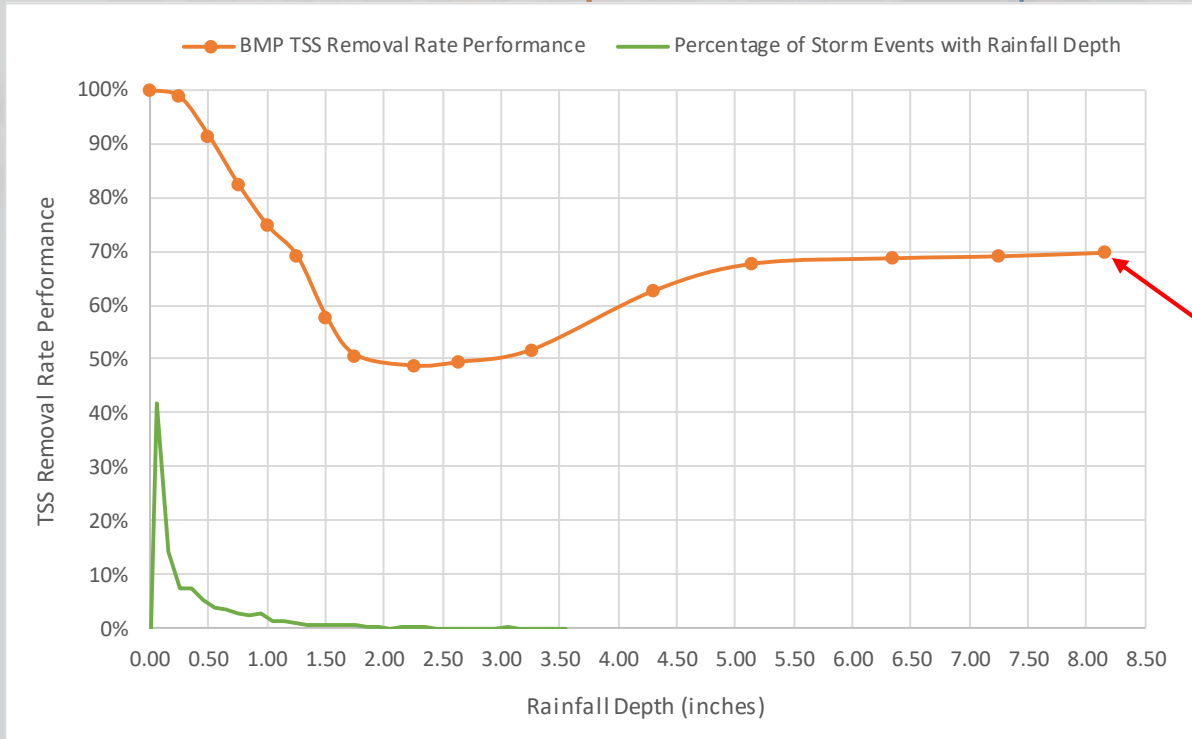
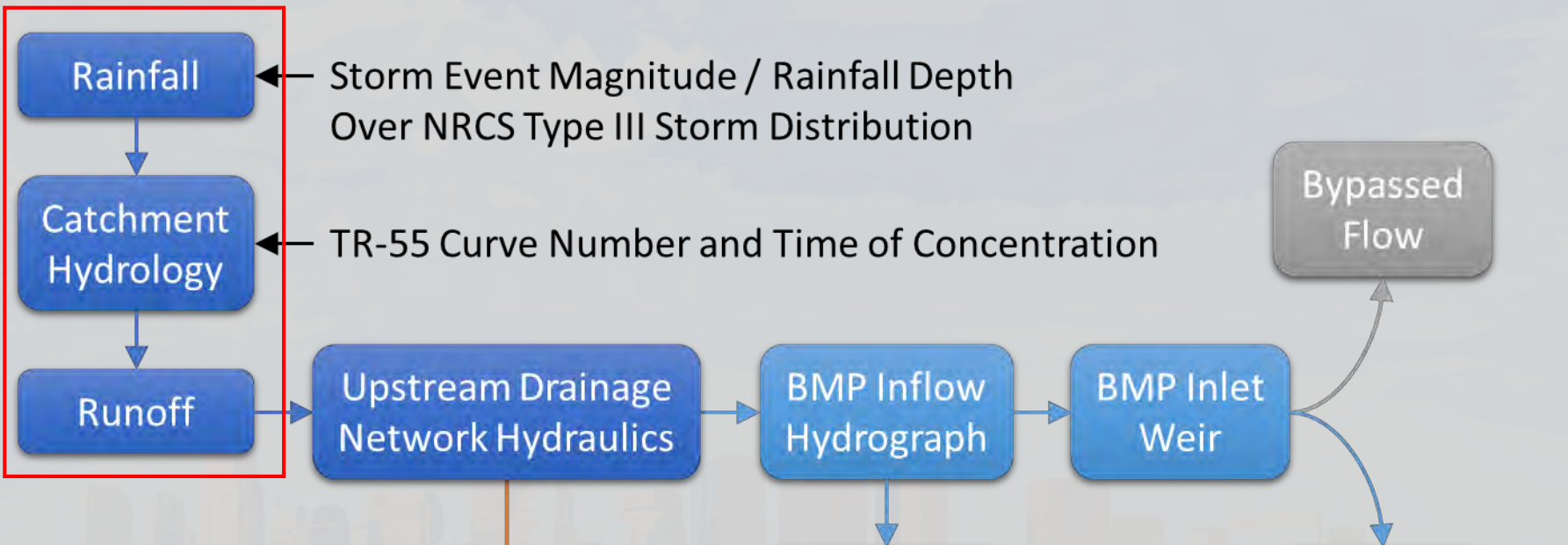
# Alternative Analysis Methodology

