

Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change

Standards Development Branch

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04 February 2015

Dear Stakeholder;

The ministry recently prepared an *Interpretation Bulletin: Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Expectations Re: Stormwater Management* (attached). This Bulletin clarifies that the ministry's existing guidance emphasizes an approach to stormwater management that mimics a site's natural hydrology by controlling precipitation as close as possible to where it falls so water quality remains satisfactory for aquatic life and recreation and water quantity is managed to ensure a fair sharing among users, water conservation, and sustainability of the resource.

The intent of the Interpretation Bulletin is to convey to municipalities, developers and review/approval bodies that the MOECC's current guidelines and policies support locally derived site-specific performance criteria based on watershed/subwatershed studies and source control measures such as low impact development (LID). This Bulletin is also intended to encourage stormwater management applications that emphasize low impact development techniques while the ministry undertakes the development of a low impact development stormwater management guidance document, targeted for completion in 2016. The ministry will work with municipalities, conservation authorities and other stakeholders in developing this guidance document.

The Bulletin also lists resource materials to assist the development community, municipalities, and others to implement low impact development measures including LID planning, design and construction manuals, and websites informing on low impact development.

The Interpretation Bulletin was prepared with input from the stormwater management practitioners at Ontario's Conservation Authorities, members of various branches of the MOECC, and other Provincial Ministries.

I trust that this Interpretation Bulletin will assist in source control stormwater management activities and the improvement of outcomes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Fletcher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim Fletcher
Manager (A)
Water Standards Section