

TOWN OF CEDAR POINT AND TOWN OF CAPE CARTERET

Stormwater Solutions: Disconnected Impervious Surfaces



What is a disconnected impervious surface?

Roof tops, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces often drain directly to pipe systems or ditches, increasing runoff and preventing rainwater from soaking into the ground. Disconnected impervious areas are those which divert or direct stormwater to naturally vegetated areas. This reduces pollution by slowing down the runoff, increasing infiltration, and filtering flow through vegetation.



Did you Know?

- During small storms, disconnected impervious areas can reduce runoff volume by 30% to 100%
- Benefits include reduced need for irrigation, better aesthetics, and lower infrastructure costs
- Local soils can infiltrate over 5 inches of rainfall before becoming saturated

Benefits

- Reduces stormwater runoff volumes discharged into our waterways
- Reduces infrastructure costs
- Reduces dependence on irrigation
- Healthier green space

Helpful Hints

- The native soils around Cedar Point and Cape Carteret often have incredible capacity to infiltrate stormwater runoff. A landscape specialist or soil scientist can help determine the capacity of the soils on your property
- For the best effect, tie multiple practices together. Use disconnected impervious areas as part of a larger stormwater management strategy



TOWN OF CEDAR POINT AND TOWN OF CAPE CARTERET

Stormwater Solutions: Disconnected Impervious Surfaces



Where to start

Location

- As a retrofit, see if it's possible to add curb cuts in the edge of the parking lot to allow runoff flow into vegetated areas
- On new or re-development sites, try to slope the parking lots, roofs, and sidewalks into landscaped areas, open spaces, or woods
- Make sure water is directed away from buildings
- Disconnect the building downspouts (see Simple Solutions sheets)

References and Resources

- See the "Simple Solutions: Downspout Disconnection" sheet for more help, Contact your local nursery or Town staff for more assistance
- NC Cooperative Extension: www.ces.ncsu.edu/search/impact/solutions
- Low Impact Development Center: www.lowimpactdevelopment.org
- NC Coastal Federation: www.nccoast.org/search/disconnected/impervious/surfaces



note: photos depicted in this fact sheet show disconnected surfaces and infiltration techniques at the Cape Carteret McDonalds.

