CHAPTER 9.7

Standard for Pervious Paving Systems

Definition

Pervious paving systems are paved areas that produce less stormwater runoff than areas paved with conventional paving. This reduction is achieved primarily through the infiltration of a greater portion of the rain falling on the area than would occur with conventional paving. This increased infiltration occurs either through the paving material itself or through void spaces between individual paving blocks known as pavers.

Pervious paving systems are divided into three general types. Each type depends primarily upon the nature of the pervious paving surface course and the presence or absence of a runoff storage bed beneath the surface course. These three types are summarized in Table 9.7-1 and discussed below. Porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems treat the stormwater quality design storm runoff through storage and infiltration. Therefore, these systems have adopted TSS removal rates similar to infiltration structures. The adopted TSS removal rate for each type of pervious paving system is presented in Table 9.7-1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Paving System</th>
<th>General Description of Paving System</th>
<th>Adopted TSS Removal Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Porous paving</td>
<td>Porous asphalt or concrete paving constructed over runoff storage bed of uniformly graded broken stone</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable pavers with storage bed</td>
<td>Impervious concrete pavers with surface voids constructed over runoff storage bed of uniformly graded broken stone</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeable pavers without storage bed</td>
<td>Impervious concrete pavers with surface voids constructed over structural bed of sand and crushed stone</td>
<td>Volume reduction only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Porous paving systems consist of a porous asphalt or concrete surface course placed over a bed of uniformly graded broken stone. The broken stone bed is placed on an uncompacted earthen subgrade and is used to temporarily store the runoff that moves vertically through the porous asphalt or concrete into the bed. The high rate of infiltration through the porous paving is achieved through the elimination of the finer aggregates that are typically used in conventional paving. The remaining aggregates are bound together with an asphalt or Portland cement binder. The lack of the finer aggregate sizes creates voids in the normally dense paving that allow runoff occurring on the paving to move vertically through the paving and into the void spaces of the broken stone storage bed below. From there, the stored runoff then infiltrates over time into the uncompacted subgrade soils similar to an Infiltration Basin. The depth of the bed, which also provides structural support to the porous surface course, depends upon the volume and rate of rainfall that the porous paving system has been designed to store and infiltrate and the void ratio of the broken stone. A typical detail of a porous paving system is shown in Figure 9.7-1.

A permeable paver with storage bed system also has a subsurface storage bed and functions in a similar manner to a porous paving system. However, instead of a continuous porous asphalt or concrete surface course, the system’s surface consists of impervious concrete blocks known as pavers that either have void spaces cast into their surfaces or interlock in such a way as to create such void spaces. These void spaces allow runoff from the impervious paver surface to collect and move vertically past the individual pavers into the broken stone storage bed below. Similar to a porous paving system, the runoff stored in the broken stone storage bed, which also provides structural support to the pavers, then infiltrates over time into the uncompacted subgrade soils. A typical detail of a permeable paver with storage bed system is shown in Figure 9.7-2.
It is important to note that both a porous paving system and a permeable paver with storage bed system function in the same manner as any other infiltration-based BMP such as an infiltration basin or dry well. That is, the fundamental means of runoff quantity control is into and through the subgrade soils below the BMP. Therefore, in terms of runoff quantity control, the porous paving or permeable paver surface course acts solely as a conveyance measure that delivers the surface course runoff to the subgrade soils. In addition, the broken stone storage bed serves only to temporarily store the runoff transmitted through the surface course. For these reasons, the design and use of porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems are generally subject to the same design, operation, and maintenance requirements of all other infiltration-based BMPs. Details of these requirements are presented in Design Criteria below.

In addition to runoff volume control, porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems also provide stormwater quality control through the infiltration process when designed to store and infiltrate the stormwater quality design storm runoff volume. This is again similar to other infiltration-based BMPs such as infiltration basins. In addition, the porous or permeable paver surface course in such systems can be considered to provide pretreatment of the runoff to their respective subsurface storage beds.

