Stormwater Wetlands : Design and Performance.



Stormwater Wetlands in the Urban Landscape

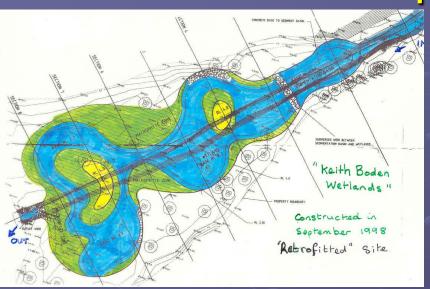








Design often involves "wetlands" and "ponds"

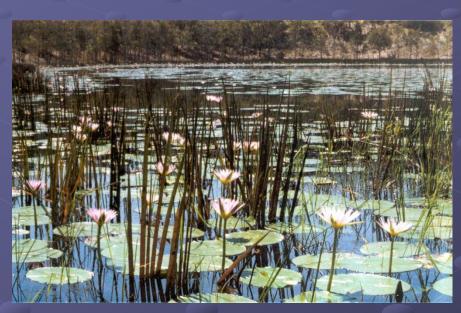








Wetlands are areas that may be permanently or periodically inundated by surface-water runoff, and support a diversity of vegetation types.





Macrophyte-dominated shallow water (< 50 cm)

Ponds are areas of permanent open water.

They include lagoons, lakes, sediment basins and detention ponds.

They may be fringed with zones of emergent vegetation, or support submerged plants.





Phytoplankton-dominated deeper water (> 50 cm)

TSS and Nutrient Removal Mechanisms

Suspended Solids and Organic Matter:

- Sedimentation facilitated by the vegetation
- Finer particles adhere to the biofilm surfaces of the vegetation or gravel substrate
- Microbial degradation of organic particulates

Nutrients:

- Direct uptake by plants and micro-organisms. Inorganic nutrients converted to organic biomass
- Microbial processes facilitate the removal and transformation of nutrients especially nitrogen removal
- Chemical adsorption of phosphorus

Pathogen Removal Mechanisms

Physical mechanisms:

Adsorption (onto particles), filtration (assisted by the vegetation) and sedimentation

Chemical mechanisms:

UV light disinfection

Biological mechanisms:

- predation and lysis of bacteria by bacteriophages (viruses)
- competition with natural-wetland microbial populations
- natural death and decay

Treatment Processes in Wetlands and Ponds

	Wetlands	Ponds
Physical	Filtration/sedimentation facilitated by macrophytes Adhesion of fine particles and colloids to biofilm surfaces	Settlement/sedimentation. Passive-density dependent
Biological	Nutrient uptake by macrophytes, attached periphyton and phytoplankton/bacterioplankton. Macrophyte-dominated	Nutrient uptake by phyto- plankton/bacterioplankton. Phytoplankton dominated
	Sediment microbial processes facility transformations, recycling. Microbial hydrocarbon degradation, microbial predation of pathogens.	ate nutrient removal,
Chemical	Nutrient and metal adsorption to substrate. UV disinfection of pathogens	

Presentations

- Margaret Greenway: Macrophyte zonation and sustainability in stormwater wetlands in subtropical Australia: design and function
- Bridget Wadzuk: Constructed stormwater wetlands; design and function
- Jon Hathaway: Indicator bacteria sequestration in stormwater wetlands

 Bill Hunt: Constructed wetlands v ponds for stormwater management; a framework for ecosystem services assessment