## Overall Approach

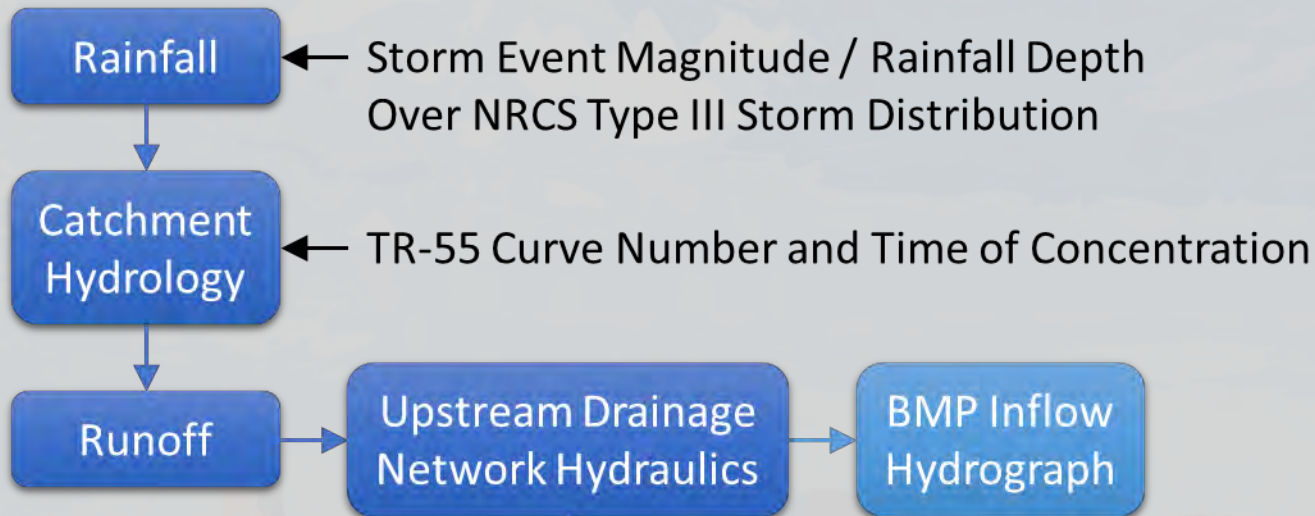
Per MassDEP Standard 4, BMP performance is defined by the average annual TSS removal rate – not only the removal rate for an idealized first flush rainfall event:

1. Evaluate storm event removal rate performance for range of storms
  - Drainage model temporal analysis
2. Weight removal rates based on annual event frequency
3. Weight removal rates by proportion of WQV flushed by event



