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50 years working in the area of urban water and wet weather flows, focusing on the effects, sources, and control of stormwater. About 100 publications, including several books.

## Biofilter Media Performance Updates for WinSLAMM

Bob Pitt, Emeritus Cudworth Professor of Urban Water Systems, University of Alabama

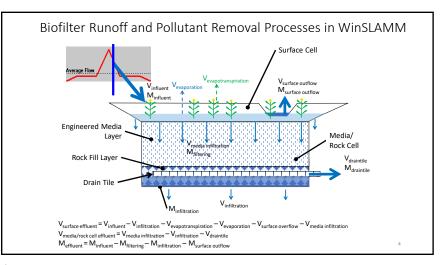
Shirley Clark, Professor, Penn State – Harrisburg, Middletown, PA Redi Sileshi, Associate Professor, University of North Georgia, Gainesville, GA John Voorhees, Principal, PV & Assoc., Madison, WI

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## Stormwater Infiltration Controls Included in WinSLAMM

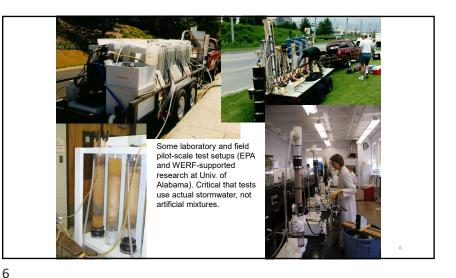
- Bioretention/biofiltration areas
- Rain gardens
- Porous pavement
- Grass swales and grass filters
- Infiltration basins and trenches
- Disconnections of paved areas and roofs from the drainage system
- Also considers evapotranspiration, tree canopy interception, effects of compacted soils, and beneficial uses of stormwater (such as landscape irrigation)

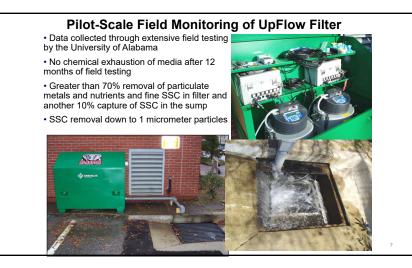


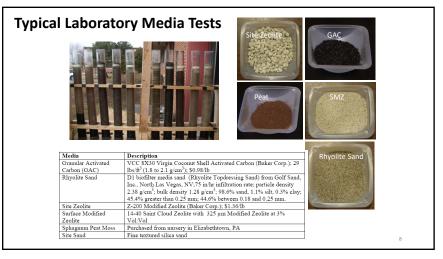


Example Laboratory and Pilot-Scale Research of Stormwater Treatment Media (mostly funded by US EPA, Water Environment Research Foundation, and Industry)

> Developing Media Mixtures Targeting Treatment Objectives







## Laboratory Column Flow Tests

Three levels of compaction were used to modify the density of the media in the columns during the tests (hand compaction, standard proctor compaction, and modified proctor compaction) on the infiltration rates through the various media mixtures.



- The bottom of the columns had a fiberglass window screen and a gravel layer to contain the media.
- The columns were filled with the various media mixtures on top of the gravel layer.
- Both standard and modified proctor compactions follow ASTM standard (D 1140-54).
- The densities were directly determined by measuring the weights and volume of the media material added to each column.
- More than 200 flow tests were conducted for many media mixtures and compaction levels.

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## **Example Full-Scale Monitoring of Stormwater Treatment using Media**

Confirming Measured Results of Laboratory Tests and WinSLAMM Model Use (funded by US EPA, States, Municipalities, Industry, and US Navy)

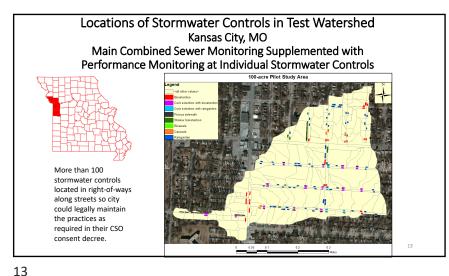
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# Minocqua, WI, MCTT (multi-chambered treatment train) Installation

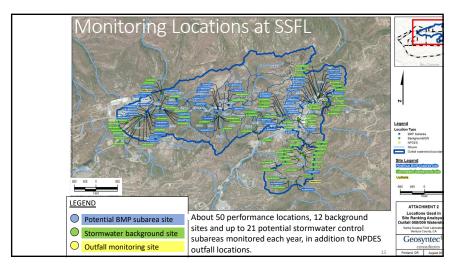


Naval Base San Diego (NBSD) Monitoring and Modeling to Identify Major Pollutant Sources and Control Options (many outfalls and drainage areas at 15 naval bases investigated)



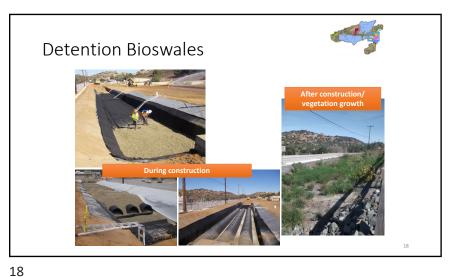




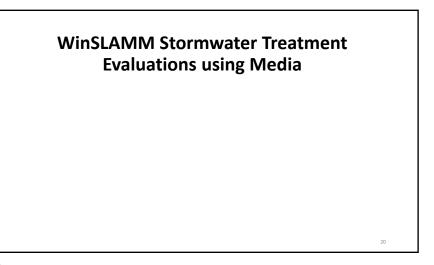












## Steps in Designing a Stormwater Treatment Biofilter

1) Characterize stormwater to be treated (identify constituents of concern and needed mass and/or concentration reductions)

