

# LANDSCAPING AND AESTHETICS GUIDANCE

## Introduction

Landscaping is a critical element in the design of stormwater facilities for water quantity and quality management, serving both functional and aesthetic purposes. Plants and vegetation perform a number of functions in stormwater controls and conveyance facilities, including:

- Slowing and retarding flow by increasing hydraulic roughness
- Preventing the erosion of bare soil
- Enhancing infiltration of runoff into the soil
- Providing pollutant removal through vegetative uptake
- Preventing access to deep open water areas
- Contributing to wildlife and fish habitat
- Improving the overall appearance of stormwater facilities

The purpose of this Appendix is to provide guidance on landscaping and plant selection for stormwater facilities and structural controls, as well as provide an overview on developing aesthetically-pleasing stormwater facilities. This appendix is divided into the following sections:

- ❑ Subsection F.1 covers general landscaping guidance that should be considered when landscaping any stormwater facility.
- ❑ Subsection F.2 discusses the physical site factors and considerations involved in selecting plant material for stormwater facility landscaping.
- ❑ Subsection F.3 includes key factors to consider in selecting plant material for stormwater landscaping are reviewed, including hardiness, physiographic regions, inundation tolerance, and other factors.
- ❑ Subsection F.4 outlines more specific guidance on landscaping criteria and plant selection for individual structural stormwater control designs, including:
  - Stormwater Ponds and Wetlands
  - Bioretention Areas
  - Infiltration Trench and Surface Sand Filter Facilities
  - Enhanced Swales and Grass Channels
  - Filter Strips and Stream Buffers
- ❑ Subsection F.5 contains a detailed plant list of trees and shrubs that may be used when preparing a vegetation and landscaping planting plan for a stormwater facility.

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## F.1 General Landscaping Guidance

Below are general guidelines that should be followed in the landscaping of any stormwater control or conveyance facility.

### DO NOT:

- Plant trees, scrubs or any type of woody vegetation on an embankment
- Plant trees and shrubs within 15 feet of the toe of slope of a dam.
- Plant trees or shrubs known to have long tap roots within the vicinity of the earthen dam or embankment, or subsurface drainage facilities.
- Plant trees and shrubs within 25 feet of a principal spillway structure (e.g., riser)
- Plant trees and shrubs within 25 feet of perforated pipes.
- Block maintenance access to structures with trees or shrubs.

### DO:

- Take into account site characteristics and plant selection guidelines (see subsections F.2 and F.3, respectively) when selecting plants for stormwater facilities.
- Consider how plant characteristics will affect the landscape and the performance of a structural stormwater control or conveyance.
- Carefully consider the long-term vegetation management strategy for the structural control, keeping in mind the maintenance legacy for the future owners.
- Preserve existing natural vegetation when possible.
- Avoid the overuse of any plant materials.
- Have soils tested to determine if there is a need for amendments.
- Select plants that can thrive in on-site soils with no additional amendments or a minimum of amendments.
- Consider water availability, particularly for wetland and water-intensive plantings.
- Decrease the areas where turf is used. Use low maintenance ground cover to absorb run-off.
- Plant stream and edge of water buffers with trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses, and herbaceous materials where possible, to stabilize banks and provide shade.
- Provide slope stabilization methods for slopes steeper than 2:1, such as planted erosion control mats. Also, use seed mixes with quick germination rates in this area. Augment temporary seeding measures with container crowns or root mats of more permanent plant material.
- Utilize erosion control mats and fabrics to protect in channels that are subject to frequent wash outs.
- Stabilize all water overflows with plant material that can withstand strong current flows. Root material should be fibrous and substantial but lacking a tap root.
- Sod area channels that are not stabilized using erosion control mats.
- Divert flows temporarily from seeded areas until stabilized.
- Check water tolerances of existing plant materials prior to inundation of area.
- Stabilize aquatic and safety benches with emergent wetland plants and wet seed mixes.
- Provide a 15-foot clearance from a non-clogging, low flow orifice.
- Limit herbaceous embankment plantings to 10 inches in height, to allow visibility for the inspector who is looking for burrowing rodents that may compromise the integrity of the embankment.