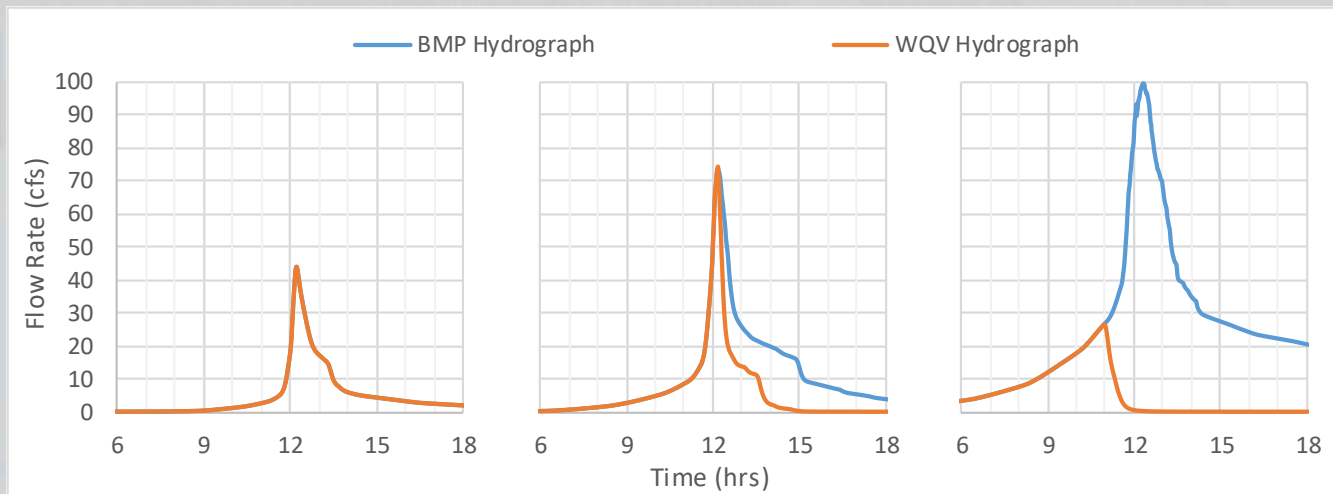


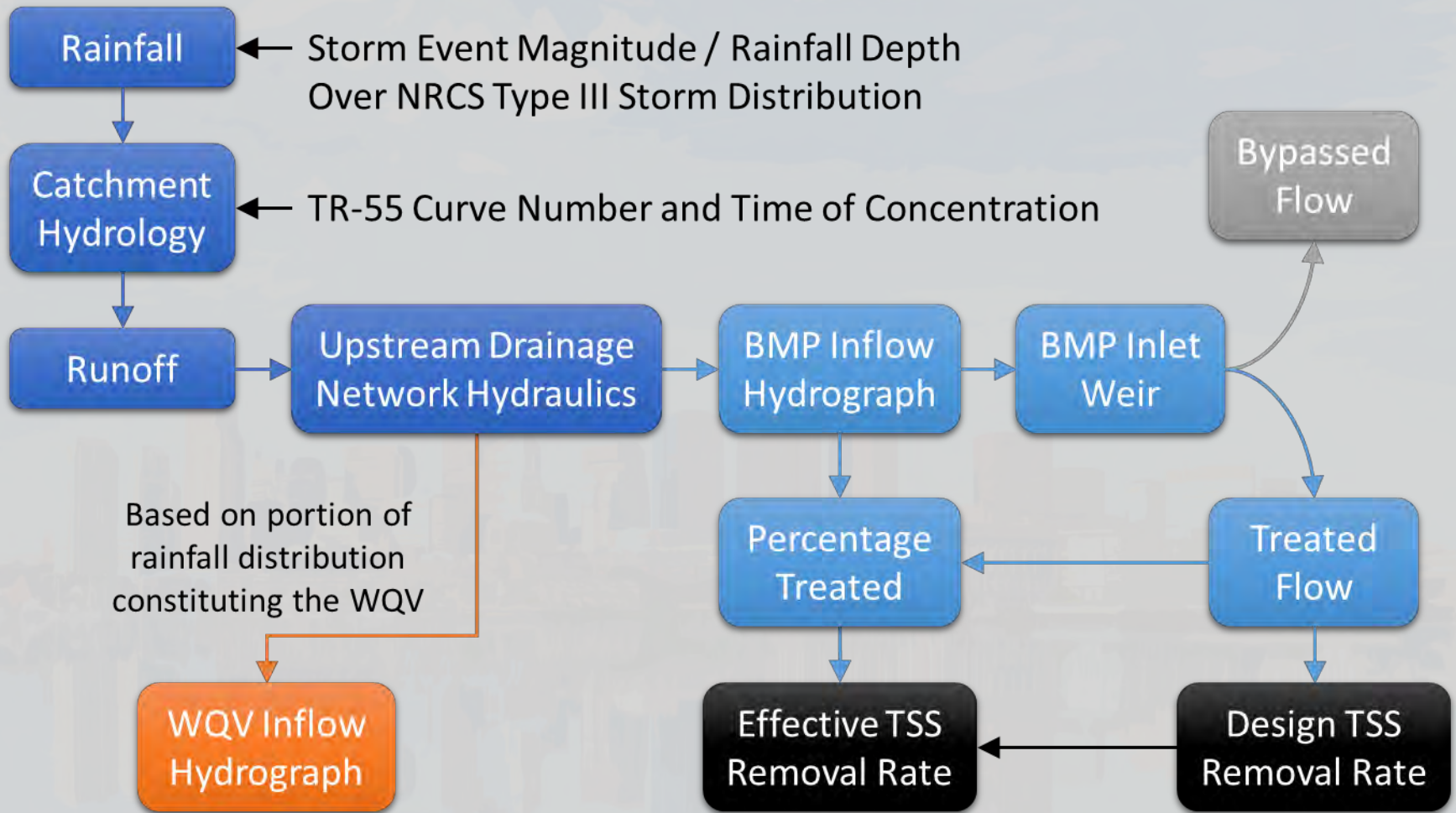
Design TSS Removal Rate



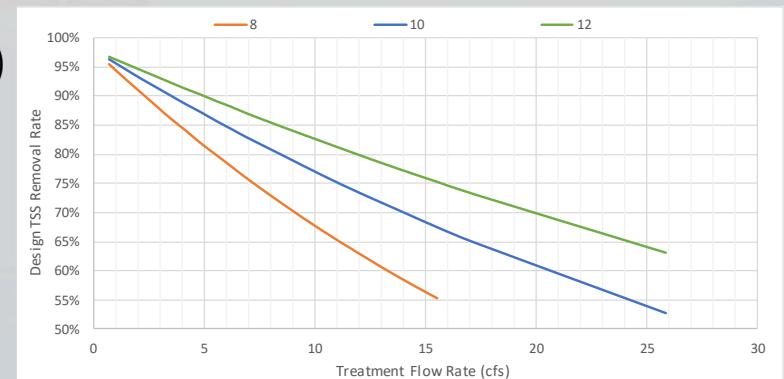
Based on portion of rainfall distribution constituting the WQV

