PERMEABLE PAVEMENT

CVC/TRCA LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING AND DESIGN GUIDE - FACT SHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Permeable pavements, an alternative to traditional impervious pavement, allow storm-water to drain through them and into a stone reservoir where it is infiltrated into the underlying native soil or temporarily detained. They can be used for low traffic roads, parking lots, driveways, pedestrian plazas and walkways. Permeable pavement is ideal for sites with limited space for other surface stormwater BMPs. Examples of permeable pavement types include:

- permeable interlocking concrete pavers (i.e., block pavers);
- plastic or concrete grid systems (i.e., grid pavers);
- pervious concrete; and
- porous asphalt.

Depending on the native soils and physical constraints, the system may be designed with no underdrain for full infiltration, with an underdrain for partial infiltration, or with an impermeable liner and underdrain for a no infiltration or detention and filtration only practice.

DESIGN GUIDANCE

GEOMETRY & SITE LAYOUT

Permeable pavement systems can be used for entire parking lot areas or driveways or can be designed to receive runoff from adjacent impervious pavement. For example, the parking spaces of a parking lot or road can be permeable pavers while the drive lanes are impervious asphalt. In general, the impervious area should not exceed 1.2 times the area of the permeable pavement which receives the runoff (GVRD, 2005).

PRE-TREATMENT

In most permeable pavement designs, the pavement bedding layer acts as pre-treatment to the stone reservoir below. Periodic vacuum sweeping and preventative measures like not storing snow or other materials on the pavement are critical to prevent clogging. An optional pretreatment element can be a pea gravel choking layer above the coarse gravel storage reservoir.

CONVEYANCE AND OVERFLOW

All designs require an overflow outlet connected to a storm sewer with capacity to convey larger storms. One option is to set storm drain inlets slightly above the surface elevation of the pavement, which allows for temporary shallow ponding above the surface. Another design option is an overflow edge, which is a gravel trench along the downgradient edge of the pavement surface that drains to the stone reservoir below.

Pavements designed for full infiltration, where native soil infiltration rate is 15 mm/hr or greater, do not require incorporation of a perforated pipe underdrain. Pavements designed for partial infiltration, where native soil infiltration rate is less than 15 mm/hr, should incorporate a perforated pipe underdrain placed near the top of the granular stone reservoir. Partial infiltration designs can also include a flow restrictor assembly on the underdrain to optimize infiltration with desired drawdown time between storm events.

MONITORING WELLS

A capped vertical standpipe consisting of an anchored 100 to 150 mm diameter perforated pipe with a lockable cap installed to the bottom of the facility is recommended for monitoring the length of time required to fully drain the facility between storms.

STONE RESERVOIR

The stone reservoir must be designed to meet both runoff storage and structural support requirements. Clean washed stone is recommended as any fines in the aggregate material will migrate to the bottom and may prematurely clog the native soil. The bottom of the reservoir should be flat so that runoff will be able to infiltrate evenly through the entire surface. If the system is not designed for infiltration, the bottom should be sloped at 1 to 5% toward the underdrain.

GEOTEXTILE

A non-woven needle punched, or woven monofilament geotextile fabric should be installed between the stone reservoir and native soil to maintain separation.

EDGE RESTRAINTS

Pavers must abut tightly against the restraints to prevent rotation under load and any consequent spreading of joints. The restraints must be able to withstand the impact of temperature changes, vehicular traffic and snow removal equipment. Metal or plastic stripping is acceptable in some cases, but concrete edges are preferred. Concrete edge restraints should be supported on a minimum base of 150 mm of aggregate.

LANDSCAPING

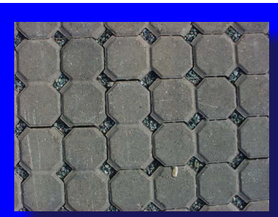
Adjacent landscaping areas should drain away from permeable pavement to prevent sediments from running onto the surface. Urban trees also benefit from being surrounded by permeable pavement rather than impervious cover, because their roots receive more air and water.

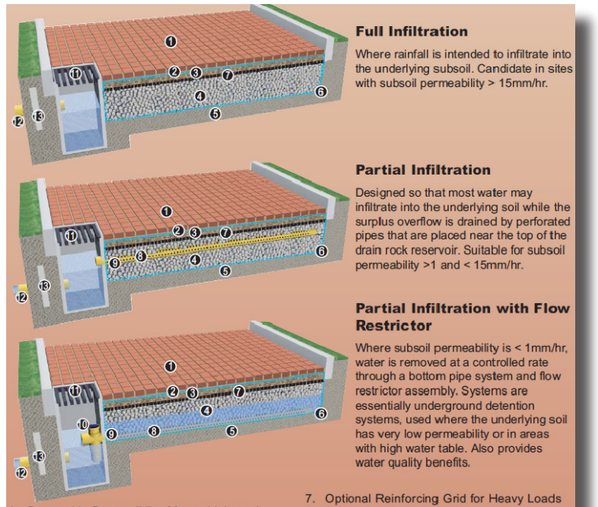
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Annual inspections of permeable pavement should be conducted in the spring to ensure continued infiltration performance. Check for deterioration and whether water is draining between storms. The pavement reservoir should drain completely within 72 hours of the end of the storm event. The following maintenance procedures and preventative measures should be incorporated into a maintenance plan:

Surface Sweeping: Sweeping should occur once or twice a year with a commercial vacuum sweeping unit. Permeable pavement should not be washed with high pressure water systems or compressed air units.