Permeable pavers without a storage bed is the third type of pervious paving system. As described by its name, this type of system does not have a broken stone runoff storage bed beneath it. Instead, the permeable pavers are placed on a generally thinner bed of sand and crushed stone that provides only structural support to the paver surface course and has no significant runoff storage volume. This lack of storage volume prevents the system from storing and infiltrating the relatively larger volumes of runoff typically achieved by a porous paving or permeable paver with storage bed system. However, because of the void spaces in the paver surface, a portion of the runoff from the pavers, albeit smaller than the storage bed systems, can still collect in the surface voids spaces and infiltrate through the sand and crushed stone bed and into the subgrade soils. A typical detail of a permeable paver without storage bed system is shown in Figure 9.7-3.
Purpose

In general, pervious paving systems are used to reduce runoff rates and volumes from paved, on-grade surfaces such as patios, walkways, driveways, fire lanes, and parking spaces. Pervious paving systems with runoff storage beds below them achieve these reductions through the delivery and storage of runoff and eventual infiltration into the subgrade soils. Through this infiltration process, these types of pervious paving systems also achieve stormwater quality treatment.

Porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems may also be used to meet the groundwater recharge requirements of the NJDEP Stormwater Management Rules. See Recharge BMP Design Guidelines in Chapter 6: Groundwater Recharge for a complete discussion of these requirements and the use of pervious paving and other groundwater recharge facilities to meet them.

Permeable pavers without storage bed systems also achieve reductions in runoff rates and volumes, primarily by generating less surface runoff than conventional paving. However, due to the lack of a runoff storage bed and significant runoff infiltration, these types of pervious paving systems achieve less runoff reductions than systems with storage beds. For similar reasons, they also do not provide any significant stormwater quality treatment. However, the reduction in runoff rates and volumes they do achieve may reduce the volume of stormwater quality design storm runoff to be treated by other, downstream stormwater management facilities.

Conditions Where Practice Applies

As noted above, porous paving and permeable pavers with storage bed systems function as infiltration facilities. As such, the use of such pervious paving systems is applicable only where their subgrade soils have the required permeability rates. Specific soil permeability requirements are presented below in Design Criteria.

Like other BMPs that rely on infiltration, porous paving and permeable pavers with storage bed systems are not appropriate for areas where high pollutant or sediment loading is anticipated due to the potential for groundwater contamination. Specifically, such systems must not be used in the following locations:

- Industrial and commercial areas where solvents and/or petroleum products are loaded, unloaded, stored, or applied or pesticides are loaded, unloaded, or stored.
• Areas where hazardous materials are expected to be present in greater than “reportable quantities” as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Code of Federal Regulations at 40 CFR 302.4.

• Areas where system use would be inconsistent with an NJDEP-approved remedial action work plan or landfill closure plan.

• Areas with high risks for spills of toxic materials such as gas stations and vehicle maintenance facilities.

• Areas where industrial stormwater runoff is exposed to “source material.” “Source material” means any material(s) or machinery, located at an industrial facility, that is directly or indirectly related to process, manufacturing, or other industrial activities, that could be a source of pollutants in any industrial stormwater discharge to groundwater. Source materials include, but are not limited to raw materials, intermediate products, final products, waste materials, by-products, industrial machinery and fuels, and lubricants, solvents, and detergents that are related to process, manufacturing, or other industrial activities that are exposed to stormwater.

In addition, as required by the Stormwater Management Rules, porous paving and permeable pavers with storage bed systems must not be used where their installation would create a significant risk for basement seepage or flooding, cause surficial flooding of groundwater, or interfere with the operation of subsurface sewage disposal systems and other subsurface structures. Such adverse impacts must be assessed and avoided by the design engineer.

Porous paving and permeable pavers with storage bed systems must be configured and located where their construction will not compact the soils below the system. In addition, such systems must not be placed into operation until the contributing drainage area is completely stabilized. System construction must either be delayed until such stabilization is achieved, or upstream runoff must be diverted around the system. Such diversions must continue until stabilization is achieved.

