Porous Asphalt Pavements

Kent Hansen
Director of Engineering
National Asphalt Pavement Association

Resources

Tom Cahill
Cahill Associates Environment Consultants

Newt Jackson
Nichols Consulting Engineers

Larry Scofield
Arizona DOT

What are Porous Pavements?

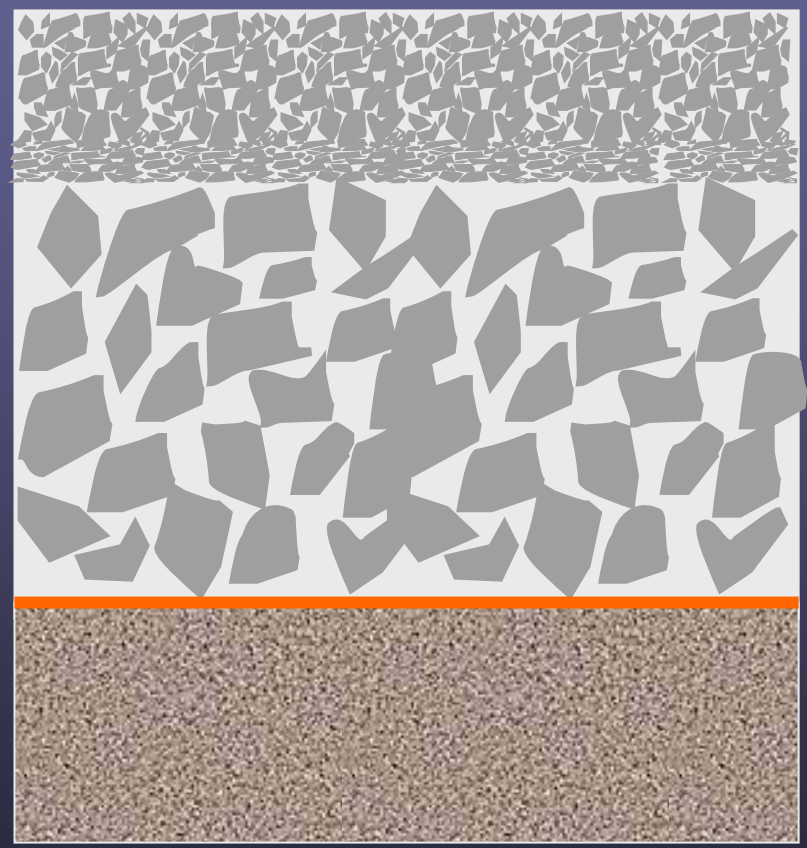
Open-Graded HMA ~ 2 ½”