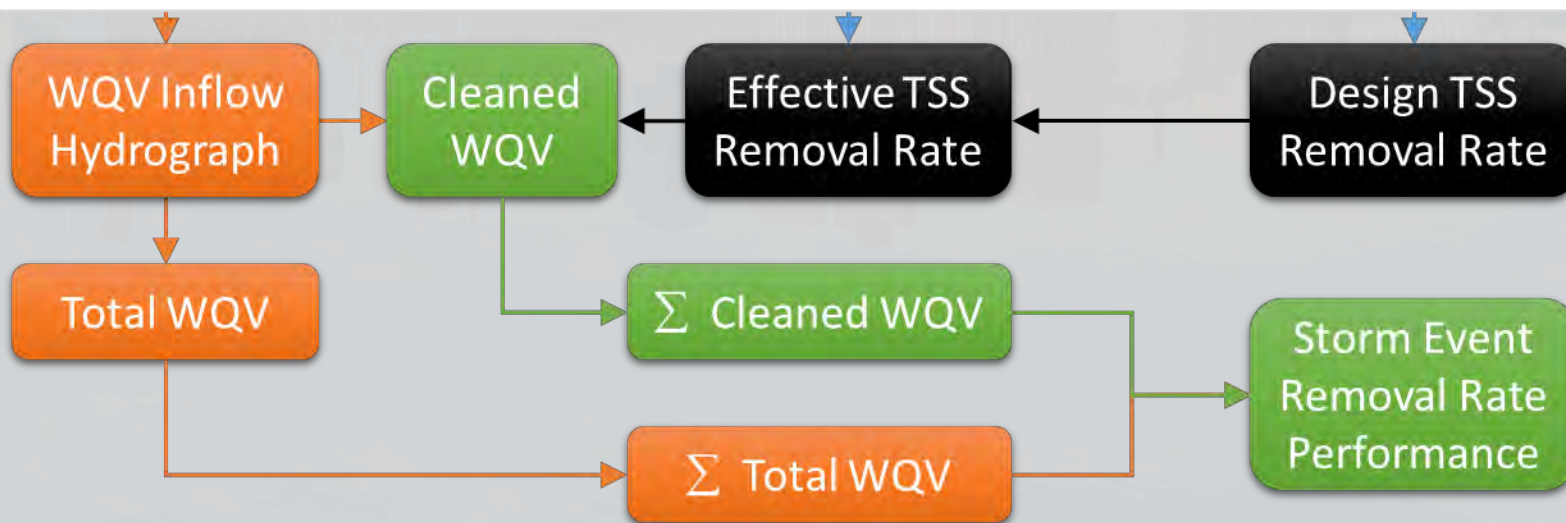
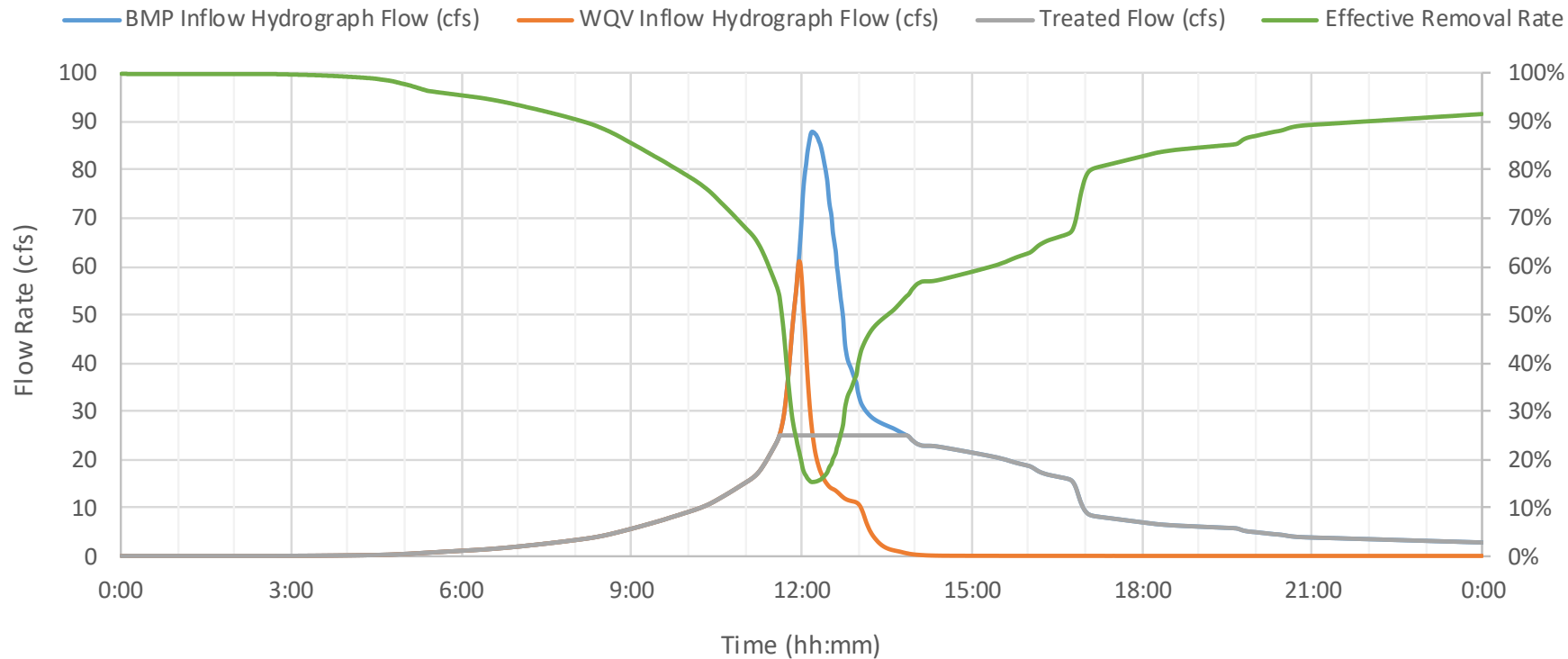
WQV Inflow Hydrograph