Due to the reduced shear strength of the surface course, all pervious paving systems are limited to areas of relatively infrequent use by light vehicles. This includes parking lot spaces and secondary aisles, single family residential driveways, sidewalks and walkways, golf cart paths, fire and emergency access lanes, and overflow parking areas. In general, they should not be used in high traffic areas such as roadways, multiple family and nonresidential driveways, and primary parking lot aisles or in any area subject to use by heavy vehicles and other equipment.

One pervious paving use strategy is to alternate areas with impervious and pervious paving. In these instances, conventional paving would be reserved for the heavily trafficked corridors. A wide variety of concrete and brick permeable paving systems are available. These can be combined with conventional and porous paving systems to achieve functional and aesthetically pleasing designs.

Finally, all three types of pervious paving systems must have a maintenance plan and, if privately owned, should be protected by easement, deed restriction, ordinance, or other legal measures that prevent its neglect, adverse alteration, and removal.
Design Criteria

The design criteria for pervious paving systems will depend upon the type of system to be used. Details of each system type are presented in Figures 9.7-1, 9.7-2, and 9.7-3 above. Design criteria for each type are presented below.

A. Storage Volume, Depth, and Duration

Porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems must be designed to treat the total runoff volume generated by the system’s maximum design storm. This may be either the groundwater recharge or stormwater quality design storm depending upon the system’s proposed use. Techniques to compute these volumes are discussed in Chapter 6: Groundwater Recharge and Chapter 5: Computing Stormwater Runoff Rates and Volumes. Such systems must also all fully drain this runoff volume within 72 hours. Runoff storage for greater times can render the systems ineffective and may result in anaerobic conditions and water quality problems. The bottom of these types of pervious paving systems must be at least 2 feet above seasonal high water table or bedrock. This distance must be measured from the bottom of the storage bed as shown in Figures 9.7-1 and 9.7-2. The system bottom must be as level as possible to uniformly distribute runoff infiltration over the subgrade soils.

As discussed in Considerations below, construction of all pervious paving systems must be done without compacting the system’s subgrade soils. As such, all excavation must be performed by equipment placed outside the system’s limits whenever possible. This requirement should be considered when designing the dimensions and total volume of a system’s broken stone storage bed or crushed stone base.

It is important to note that the use of both porous paving and permeable pavers with storage bed systems is recommended in this manual only for the stormwater quality design storm and smaller storm events. Use of such systems for larger storm events and the requirements by which such systems are to be designed, constructed, and maintained should be reviewed and approved by all applicable reviewing agencies.

Since permeable paver without storage bed systems do not rely on significant runoff infiltration, they may be used for all frequency storm events.

B. Permeability Rates

The minimum design permeability rate of the soils below porous and permeable paving systems with storage beds will depend upon the pervious paving system’s location and maximum design storm. The use of storage beds for stormwater quality control is feasible only where the soil is sufficiently permeable to allow a reasonable rate of infiltration. Therefore, porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems can be constructed only in areas with Hydrologic Soil Group A and B soils.

For porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems, the minimum design permeability rate of the subgrade soils below a system’s runoff storage bed is 0.5 inches per hour. In addition, the design permeability rate of the soils must be sufficient to fully drain the system’s maximum design storm runoff volume within 72 hours. This design permeability rate must be determined by field or laboratory testing. See A. Soil Characteristics in Considerations below for more information. Since the actual permeability rate may vary from test results and may also decrease over time due to soil bed consolidation or the accumulation of sediments removed from the treated stormwater, a factor of safety of two must be applied to the tested permeability rate to determine the design permeability rate. Therefore, if the tested permeability rate of the soils is 4 inches/hour, the design rate would be 2 inches/hour (i.e., 4 inches per hour/2). This design rate would then be used to compute the system’s maximum design storm drain time.