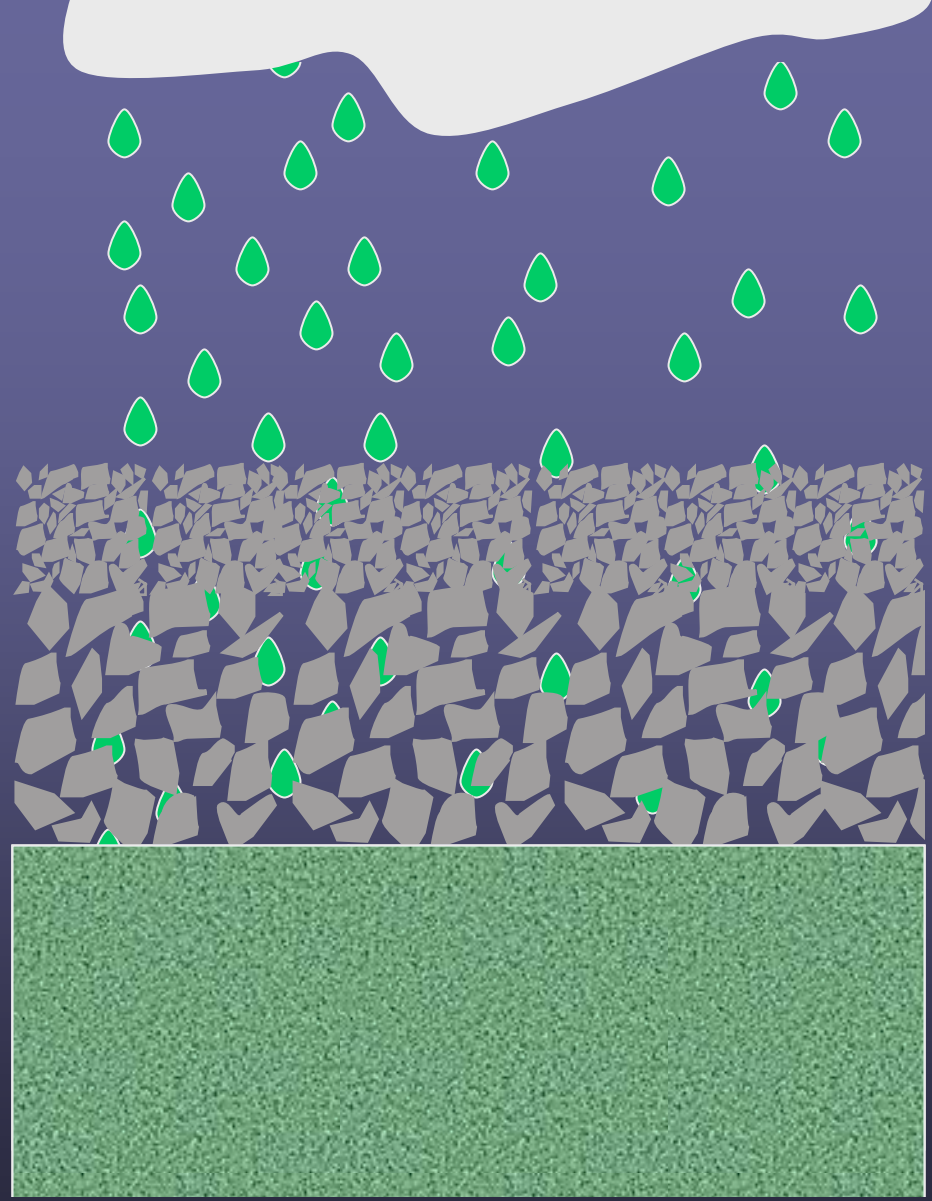
½” Agg. (#57) ~ 1 – 2” Thick

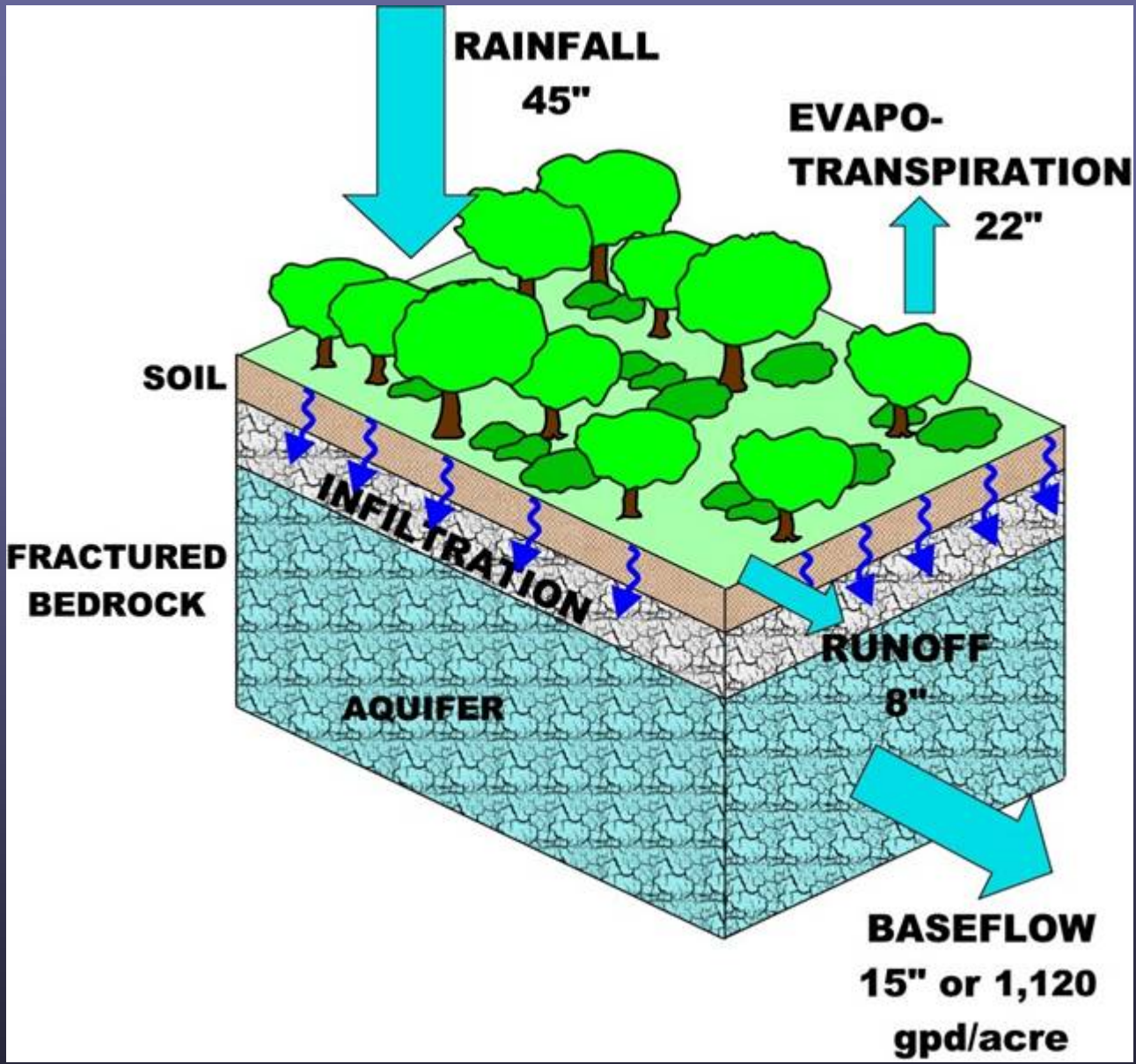
Clean Uniformly Graded 2”-3”
Crushed Agg. (#2) – 40% Voids