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- ❑ Shade inflow and outflow channels, as well as the southern exposures of pond, to reduce thermal warming
  - ❑ Avoid plantings that will require routine or intensive chemical applications (i.e. turf area).
  - ❑ Maintain and frame desirable views. Be careful not to block views at entrances, exits, or difficult road curves. Screen or buffer unattractive views into the site.
  - ❑ Use plants to prohibit pedestrian access to pools or slopes that may be unsafe.
  - ❑ Keep maintenance area open to allow future access for pond maintenance.
  - ❑ Provide a planting surface that can withstand the compaction of vehicles using maintenance access roads.
  - ❑ Make sure the facility maintenance agreement includes a maintenance requirement of designated plant material.
  - ❑ Provide signage for:
    - Stormwater management facilities to help educate the public
    - Wildflower areas to designate limits of mowing
    - Preserving existing natural vegetation

## F.2 Site Considerations

A development site's characteristics often will help to determine which plant materials and planting methods the site designer should select and will help improve plant establishment. Primary site considerations include:

- (1) Soil Characteristics
- (2) Drainage
- (3) Slope
- (4) Orientation

### Soil Characteristics

Plant establishment and growth can be limited by a number of different soil characteristics including:

- Soil texture
- pH -- whether acid, neutral, or alkali
- Nutrient levels -- nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium
- Minerals -- such as chelated iron, lime
- Salinity
- Toxicity

Soils are made up of four basic ingredients: mineral elements, pore space, organic matter and other items consisting mainly of living organisms including fungi, bacteria, and nematodes. One classification of soils is based upon the mineral part of soil and consists of four sizes of particles. Clay particles are the smallest, followed by silt, sand, and gravel. The USDA has devised another system of classifying soil particles. In this system soil is divided into seven categories: clay, silt, and five sizes of sand.

Soil texture is determined by the percentage of sand, silt, and clay in the soil. The structure of a soil is influenced by soil texture and also by the aggregation of small soil particles into larger particles. The amount of aggregation in a soil is strongly influenced by the amount of organic matter present.

Soil samples should be analyzed by experienced and qualified individuals who can explain the results and provide information on any soil amendments that are required. Soil fertility can often be corrected by applying fertilizer or by increasing the level of organic matter in the soil. Soil pH can be corrected with applications of lime. Where poor soils can't be amended, seed mixes and plant material must be selected to establish ground cover as quickly as possible.

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Areas that have recently been involved in construction can become compacted so that plant roots cannot penetrate the soil. Seeds lying on the surface of compacted soils can be washed away or be eaten by birds. Soils should be loosened to a minimum depth of two inches, preferably to a four-inch depth. Hard soils may require discing to a deeper depth. Loosening soils will improve seed contact with the soil, provide greater germination rates, and allow the roots to penetrate into the soil. If the area is to be sodded, discing will allow the roots to penetrate into the soil.

Whenever possible, topsoil should be spread to a depth of four inches (two inch minimum) over the entire area to be planted. This provides organic matter and important nutrients for the plant material. This also allows the stabilizing materials to become established faster, while the roots are able to penetrate deeper and stabilize the soil, making it less likely that the plants will wash out during a heavy storm. If topsoil has been stockpiled in deep mounds for a long period of time, it is desirable to test the soil for pH as well as microbial activity. If the microbial activity has been destroyed, it may be necessary to inoculate the soil after application.

## Drainage

Soil moisture and drainage have a direct bearing on the plant species and communities that can be supported on a site. Factors such as soil texture, topography, groundwater levels and climatic patterns all influence soil drainage and the amount of water in the soil. Identifying the topography and drainage of the site will help determine potential moisture gradients. The following categories can be used to describe the drainage properties of soils on a site:

- ❑ **Flooded** - Areas where standing water is present most of the growing season.
- ❑ **Wet** - Areas where standing water is present most of the growing season, except during times of drought. Wet areas are found at the edges of ponds, rivers, streams, ditches, and low spots. Wet conditions exist on poorly drained soils, often with high clay content.
- ❑ **Moist** - Areas where the soil is damp. Occasionally, the soil is saturated and drains slowly. These areas usually are at slightly higher elevations than wet sites. Moist conditions may exist in sheltered areas protected from sun and wind.
- ❑ **Well-drained** - Areas where rain water drains readily and puddles do not last long. Moisture is available to plants most of the growing season. Soils usually are medium textures with enough sand and silt particles to allow water to drain through the soil.
- ❑ **Dry** - Areas where water drains rapidly through the soil. Soils are usually coarse, sandy, rocky or shallow. Slopes are often steep and exposed to sun and wind. Water runs off quickly and does not remain in the soil.