Due to its role as a runoff conveyance measure to the storage bed below, the porous surface course of a porous paving system must have a minimum permeability rate at least twice the maximum intensity of the
system's design storm. In the case of systems designed for the stormwater quality design storm, this permeability rate would be 6.4 inches per hour (i.e., 2 X 3.2 inches per hour, which is the stormwater quality design storm’s maximum intensity). Similarly, the minimum permeability of the material used to fill the void spaces of a permeable paver with storage bed system must also meet this requirement. However, since the void spaces in a permeable paver system comprise only a portion of the entire system surface, this minimum rate must be multiplied by the ratio of the entire system surface area to the area of the void spaces. Therefore, the void space material in a permeable paver with storage bed system comprised of 20 percent void space must have a minimum permeability of 2 X (1.0/0.2) or 10 times the maximum design storm intensity. For such systems designed for the stormwater quality design storm, this rate would be 3.2 X 10 or 32 inches per hour.

Since a permeable paver without storage bed system does not rely on significant runoff infiltration, its use does not require a minimum subgrade soil or void space material permeability rate. However, as described below, its ability to reduce runoff rates and volumes below those produced by conventional paving will depend upon both of these system characteristics.

To allow pervious paving surface courses to achieve their design permeability rates, the maximum surface course slope of all pervious paving systems is 5 percent.

C. Pretreatment

As with all other best management practices, pretreatment can extend the functional life and increase the pollutant removal capability of a pervious paving system that receives runoff from areas other than its own surface course. Pretreatment can reduce incoming velocities and capture coarser sediments, which will extend the life and reduce the required maintenance of the system. This is usually accomplished through the use of a vegetative filter immediately upstream of the pervious paving system. Steps can also be taken during the system’s design to limit the amount of runoff from upstream areas that will flow to the system.

Runoff collected from parking lots, driveway, roads, and other on-grade surfaces that is conveyed directly to a porous paving or permeable paver storage bed without passing through the system’s surface course must be pretreated in order to prevent the loss of storage volume and/or recharge capacity due to sedimentation and clogging. Such pretreatment must provide 80 percent removal of TSS for the system’s maximum design storm runoff. This treatment can also be used to meet the site’s overall TSS removal requirements.

This pretreatment requirement does not apply to roofs and other above-grade surfaces. However, roof gutter guards and/or sumps or traps (equipped with clean-outs) in the conduits to the system’s storage bed should be included wherever practical to minimize the amount of sediment and other particulates that can enter the storage bed.

D. Computing Runoff Rates

In general, runoff to downstream areas from porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems will need to be computed under two circumstances. The first occurs when the capacity of the runoff storage bed is exceeded and the water level in the bed rises to the system’s surface course. The second circumstance occurs when the intensity of precipitation exceeds the minimum permeability of the system’s surface course. See B. Permeability Rates above for a discussion of these rates for each type of storage bed system. Once either or both of these circumstances occurs, the resultant system runoff rate to downstream areas for the remainder of the storm can be determined by subtracting the minimum system permeability rate from the rainfall rate. In the case of variable rate storm events such as the stormwater quality design storm or the NRCS Type III Storm, this must be done in a series of appropriate-length time increments over the remaining storm duration.
Runoff from permeable paver without storage bed systems must be computed for all storm events and can be performed by two methods. The first method is based upon a weighted average runoff coefficient (C) for the Rational or Modified Rational Methods or a weighted average Curve Number (CN) for the NRCS methodology. These values should be based upon the relative areas of the impervious pavers and pervious void spaces in the system's surface. The C or CN value for the paver area should be based upon an impervious surface, while the C or CN value for the void space should be based upon the type of material or surface cover in the void space and the Hydrologic Soil Group of the subgrade soil. In selecting this void space coefficient, all void spaces with vegetated covers should be assumed to be in poor hydrologic condition and all void spaces with bare soil or gravel fill should be based upon soil or gravel roadways.