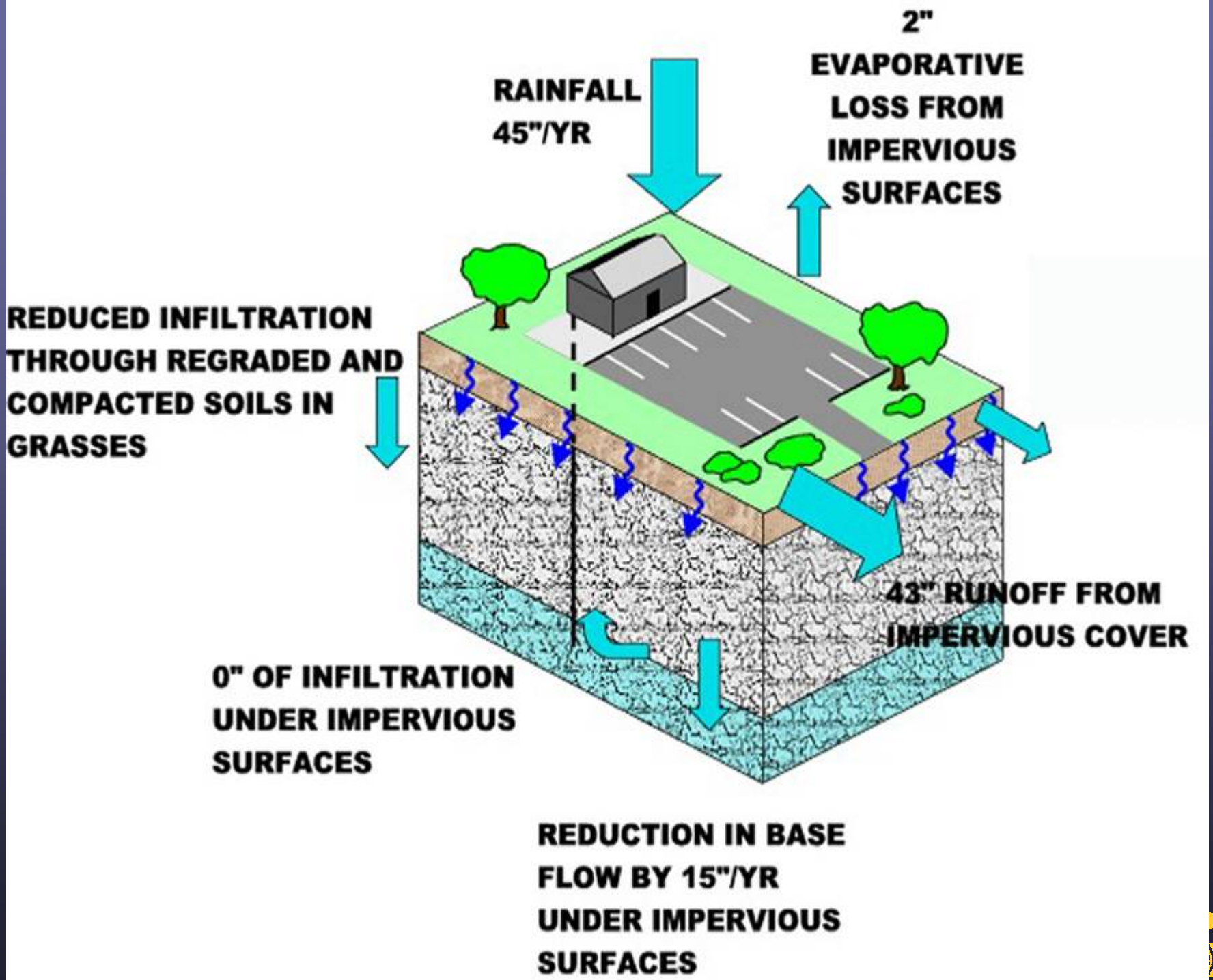
Non-Woven Geotextile

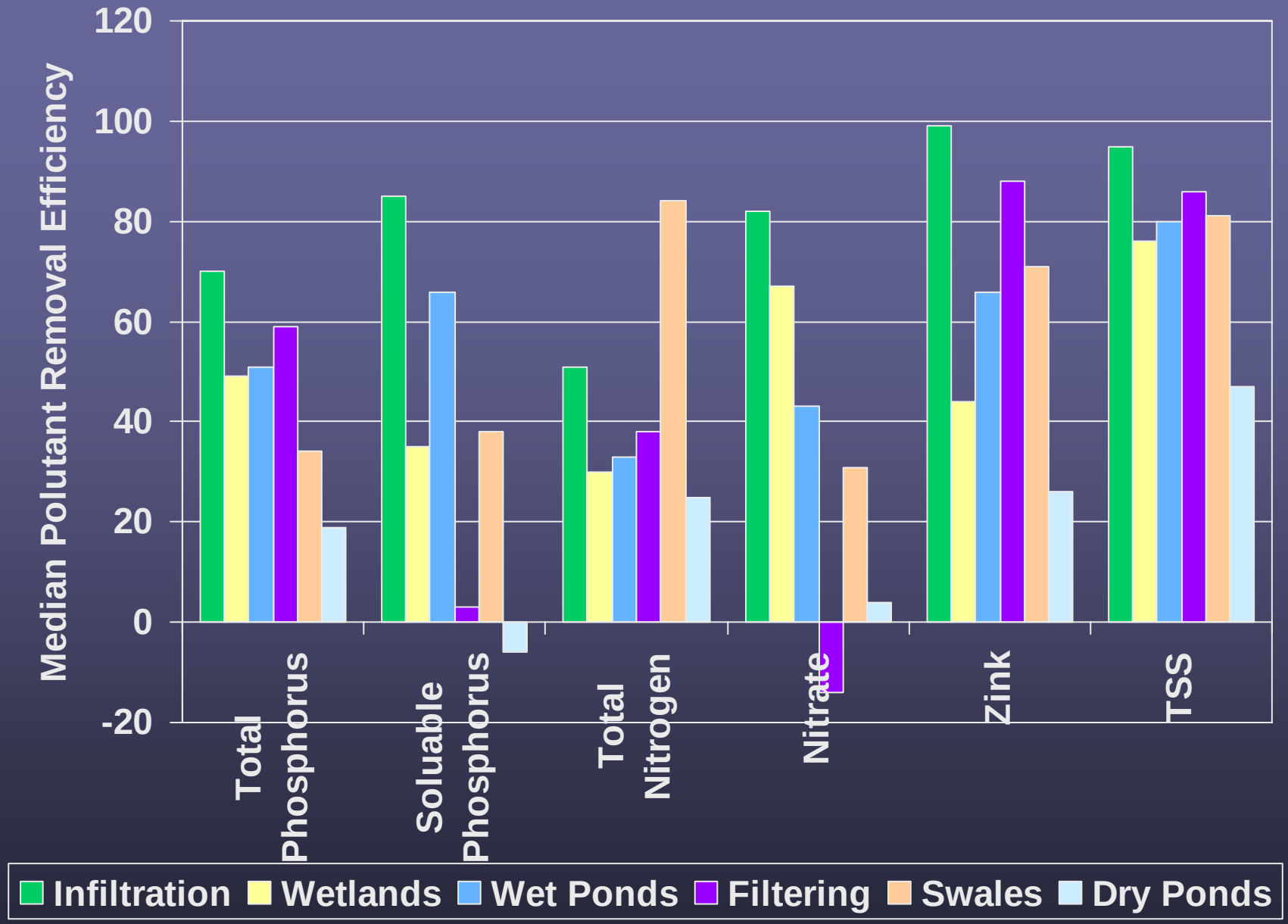
Uncompacted Subgrade