## Slope

The degree of slope can also limit its suitability for certain types of plants. Plant establishment and growth requires stable substrates for anchoring root systems and preserving propagules such as seeds and plant fragments, and slope is a primary factor in determining substrate stability. Establishing plants directly on or below eroding slopes is not possible for most species. In such instances, plant species capable of rapid spread and anchoring soils should be selected or bioengineering techniques should be used to aid the establishment of a plant cover.

In addition, soils on steep slopes generally drain more rapidly than those on gradual slopes. This means that the soils may remain saturated longer on gradual slopes. If soils on gradual slopes are classified as poorly drained, care should be taken that plant species are selected that are tolerant of saturation.

Site topography also affects maintenance of plant species diversity. Small irregularities in the ground surface (e.g., depressions, etc.) are common in natural systems. More species are found in areas with many micro-topographic features than in areas without such features. Raised sites are particularly important in wetlands because they allow plants that would otherwise die while flooded to escape inundation.

In wetland plant establishment, ground surface slope interacts with the site hydrology to determine water depths for specific areas within the site. Depth and duration of inundation are principal factors in the zonation of wetland plant species. A given change in water levels will expose a relatively small area on a steep slope in comparison with a much larger area exposed on a gradual or flat slope.

Narrow planting zones will be delineated on steep slopes for species tolerant of specific hydrologic conditions, whereas gradual slopes enable the use of wider planting zones.

### Orientation

Slope exposure should be considered for its effect on plants. A southern-facing slope receives more sun and is warmer and drier, while the opposite is true of a northern slope. Eastern- and western-facing slopes are intermediate, receiving morning and afternoon sun, respectively. Western-facing slopes tending to receive more wind.

## F.3 Plant Selection for Stormwater Facilities

### F.3.1 Hardiness Zones

Hardiness zones are based on historical annual minimum temperatures recorded in an area.

A site's location in relation to plant hardiness zones is important to consider first because plants differ in their ability to withstand very cold winters. This does not imply that plants are not affected by summer temperatures. Given that Georgia summers can be very hot, heat tolerance is also a characteristic that should be considered in plant selection.

It is best to recommend plants known to thrive in specific hardiness zones. The plant list included at the end of this appendix identifies the hardiness zones for each species listed as a general planting guide. It should be noted, however, that certain site factors can create microclimates or environmental conditions which permit the growth of plants not listed as hardy for that zone. By investigating numerous references and based on personal experience, a designer should be able to confidently recommend plants that will survive in microclimates.