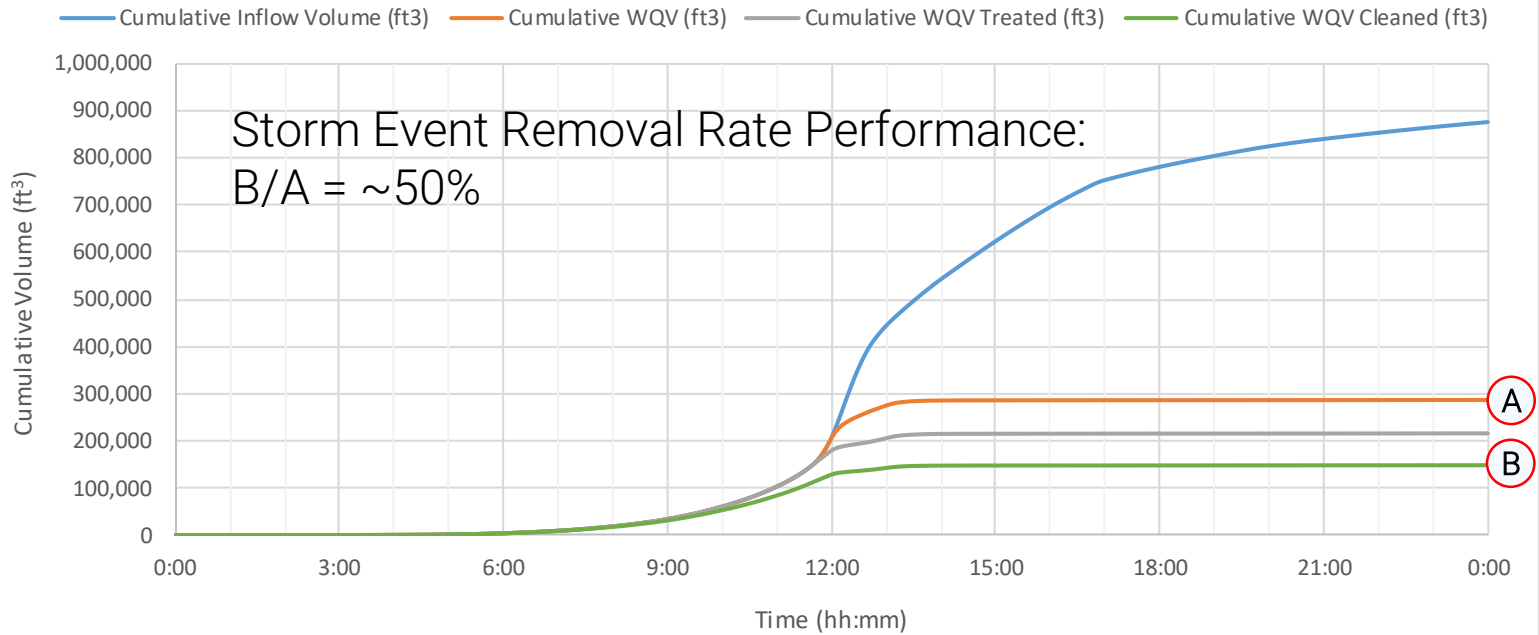
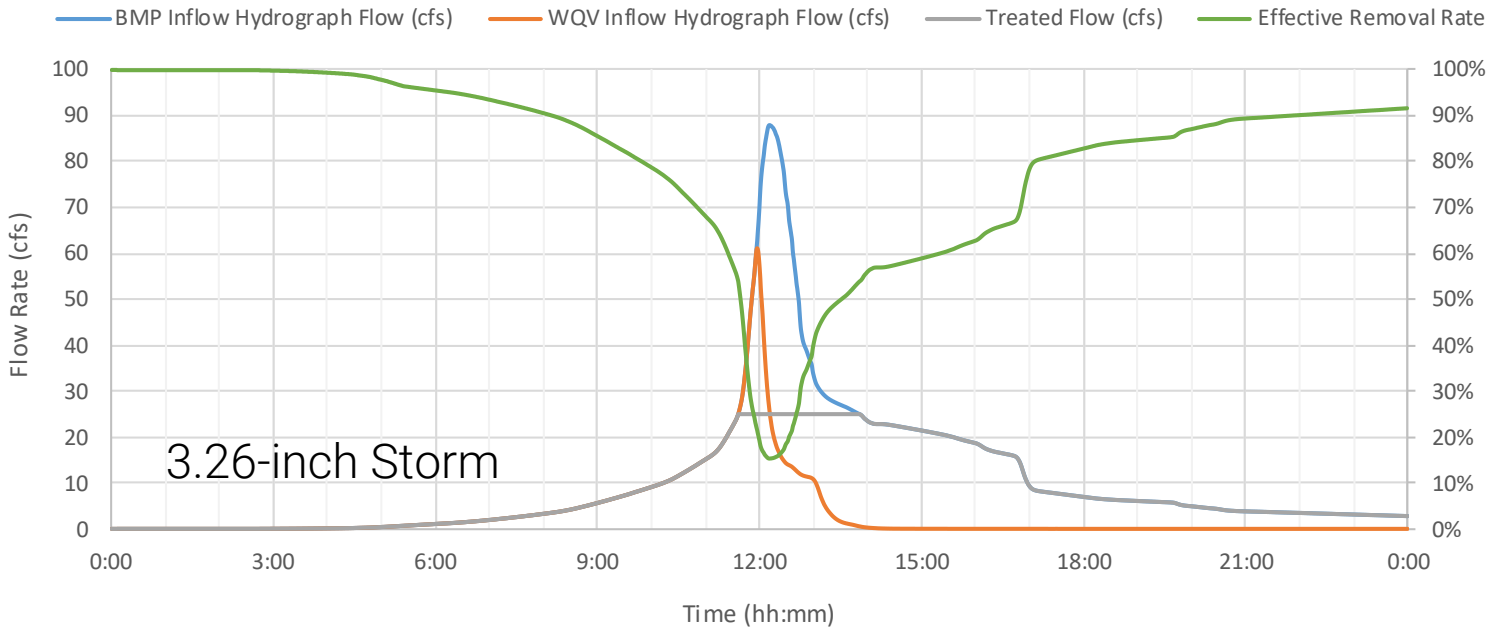