Inlet Structures: Drainage pipes and structures within or draining to the subsurface bedding beneath permeable pavement should be cleaned out on regular intervals.





Full Infiltration

Where rainfall is intended to infiltrate into the underlying subsoil. Candidate in sites with subsoil permeability > 15mm/hr.

Partial Infiltration

Designed so that most water may infiltrate into the underlying soil while the surplus overflow is drained by perforated pipes that are placed near the top of the drain rock reservoir. Suitable for subsoil permeability >1 and < 15mm/hr.

Partial Infiltration with Flow Restrictor

Where subsoil permeability is < 1mm/hr, water is removed at a controlled rate through a bottom pipe system and flow restrictor assembly. Systems are essentially underground detention systems, used where the underlying soil has very low permeability or in areas with high water table. Also provides water quality benefits.

1. Permeable Pavers (Min. 80mm thickness)
2. Aggregate Bedding Course - not sand (50mm depth)
3. Open Graded Base (depth varies by design application)
4. Open Graded Sub-base (depth varies by design application)
5. Subsoil - flat and scarified in infiltration designs
6. Geotextile on All Sides of Reservoir
7. Optional Reinforcing Grid for Heavy Loads
8. Perforated Drain Pipe 150mm Dia. Min.
9. Geotextile Adhered to Drain at Opening
10. Flow Restrictor Assembly
11. Secondary Overflow Inlet at Catch Basin
12. Outlet Pipe to Storm Drain or Swale System. Locate Crown of Pipe Below Open Graded Base (no. 3) to Prevent Heaving During Freeze/Thaw Cycle
13. Trench Dams at All Utility Crossings

Source: GVRD

ABILTY TO MEET SWM OBJECTIVES

BMP	Water Balance Benefit	Water Quality Improvement	Stream Channel Erosion Control Benefit
Permeable pavement with no underdrain	Yes	Yes - size for water quality storage requirement	Partial - based on available storage volume and soil infiltration rate
Permeable pavement with underdrain	Moderate - based on native soil infiltration rates and storage beneath the underdrain	Yes - size for water quality storage requirement	Partial - based on available storage volume and soil infiltration rate
Permeable pavement with underdrain and liner	No - some volume reduction occurs through evapotranspiration	Moderate - limited filtering and settling of sediments	Partial - based on available storage volume and soil infiltration rate

Heavy Vehicles: Trucks and other heavy vehicles should be prevented from tracking or spilling dirt onto the permeable pavement.

Construction and Hazardous Materials: Due to the potential for groundwater contamination, all construction or hazardous material carriers should be prohibited from entering a permeable pavement site.

Drainage Areas: Impervious areas contributing to the permeable pavement should be regularly swept and kept clear of litter and debris. Flows from any landscaped areas should be diverted away from thepavement or be well stabilized with vegetation.

Grid Pavers: Grid paver systems that have been planted with grass should be mowed regularly with the clippings removed. Grassed grid pavers may require periodic watering and fertilization to establish and maintain healthy vegetation.

Winter Maintenance: Sand should not be spread on permeable pavement as it can quickly lead to clogging. Deicers should only be used in moderation and only when needed. Pilot studies have found that permeable pavement requires 75% less de-icing salt than conventional pavement over the course of a typical winter season. Permeable pavement is plowed for snow removal like any other pavement. Plowed snow piles should not be stored on permeable pavement systems.