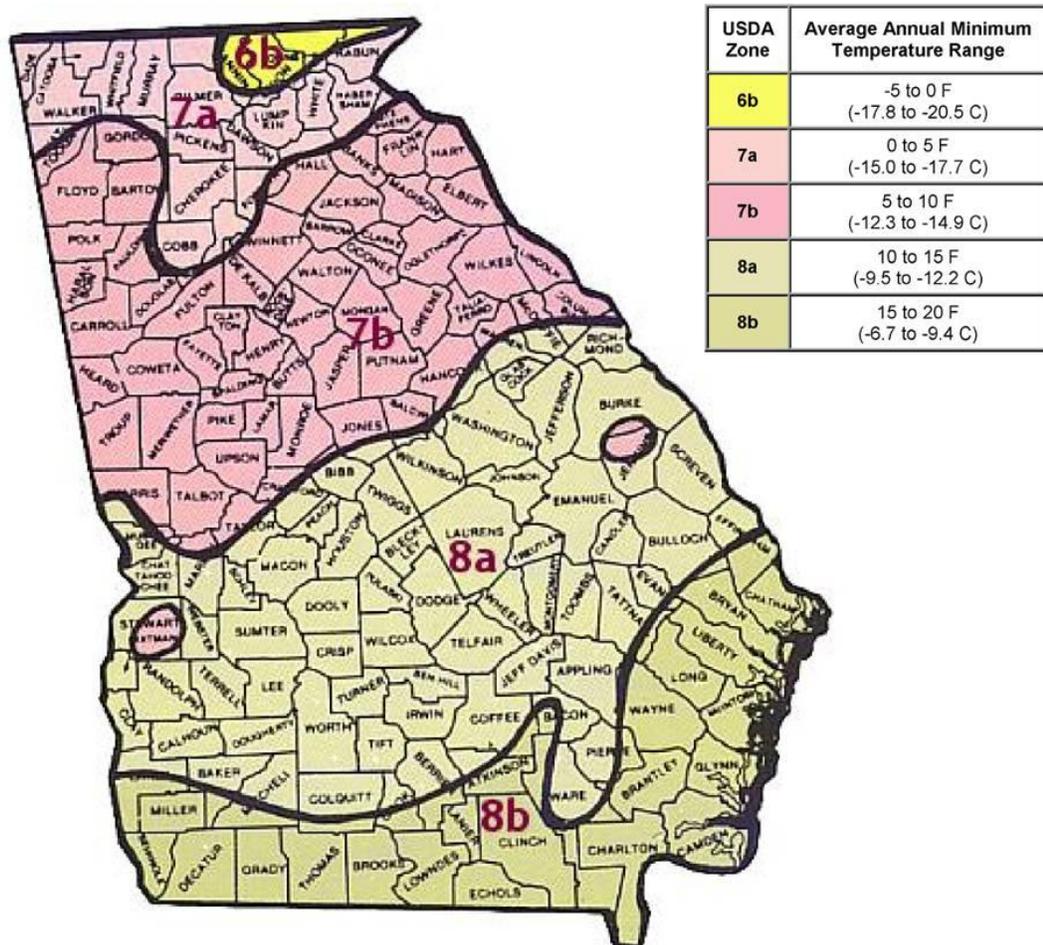
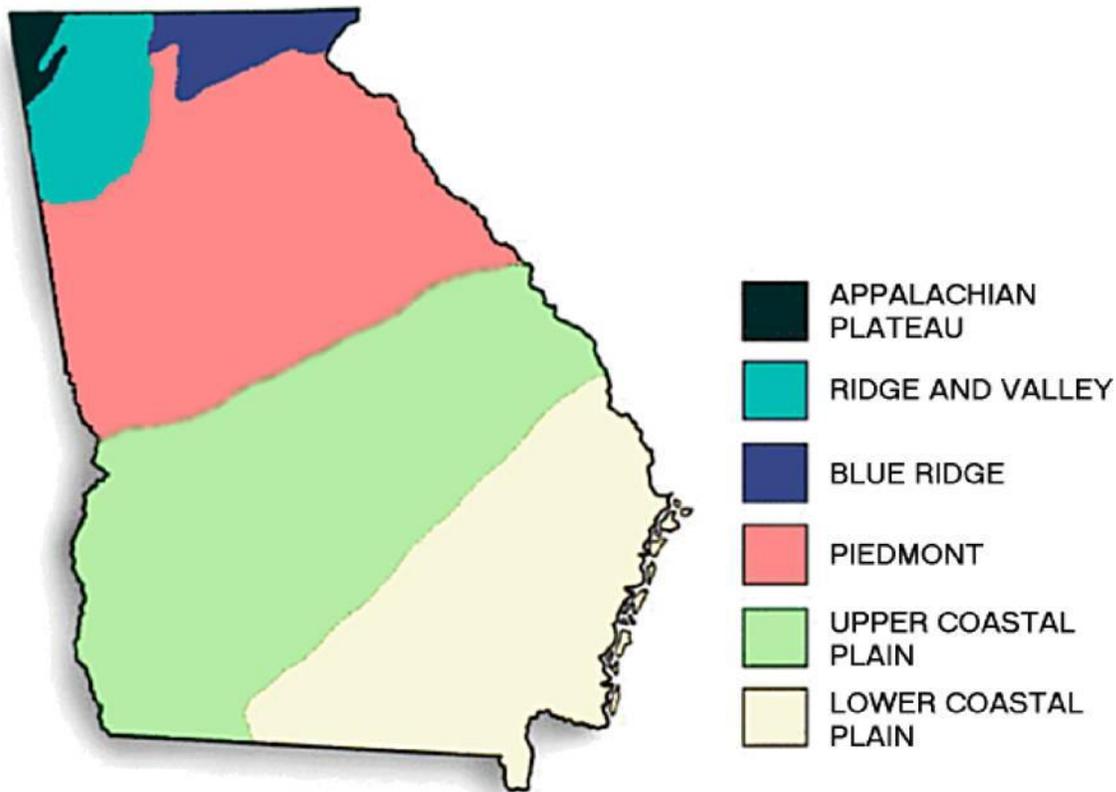


