

Keeping the Balance: A Guide to NJ's Groundwater Recharge Rules

Simplified guide to New Jersey Stormwater Management rules for groundwater recharge, explaining why they exist and outlining the required process for land development projects.

The Requirement: Maintaining Pre-Development Recharge

Land Development Can Create a "Recharge Deficit"

Impervious surfaces block rainfall from replenishing underground aquifers.



Developers Must Meet One of Two Performance Standards

An analysis must prove compliance with either the annual volume or storm-specific standard.



Standard 1: Maintain 100% of Annual Recharge

The site's stormwater measures must maintain the average annual pre-construction recharge volume.



Standard 2: Infiltrate Increased Storm Runoff

Infiltrate the increase in runoff volume from a two-year storm event.

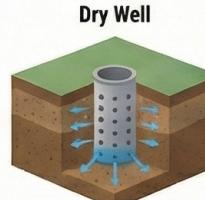
The Process: From Calculation to Construction



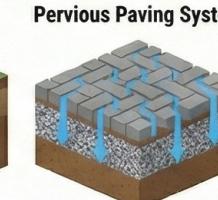
1. Calculate Pre- & Post-Development Recharge

Use the NJ Groundwater Recharge Spreadsheet (NJGRS) to find the deficit.

Best Management Practice (BMP) Examples



Small-Scale Infiltration Basin



✓ Supports Groundwater Recharge?



Small-Scale Bioretention Basin

✓ Supports Groundwater Recharge?