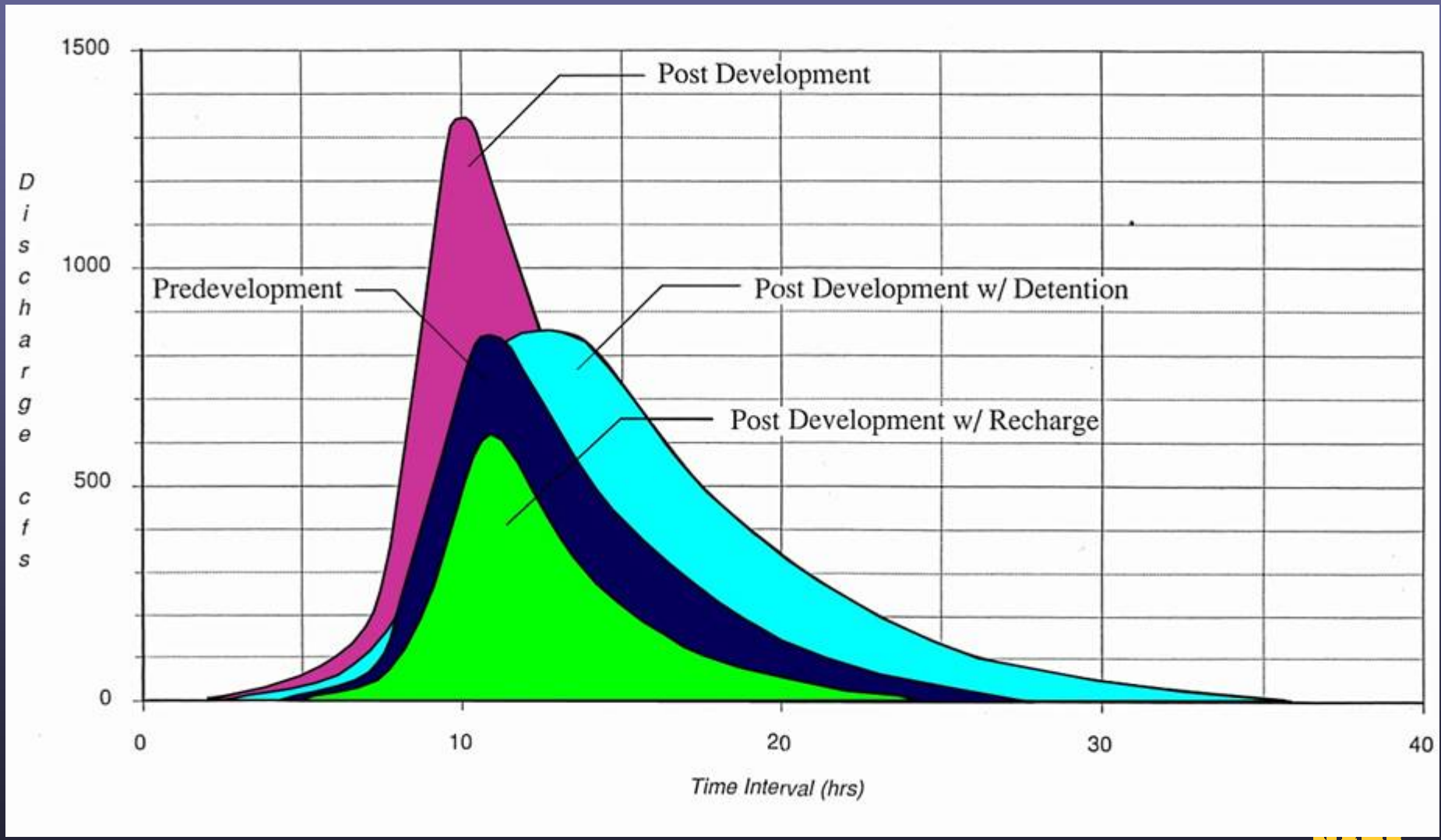



RAINFALL
45"
EVAPO-
TRANSPIRATION
22"
SOIL
FRACTURED
BEDROCK
INFILTRATION
RUNOFF
8"
AQUIFER
BASEFLOW
15" or 1,120
gpd/acre