The second method of computing runoff from permeable paver without storage bed systems considers the pavers to be unconnected impervious areas that drain onto the pervious void spaces. The resultant runoff from the system can then be based upon the unconnected impervious surface methods described in Chapter 5. In doing so, the criteria for selecting the appropriate CN for the void space must be based upon the criteria described in the preceding paragraph. In addition, it should be noted that the TR-55 method for unconnected impervious areas as described in Chapter 5 cannot be used if the void space area is less than 70 percent of the total system area (i.e., the impervious portion of the entire system area exceeds 30 percent).

E. Overflows

All porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems must be able to safely convey system overflows to downstream drainage systems. The capacity of the overflow must be consistent with the remainder of the site's drainage system and sufficient to provide safe, stable discharge of stormwater in the event of an overflow. The downstream drainage system must have sufficient capacity to convey the overflow from the pervious paving system.

F. Emergency Inflows

All porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems must have measures that will allow runoff from the maximum design storm to enter the runoff storage bed in the event that the porous or permeable paver surface course becomes clogged or otherwise incapable of conveying the maximum design storm runoff to the bed. This may be accomplished in different ways, including surface drain inlets connected to a series of perforated pipes laid throughout the storage bed or by extending the storage bed beyond the edge of the surface course and connecting it to the surface as shown in Figure 9.7-4.
**G. System Components**

The typical components of each type of pervious paving system are shown in Figures 9.7-1, 9.7-2 and 9.7-3. While variations are permissible based upon specific site conditions, the typical system components shown in these figures should be included in all system designs. This includes the sand and crushed stone base below a permeable paver without storage bed system shown in Figure 9.7-3. All such systems constructed without these components must be treated as conventional paved surfaces for the purpose of all runoff and pollutant load computations.

The recommended aggregate for porous asphalt and concrete paving systems are shown in Table 9.7-2. For porous asphalt systems, the recommended amount of asphalt binder is 5.75 to 6.00 percent by weight. Lower amounts of binder have resulted in inadequate surface course shear strength and durability. As shown in Figures 9.7-1 and 9.7-2, the runoff storage beds in both porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems should be clean washed, uniformly graded AASHTO No. 2 broken stone. It is particularly important that this stone be washed to keep stone dust and other fine particles that can clog the surface of the subgrade soils from entering the storage bed. The interface between the porous or permeable paver surface course and the storage bed stone should be leveled with a choker course of AASHTO No. 57 broken stone with a minimum thickness of 1 inch. Finally, as shown in Figures 9.7-1 and 9.7-2, the interface between the storage bed stone and the subgrade soil should be lined with a non-woven geotextile. Additional system details are shown in the figures.
### Table 9.7-2 – Porous Asphalt Paving Mix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Standard Sieve Size</th>
<th>Percent Passing</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 inch</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8 inch</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
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<td>#8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>#16</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#30</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Cahill Associates

### Maintenance

Effective pervious paving system performance requires regular and effective maintenance. Chapter 8: *Maintenance and Retrofit of Stormwater Management Measures* contains information and requirements for preparing a maintenance plan for stormwater management facilities, including pervious paving systems. Specific maintenance requirements for all system types are presented below. These requirements must be included in the system’s maintenance plan.

#### General Maintenance

The surface course of all pervious paving systems must be inspected for cracking, subsidence, spalling, deterioration, erosion, and the growth of unwanted vegetation at least once a year. Remedial measures must be taken as soon as practical.

Care must be taken when removing snow from the pervious paving surface courses. Pervious paving surface courses can be damaged by snow plows or loader buckets that are set too low to the ground. This is particularly true at permeable paver systems where differential settlement of pavers has occurred. Sand, grit, or cinders should not be used on pervious paving surface courses for snow or ice control.

If mud or sediment is tracked onto the surface course of a pervious paving system, it must be removed as soon as possible. Removal should take place when the surface course is thoroughly dry. Disposal of debris, trash, sediment, and other waste matter removed from pervious paving surface courses should be done at suitable disposal/recycling sites and in compliance with local, state, and federal waste regulations.