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

Material	Specification	Quantity
Pervious Concrete	• NO4-RG-S7 mix with air entrainment proven to have the best freeze-thaw durability after 300 freeze-thaw cycles. • 28 day compressive strength = 5.5 to 20 MPa • Void ratio = 14% - 31% • Permeability = 900 to 21,500 mm/hr	Thickness will range from 100mm - 150 mm depending on the expected loads
Porous Asphalt	• Open-graded asphalt mix with a minimum of 16% air voids • Polymers can be added to provide additional strength for heavy loads • The University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center has detailed design specifications for porous asphalt on their webpage: http://www.unh.edu/erg/cstev/pubs_specs_info	Thickness will range from 50 mm to 100 mm depending on the expected loads.
Permeable Pavers	• Permeable pavers should conform to manufacturer specifications. • ASTM No. 8 (5 mm dia.) crushed aggregate is recommended for fill material in the paver openings. For narrow joints between interlocking shapes, a smaller sized aggregate may be used (Smith, 2006). • Pavers shall meet the minimum material and physical properties set forth in CAN 3-A231.2, Standard Specification for Precast Concrete Pavers. • Pigment in concrete pavers shall conform to ASTM C 979. • Maximum allowable breakage of product is 5%.	For vehicular applications, the minimum paver thickness is 80 mm and for pedestrian applications is 60 mm. Joint widths should be no greater than 15 mm for pedestrian applications.
Stone Reservoir	All aggregates should meet the following criteria: • Maximum wash loss of 0.5% • Minimum durability index of 35 • Maximum abrasion of 10% for 100 revolutions and maximum of 50% for 500 revolutions Granular Subbase The granular subbase material shall consist of granular material graded in accordance with ASTM D 2940. Material should be clear crushed 50 mm diameter stone with void space ratio of 0.4. Granular Base The granular base material shall be crushed stone conforming to ASTM C 33 No 57. Material should be clear crushed 20 mm diameter stone. Bedding The granular bedding material shall be graded in accordance with the requirements of ASTM C 33 No 8. The typical bedding thickness is between 40 mm and 75 mm. Material should be 5 mm diameter stone or as determined by the Design Engineer (Smith, 2006).	See BMP Sizing section for aggregate bed depth and multiply by application are to get total volume.
Geotextile	Material specifications should conform to Ontario Provincial Standard Specification (OPSS) 1860 for Class II geotextile fabrics. Should be woven monofilament or non-woven needle punched fabrics. Woven slit film and non-woven heat bonded fabrics should not be used as they are prone to clogging. Primary considerations are: • Suitable apparent opening size (AOS) for non-woven fabrics, or percent open area (POA) for woven fabrics, to maintain water flow even with sediment and microbial film build-up; • Maximum forces that will be exerted on the fabric (i.e., what tensile, tear and puncture strength ratings are required?); • Load bearing ratio of the underlying native soil (i.e., is geotextile needed to prevent downward migration of aggregate into the native soil?); • Texture (i.e., grain size distribution) of the overlying aggregate material; and • Permeability of the native soil. For further guidance see CVC/TRCA LID SWM Planning and Design Guide, Table 4.7.3.	Between stone reservoir and native soil.
Underdrain (optional)	• HDPE or equivalent material, continuously perforated with smooth interior and a minimum inside diameter of 100 mm. • Perforations in pipes should be 10 mm in diameter. • A standpipe from the underdrain to the pavement surface can be used for monitoring and maintenance of the underdrain. The top of the standpipe should be covered with a screw cap and a vandal-proof lock.	Pipes should terminate 0.3 m short from the sides of the base.

SITE CONSIDERATIONS

Wellhead Protection

Permeable pavement should not be used for road or parking surfaces within two (2) year time-of-travel wellhead protection areas.

Site Topography

Permeable pavement surface should be at least 1% and no greater than 5%.

Water Table

The base of permeable pavement stone reservoir should be at least one (1) metre above the seasonally high water table or top of bedrock elevation.

Soil

Systems located in native soils with an infiltration rate of less than 15 mm/hr (i.e., hydraulic conductivity of less than 1x10-6 cm/s) require a perforated pipe underdrain. Native soil infiltration rate at the proposed location and depth should be confirmed through measurement of hydraulic conductivity under field saturated conditions.

Drainage Area & Runoff Volume

In general, the impervious area treated should not exceed 1.2 times the area of permeable pavement which receives the runoff.

Setback from Buildings

Should be located downslope from building foundations. If the pavement does not receive runoff from other surfaces, no setback is required. If the pavement receives runoff from other surfaces a minimum setback of four (4) metres downgradient is recommended.

Pollution Hot Spot Runoff

To protect groundwater from possible contamination, runoff from pollution hot spots should not be treated by permeable pavement.

CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

SEDIMENT CONTROL

The treatment area should be fully protected during construction so that no sediment reaches the permeable pavement system. Construction traffic should be blocked from the permeable pavement and its drainage areas once the pavement has been installed.

BASE CONSTRUCTION

In parking lots, the stone aggregate should be placed in 100 mm to 150 mm lifts and compacted with a minimum 9,070 kg (10 ton) steel drum roller.

WEATHER

Porous asphalt and pervious concrete will not properly pour and set in extremely high and low temperatures.

PAVEMENT PLACEMENT

Properly installed permeable pavement requires trained and experienced producers and construction contractors.

TORONTO AND REGION Conservation for The Living City

CVC CREDIT VALLEY CONSERVATION

FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE SECTION 4.7 OF THE CVC/TRCA LID SWM GUIDE