- Sediment Particle Size Distribution (PSD)
  - Uniform: OK-110, Broad: NJDEP PSD
- Target Particle Size for Removal
  - Pretreatment: Coarse Particles  $\sim 100\mu\text{m}$
  - Terminal Treatment: Fine Particles  $\sim 50\mu\text{m}$





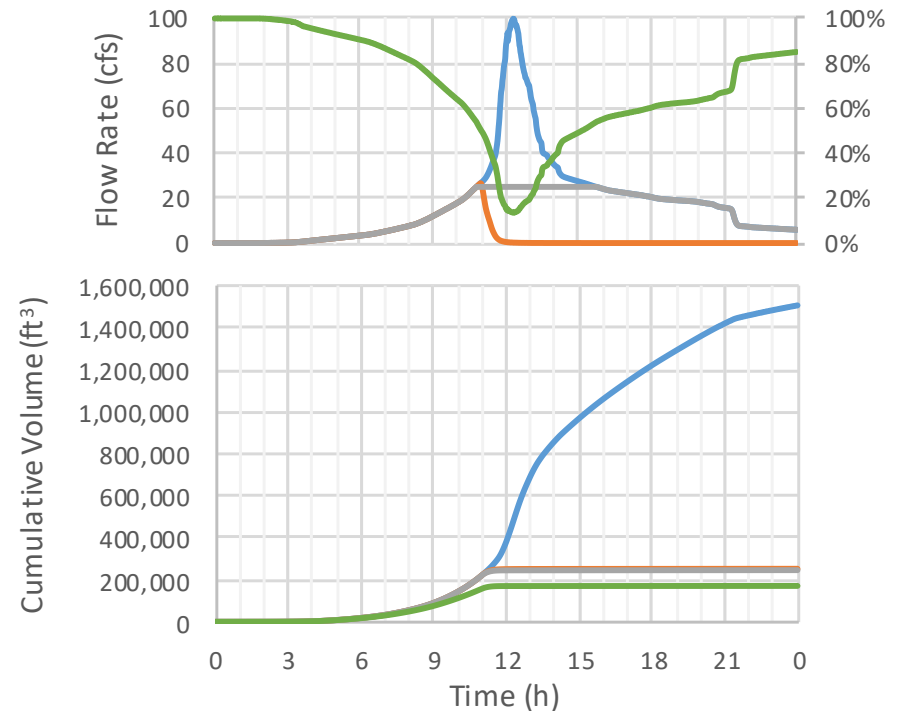
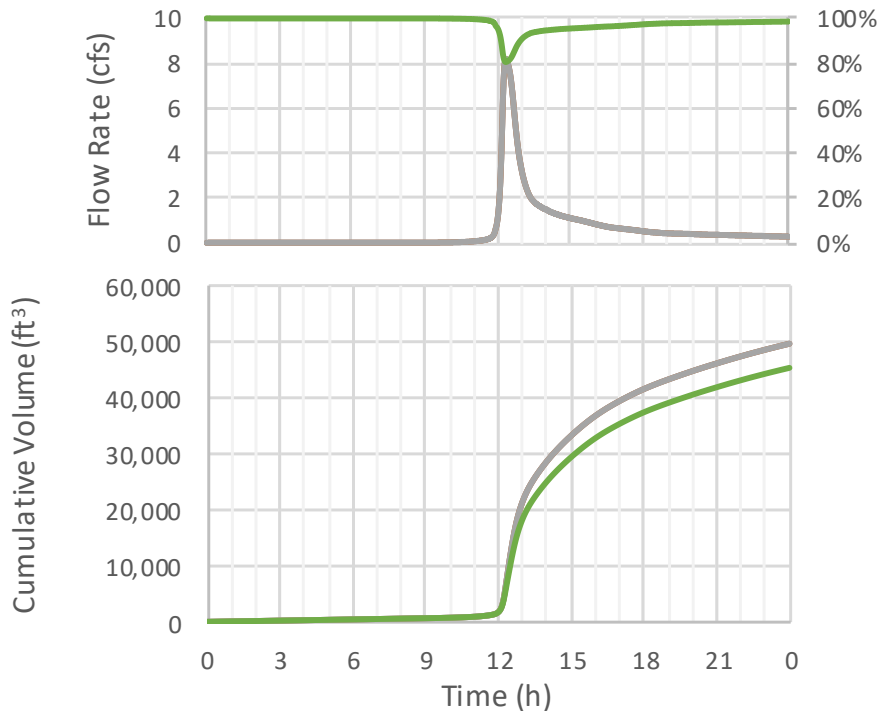