#### B. Porous Paving Systems

The surface course of a porous paving system must be vacuum swept at least four times a year. This should be following by a high pressure hosing. All dislodged sediment and other particulate matter must be removed and properly disposed.
C. Permeable Paver Systems

Maintenance of permeable pavers should be consistent with the manufacturer’s recommendations.

D. Vegetation

Mowing and/or trimming of turf grass used with permeable pavers must be performed on a regular schedule based on specific site conditions. Grass should be mowed at least once a month during the growing season. All vegetated areas must be inspected at least annually for erosion and scour. Vegetated areas should also be inspected at least annually for unwanted growth, which should be removed with minimum disruption to the paver and remaining vegetation.

When establishing or restoring vegetation, biweekly inspections of vegetation health should be performed during the first growing season or until the vegetation is established. Once established, inspections of vegetation health, density, and diversity should be performed at least twice annually during both the growing and non-growing seasons. The vegetative cover should be maintained at 85 percent. If vegetation has greater than 50 percent damage, the area should be reestablished in accordance with the original specifications and the inspection requirements presented above.

All use of fertilizers, pesticides and other means to assure optimum vegetation health should not compromise the intended purpose of a pervious paving system. All vegetation deficiencies should be addressed without the use of fertilizers and pesticides whenever possible.

E. Other Maintenance Criteria

The maintenance plan must indicate the approximate time it would normally take to drain the maximum design storm runoff volume below the pervious paving system’s surface course. This normal drain time should then be used to evaluate the system’s actual performance. If significant increases or decreases in the normal drain time are observed or if the 72 hour maximum is exceeded, the various system components and groundwater levels must be evaluated and appropriate measures taken to comply with the maximum drain time requirements and maintain the proper functioning of the system.

Considerations

Pervious paving systems can present some practical design problems, particularly those with subsurface runoff storage beds that rely on infiltration to discharge the stored runoff. When planning such systems, consideration should be given to soil characteristics, depth to the seasonal high groundwater table, sensitivity of the region, and runoff quality. Particular care must be taken when constructing all pervious paving systems in areas underlain by carbonate rocks known as Karst landscapes. See Appendix A10 of the Standards for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control in New Jersey for further guidance in Karst areas. Further considerations are presented below.

A. Soil Characteristics

Soils are perhaps the most important consideration for site suitability. In general, County Soil Surveys can be used to obtain necessary soil data for system planning purposes, the preliminary design of all pervious paving systems, and the final design of permeable paver without storage bed systems. However, for the final design and construction of porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems, soil tests are required at the exact location of a proposed system in order to confirm its ability to function properly without failure.
Such tests should include a determination of the textural classification and permeability of the subgrade soil at and below the bottom of the proposed system’s storage bed. The recommended minimum depth for subgrade soil analysis is 5 feet below the bottom of the storage bed or to the groundwater table. Soil permeability testing can be conducted in accordance with the Standards for Individual Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems at N.J.A.C. 7:9A. See Design Criteria above for further subgrade soil requirements.

In addition, the results of a system’s soil testing should be compared with the County Soil Survey data used in the computation of development site runoff and the design of specific site BMPs, including the proposed pervious paving system, to ensure reasonable data consistency. If significant differences exist between the system’s soil test results and the County Soil Survey data, additional development site soil tests are recommended to determine and evaluate the extent of the data inconsistency and the need for revised site runoff and BMP design computations. All significant inconsistencies should be discussed with the local Soil Conservation District prior to proceeding with such redesign to help ensure that the final site soil data is accurate.

**B. Construction**

Similar to other infiltration facilities, the construction of all pervious paver systems must follow certain procedures and sequences. Additional construction requirements are also required for specific systems due to their particular nature and components. Details are provided below.