2"
EVAPORATIVE
LOSS FROM
IMPERVIOUS
SURFACES
RAINFALL
45"/YR
REDUCED INFILTRATION
THROUGH REGRADED AND
COMPACTED SOILS IN
GRASSES
43" RUNOFF FROM
IMPERVIOUS COVER
0" OF INFILTRATION
UNDER IMPERVIOUS
SURFACES
REDUCTION IN BASE
FLOW BY 15"/YR
UNDER IMPERVIOUS
SURFACES


Median Polutant Removal Efficiency
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
Total Phosphorus
Soluable Phosphorus
Total Nitrogen
Nitrate
Zink
TSS
Infiltration
Wetlands
Wet Ponds
Filtering
Swales
Dry Ponds

Comparison of Detention vs. Infiltration Design Systems



Porous bituminous pavement

- Developed by the Franklin Institute – 1972
- Tested in pilot projects during 1970's
- Development of geotextiles in 1979
- Current design since 1980
- CA has built over 150 projects since 1980
- Outstanding engineering project - 2000

Keys to Success – Site Conditions

- Soil permeability/infiltration rate
  - EPA recommends 0.5”/hour
  - 0.1”/hour still OK
- Depth to bedrock > 2’
- Depth to high water > 3’
- Fill – not recommended
- Frost
  - Pavement section should exceed frost depth

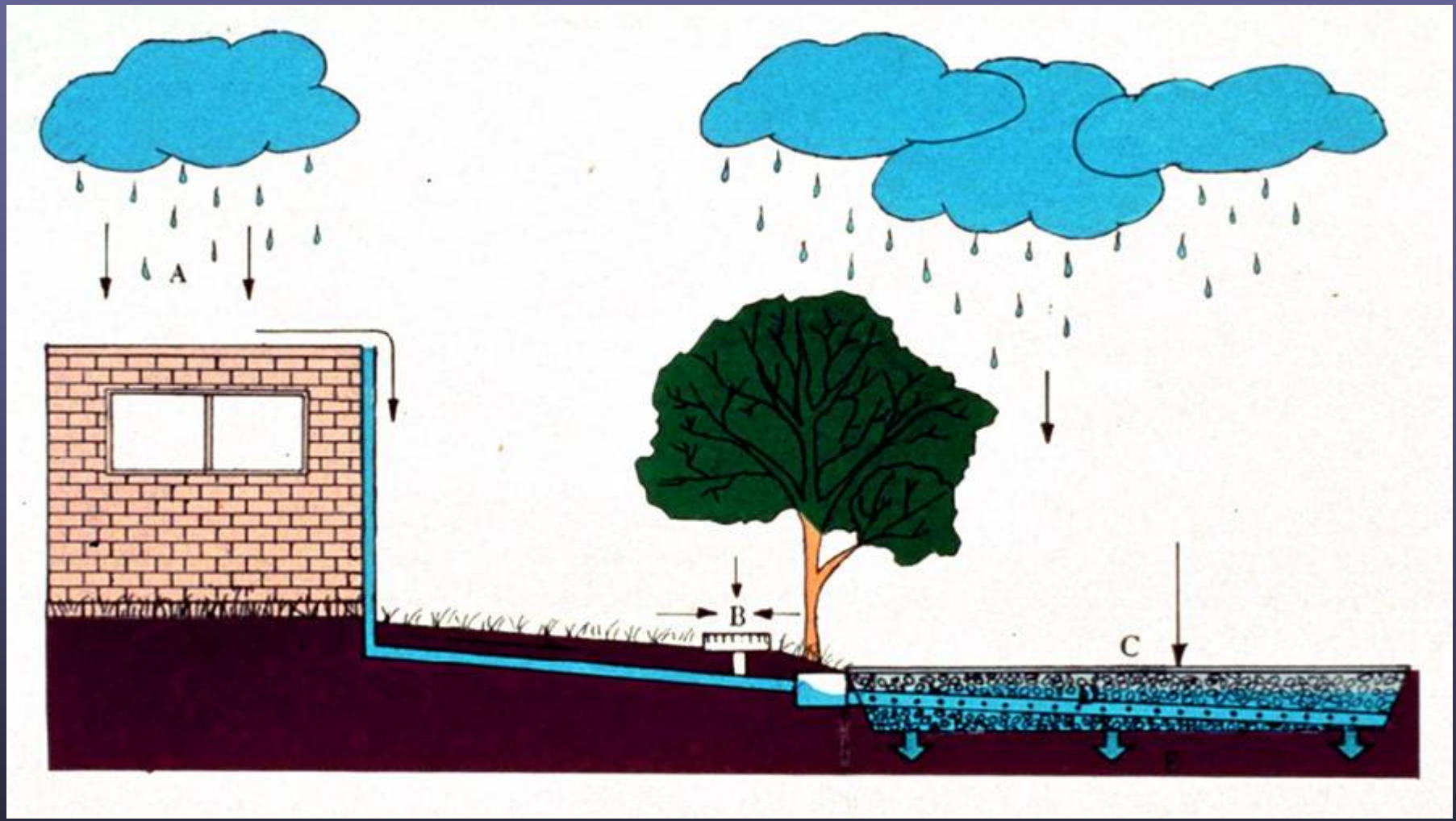
Soils Investigation

- Borings and/or test pits
  - Test permeability
  - Determine depth to high water table
  - Determine depth to bedrock