# Temporal Analysis Other Storm Examples

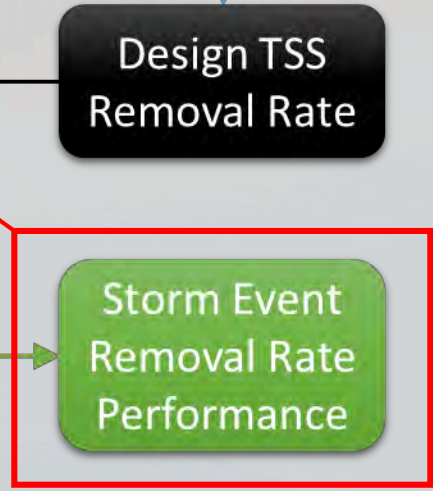
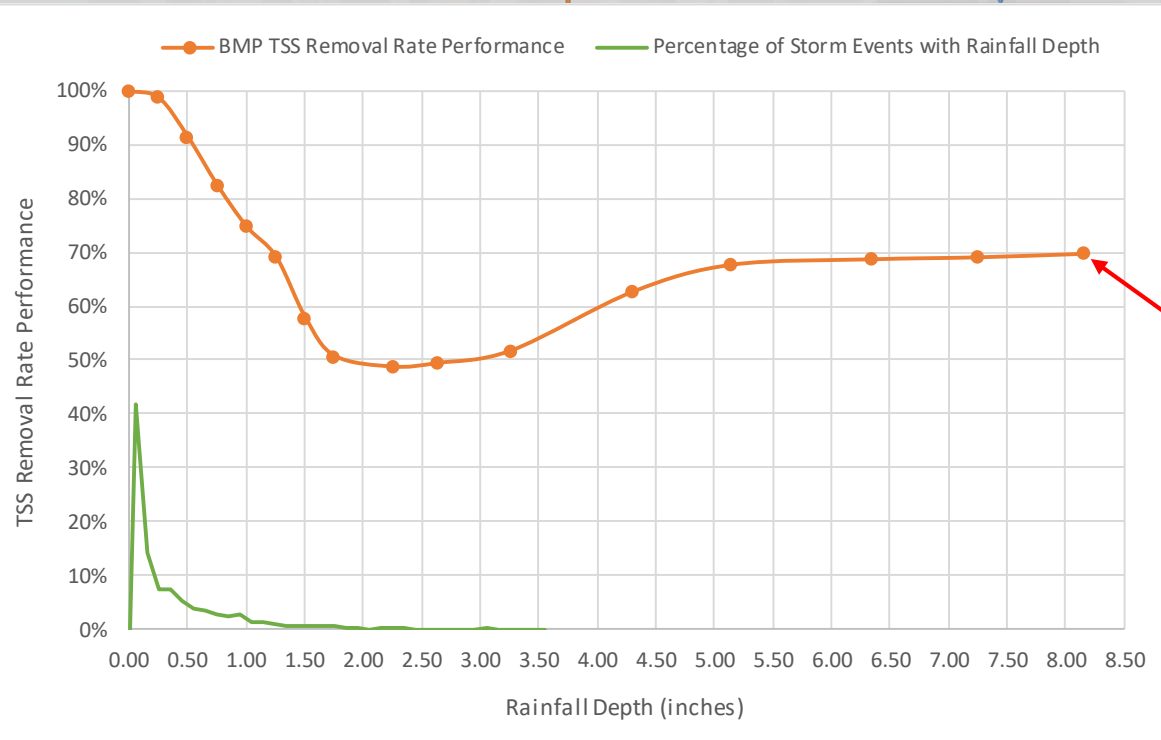
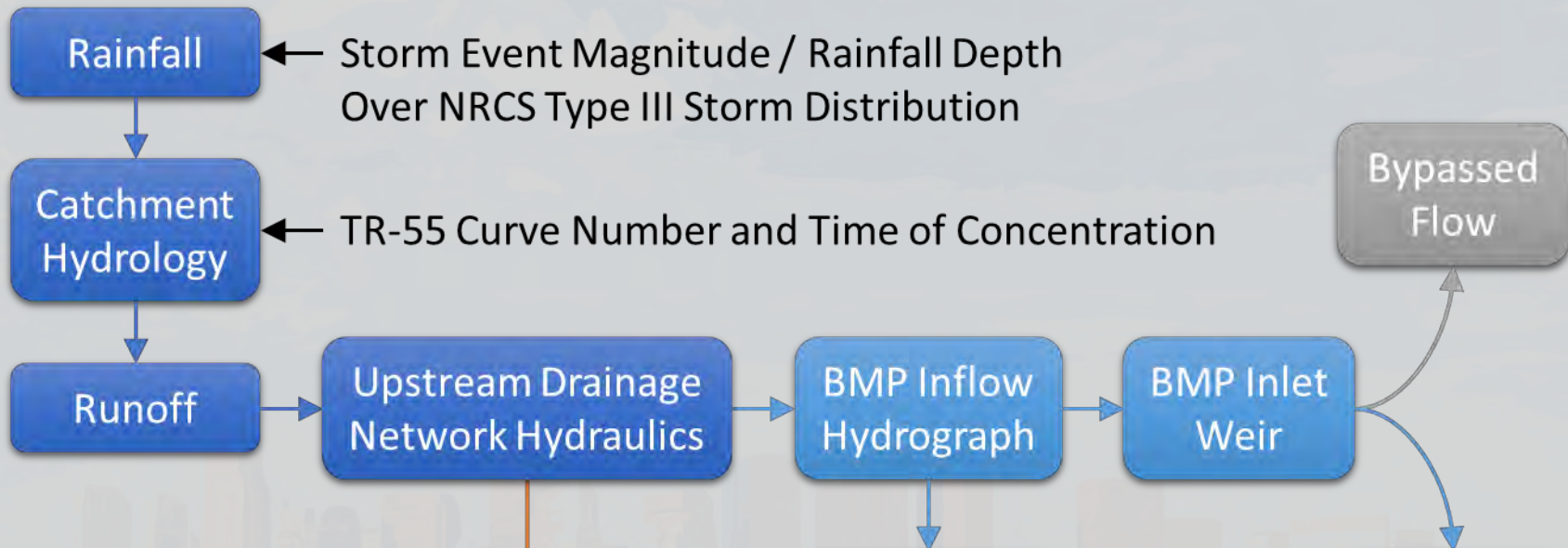
0.50-inch storm: ~90%

5.15-inch storm: ~70%

— BMP Inflow Hydrograph Flow (cfs) — WQV Inflow Hydrograph Flow (cfs) — Treated Flow (cfs) — Effective Removal Rate







# Alternative Analysis Methodology

## Limitations

- Requires Drainage Model
- Variability in Storm Event Duration and Rainfall Pattern
- Geospatial Differences in Rainfall Intensity
- Future Changes to Upstream Drainage System
- Climate Change Escalation of Historic Rainfall Data

# Conclusions

- MA Stormwater Handbook provides guidance to size proprietary flow-based BMPs for typical applications, but the underlying assumptions don't generalize more broadly
- The proposed alternative methodology:
  - Requires a drainage model to undertake but offers advantages over the Standard Methodology for unique applications where the assumptions of the Standard Methodology are not valid
  - Is suitable for analyzing the long-term performance of and sizing proprietary BMPs for TSS removal, consistent with regulatory requirements enforced by MassDEP

# Thank You

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A Unique BMP Application