**1. All Pervious Paving Systems**

For all pervious paving systems, protection of the subgrade soils from compaction by construction equipment and contamination and clogging by sediment are vital. Prior to its construction, the area to be used for the pervious paving system should be cordoned off to prevent construction equipment and stockpiled materials from compacting the subgrade soils. During system construction, precautions should be taken to prevent both subgrade soil compaction and sediment contamination. All excavation should be performed with the lightest practical excavation equipment. All excavation equipment should be placed outside the limits of the system’s storage bed or base.

To help prevent subgrade soil contamination and clogging by sediment, system construction should be delayed until all other construction within its drainage area is completed and the drainage area stabilized. This delayed construction emphasizes the need, as described above, to cordon off the system area to prevent compaction by construction equipment and material storage during other site construction activities. Similarly, use of a pervious paving system area as a sediment basin is strongly discouraged. Where unavoidable, excavation for the sediment basin should be a minimum of 2 feet above the final design elevation of the system’s storage bed or base. Accumulated sediment can then be removed without disturbing the subgrade soils at the system’s bottom, which should be established only after all construction within the system’s drainage area is completed and the drainage area stabilized.

If system construction cannot be delayed until its drainage area is stabilized, diversion berms or other suitable measures should be placed around the system’s perimeter during all phases of construction to divert all runoff and sediment away from the system. These diversion measures should not be removed until all construction within the system’s drainage area is completed and the drainage area stabilized.

A preconstruction meeting should be held to review the specific construction requirements and restrictions of all pervious paving systems with the contractor.
2. Porous Paving Systems
Broken stone in runoff storage beds should be placed in lifts and compacted using plate compactors. A maximum loose lift thickness of 12 inches is recommended. In addition, the following construction requirements for porous asphalt paving systems are recommended by the USEPA:

- Paving temperature = 240° to 260° F.
- Minimum air temperature for paving = 50° F.
- Compact paving with one to two passes with 10-ton roller.
- No vehicular use for a minimum of two days after paving completed.

3. Permeable Paver Systems
Broken stone in runoff storage beds should be placed in lifts and compacted using plate compactors. A maximum loose lift thickness of 12 inches is recommended. In order to provide the runoff quantity and quality benefits described above in Definition, the subgrade soils below all permeable paver systems cannot be stabilized through compaction or with cement or other stabilizing agents that reduce the soils’ permeability. All permeable paver systems constructed with such stabilization must be treated as conventional paved surfaces for the purpose of all runoff and pollutant load computations.

C. Runoff Quality
The quality of the runoff entering a porous paving or permeable paver with storage bed system is a primary consideration in determining whether such systems are advisable and, if so, in designing the systems themselves. The planning of such systems must consider which pollutants will be present in the runoff and whether these pollutants will degrade groundwater quality. Certain soils can have a limited capacity for the treatment of bacteria and the soluble forms of nitrogen, phosphorus, and other pollutants like road salts and pesticides. Such pollutants are either attenuated in the soil column or go directly to the water table. Unfortunately, the soils that normally have the highest and, therefore, most suitable permeability rates also have the least ability to treat such pollutants. As a result, pretreatment of soluble pollutants prior to entry into a pervious paving system’s storage bed may be necessary in these soils. Pretreatment measures may include vegetated filter strips, bioretention systems (where the infiltration basin takes the place of the standard underdrain), and certain sand filters. Alternatively, the existing soil below the infiltration basin bottom may be augmented or replaced by soils with greater soluble pollutant removal rates.

Recommendations

A. Sensitivity of the Area
Since they rely on runoff infiltration, the planning of porous paving or permeable paver with storage bed systems should consider the geologic and ecological sensitivity of the proposed site. Sensitive areas include FW1 streams, areas near drinking water supply wells, and areas of high aquifer recharge. Such pervious paving systems should be sited at least 100 feet from a drinking water supply well. They should also be sited away from foundations to avoid seepage problems. Measures should be taken in areas of aquifer recharge to ensure good quality water is being infiltrated to protect groundwater supplies. Porous paving and permeable paver with storage bed systems should also be located away from septic systems to help prevent septic system failure and other adverse system interference.
References