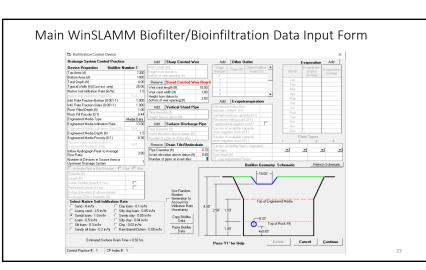
2) Identify chemically active media to target these constituents

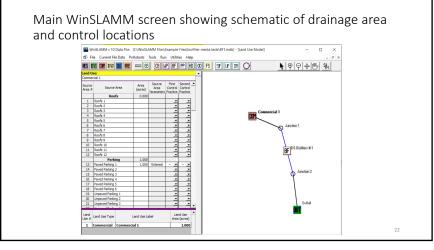
3) Inventory other site characteristics potentially affecting biofilter (especially groundwater conditions and snowmelt, for example)

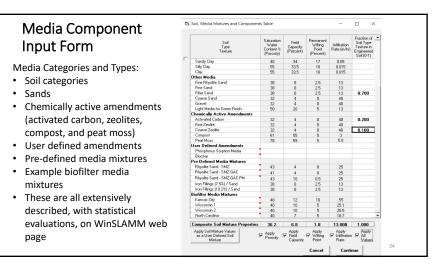
4) Prepare preliminary designs (size, selection of media, outlets, maintenance, etc.)

5) Evaluate alternatives using continuous long-term stormwater quality modeling and evaluate life-cycle costs and other decision support factors.

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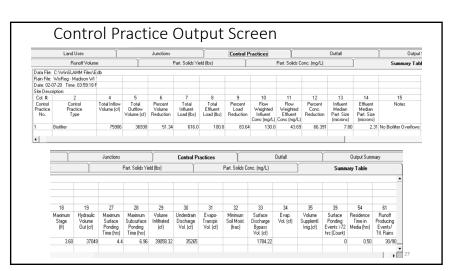


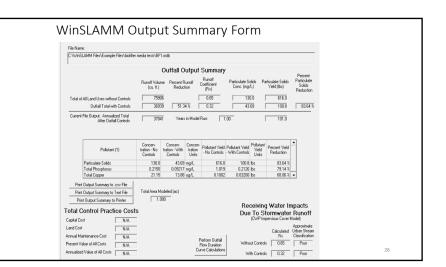
The new data components for media types include:

- Flow rate equations based on media type, organic content, texture, and uniformity
- Regression equations for removal of several particle size ranges
- Flow rate reduction and clogging due to particulate retention
- Filterable and particulate pollutant retention
- Filterable pollutant retention based on contact time
- Breakthrough of pollutants as media retains filterable pollutants

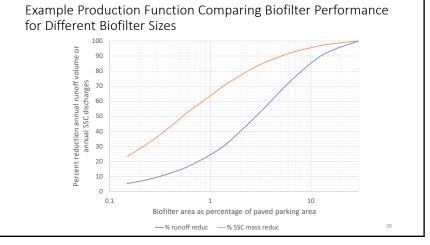
Incorporating these data significantly expands the ability to compare alternative biofilter design options.

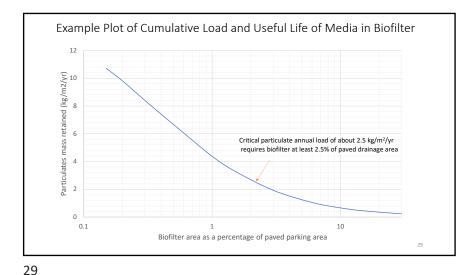
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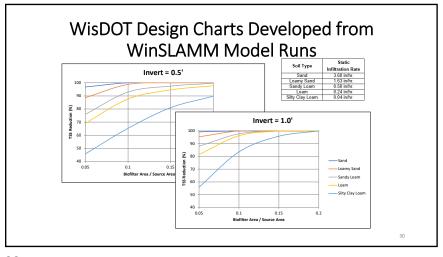




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### Conclusions

- Media selection dramatically affects the treatment flow rate, and to a lesser extent the pollutant retention capacity of a biofilter.
- Most of the pollutant removals in bioinfiltration are likely through infiltration into the underlying native soils (with pretreatment provided by the media), while physical capture of particulates and associated particulate bound pollutants is mostly affected by the texture and uniformity of the media.
- Filtered pollutant retention in biofilters can be targeted by the proper selection of chemically active media.
- Biofilter performance can be limited by poor media selection causing compaction and clogging.
- The most robust biofilters are sized properly to decrease the effects of sediment induced clogging and to provide moderate treatment flow rates.
- The use of WinSLAMM can be used to produce production functions that relate accumulative load with size of the biofilter and useful life for specific site conditions and expected rainfall.