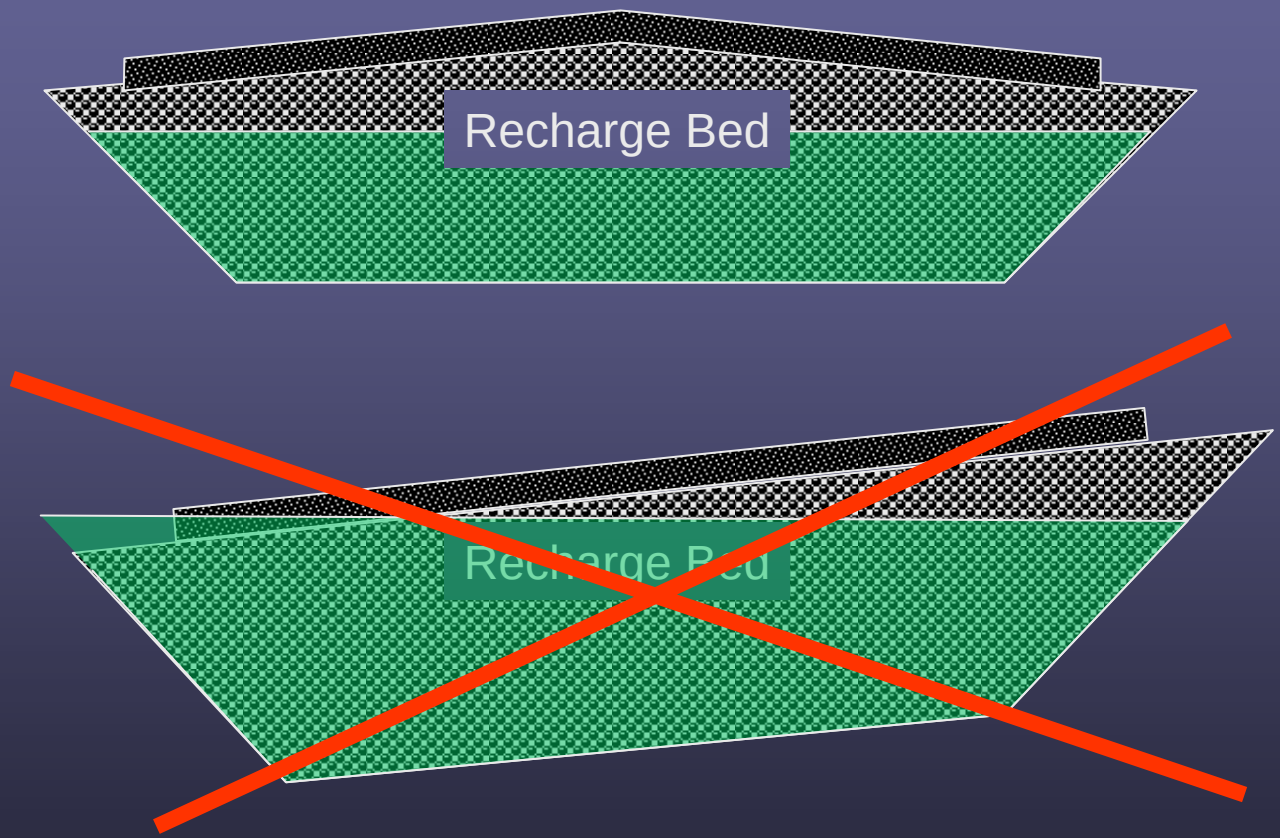
Keys to Success - Design

- Slope – limit surface slope to 5%
  - Terrace when necessary
  - Use conventional HMA for steeper slopes
- Avoid piping water long distances
- Spread infiltration over largest area possible
  - 5:1 Impervious: Infiltration

Avoid piping long distances



Bottom Must Be Flat



Design

Regulations

- Rainfall
  - Typical designs for 6 month/24 hr storm
  - Conservative design for 20 year/24 hr storm range from 1.4 to 15 in./24 hr.
- Meet Local & State wastewater mitigation requirements.

Keys to Success – Design

Usage / Vehicle Loading

Lightly loaded areas

- Parking lots
- Low volume roads (limited truck use)
- Recreational Areas

- Meet structural requirements
- Roads?

What about roads?

It does rain in Arizona


18 Years Later

Roads

- Challenges
  - Cuts and fills
  - Slope
  - Variable soil conditions
  - Utilities
- Limited use

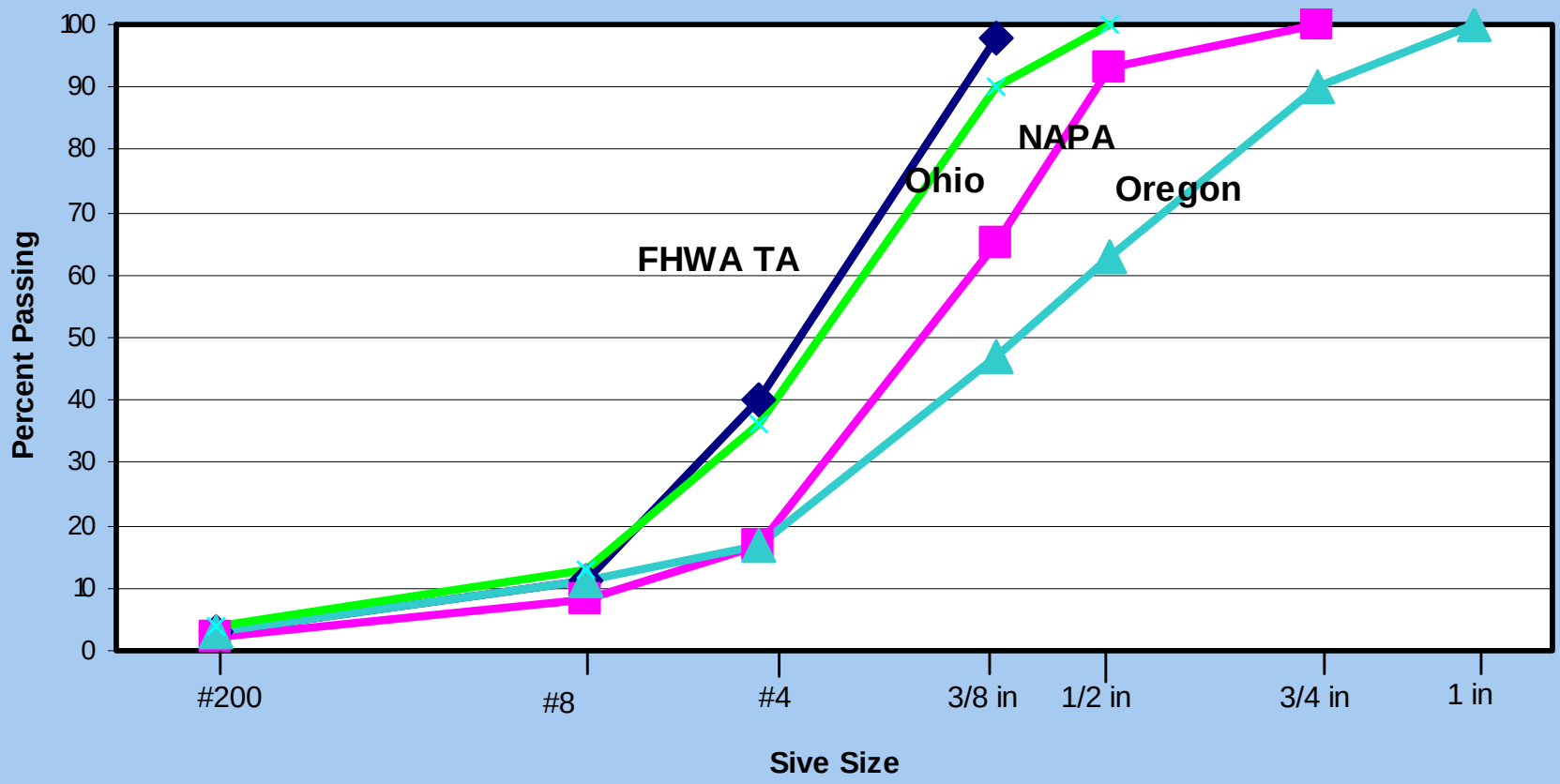
Keys to Success – Construction

- Build porous pavement last
  - Protect from construction debris
  - Protect from soil laden runoff
- Protect site from heavy equipment
  - Don’t compact subgrade
- Excavate to subgrade (soft footprint)
- Place filter fabric

Keys to Success – Construction

- Place reservoir course 1.5 to 3 in. stone (if gravel source then 95% double fracture)
- Place 1-2 in layer of ½ in stone to stabilize the surface of the reservoir course
- Place porous asphalt course (2 to 4 in.) usually compacted / seated with 2-3 passes with 10 ton roller.

Porous HMA Surface



Open-Graded HMA

- Binder Content 6.0-6.5%
- Should consider using stiffer asphalt
- Consider modified asphalt
- Consider fibers
- Thick OG HMA – 2 layers?

Construction Guidelines

Construction

- Restrict traffic for 24 hrs.
- Protect porous pavement from contamination.
  - Runoff sediment
  - Construction debris

Construction Guidelines

- Post Construction
  - Inspect for design compliance during storm event.
  - Confirm vegetation is established before removing temporary storm water measures
  - Do not sand or ash for snow or ice, liquid de-icing compounds may be used.
  - Sign for maintenance.

Maintenance

- Inspect several time first few months during storm events.
- Inspect annually thereafter.
- Pavement surface may be flushed or jet washed.
- Damage pavement can be repaired using dense hot mix provided <10% area.

Cost

- Cost of pavement structure more
- May be offset by reducing drainage structure costs

Keys to Success

- Make sure site conditions are acceptable
  - Permeability
  - Depth to groundwater and/or bedrock
- Design
  - Bottom of infiltration bed level
  - Limit surface slope < 5%
  - Runoff from adjacent areas will not plug pavement

Keys to success

- Construction
  - Don’t compact subgrade
  - Protect pavement from contamination
    - Build porous pavement late
    - Stabilize adjacent areas before construction
- Maintenance
  - Do not sand, or ash pavements
  - Install signage to warn maintenance personnel
  - Can patch with conventional asphalt < 10%

Morris Arboretum
Philadelphia, PA
1984

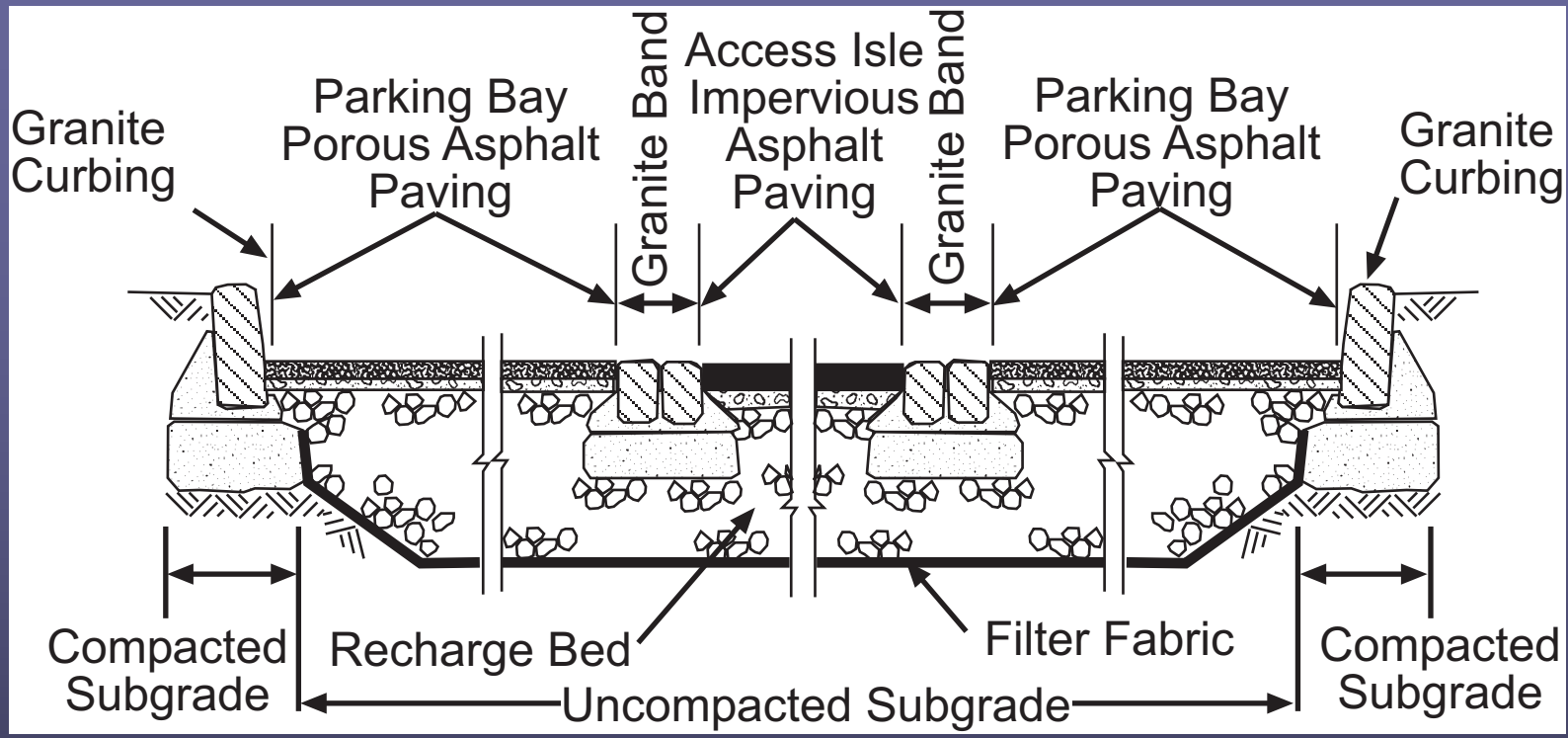


Diagram of infiltration bed at Morris Arboretum

Shared Medical Systems
Malvern, PA
1982


CAUTION
BUMP


2ND

Conclusions

- Porous pavements offer good alternative to conventional stormwater mitigation
- Site Conditions must be right
- Need to protect pavement from contamination during and after construction
- Properly designed and constructed will last more than 20 years

Information Series 131

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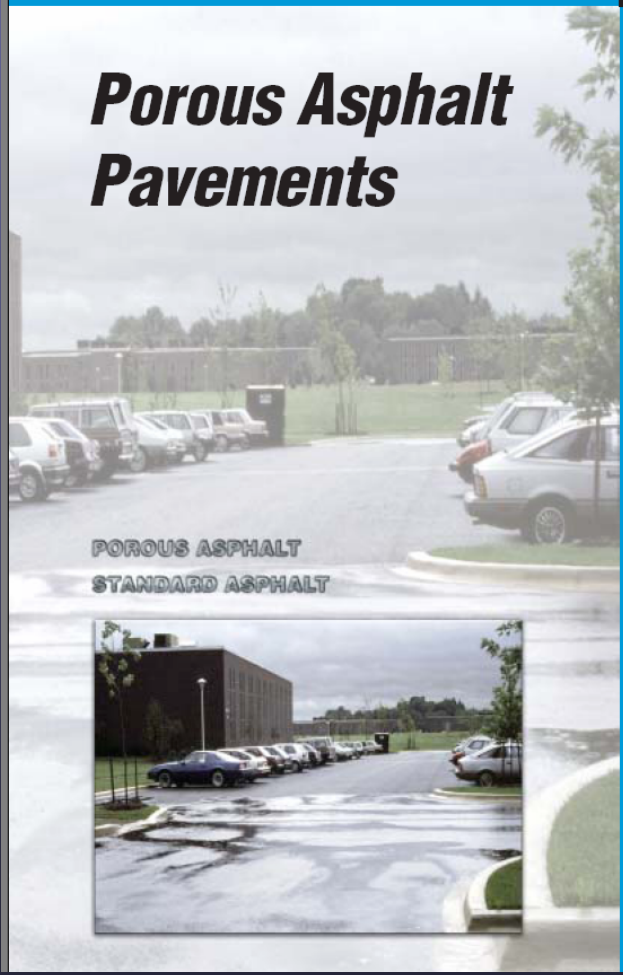
Porous Asphalt Pavements



ASPHALT
100% RECYCLABLE

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