Figure F-1 USDA Plant Hardiness Zones in Georgia

### F.3.2 Physiographic Provinces

There are five physiographic provinces in Georgia that describe distinct geographic regions in the state with similar physical and environmental conditions (Figure F-2). These physiographic provinces include, from northwest to southeast, Appalachian Plateau, Ridge and Valley, Blue Ridge, Piedmont and Coastal Plain (subdivided into upper and lower regions). Each physiographic region is defined by unique geological strata, soil type, drainage patterns, moisture content, temperature and degree of slope which often dictate the predominant vegetation. Because the predominant vegetation has evolved to live in these specific conditions, a successful stormwater management facility planting design can be achieved through mimicking these natural associations. The five physiographic regions are described below with associated vegetation listed as general planting guidance.



**Figure F-2 Physiographic Provinces of Georgia**

(Adapted from: Georgia Wildlife Web)



**Coastal Plain** – The Georgia Coastal Plain province is a low, flat region of well-drained, gently rolling hills and poorly drained flatwoods. The Coastal Plain extends east and south of the Fall Line Hills, the old Mesozoic shoreline still marked by a line of sand hills. Its soils, sands, and sandy clays are of marine origin and are usually acidic. They possess a low native fertility due to excessive leaching. Its elevation ranges from sea level to 225 m (750 ft). The Coastal Plain is sometimes divided into upper and lower sections, the upper section being near the Fall Line and the lower section being the mainland along the Atlantic coast.

On well-drained soils of the Coastal Plain, the dominant plant species are Long-leaf Pine, Loblolly Pine, and several species of oak. On poorly drained soils, the dominant species are Long-leaf Pine and Slash Pine with a dense ground cover of Saw Palmetto, Gallberry, and Wire-grass.

These plants are adapted to a humid subtropical climate of mild winters, hot summers, high rainfall, and frequent ground fires. Where the soil is poorly drained, Pond Pines are dominant. The Southern Mixed Hardwood community includes oaks, Sweet Gum, magnolias, Red Bay, and Pignut Hickory. Such hardwood communities are found bordering freshwater streams and floodplain swamps and in low, fertile areas near the coast. Wooded swamps composed of Cypress, Tupelo, and Red Maple

trees are found adjacent to swamps, ponds, and lakes as well as along sluggish, meandering streams. The major plant communities on the Barrier Islands are maritime oak forests and pine forests. Major cities and urban areas in the Coastal Plain include Albany, Savannah and Valdosta. Columbus, Macon and Augusta all straddle the Fall Line between the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.



**Piedmont** – The Piedmont province contains a series of rolling hills and occasional isolated mountains. Rivers and ravines are found throughout this province. This is an area of oak-hickory-pine forests and mixed deciduous forests. Oak-hickory-pine forests are the most widespread type of forest in the southeastern United States. The dominant trees include oaks, hickories, Short-leaf Pine, and Loblolly Pine. Pines occur in the less favorable or disturbed areas of the Piedmont. In river valleys, mixed deciduous forests of hardwood trees such as Sweet Gum, Beech, Red Maple, elms, and birches are found.

Common understory species in the Piedmont include the sweet fern, flowering dogwood, sassafras, blueberry, pink azalea, hydrangea, spicebush and arrowwood. The Atlanta metro area and Athens are both located in the Piedmont province.



**Blue Ridge** – The Blue Ridge province occupies the northeastern portion of Georgia. It consists of an irregular sequence of mountains, ridges, and basins. Elevations reach 480 - 1,410 m (1,600 - 4,700 ft). The Blue Ridge Mountains and Cohutta Mountains form most of this province, with the McCaysville Basin separating them. Portions of the Piedmont Province extend into this province as well. Distinctly different elevations result in considerable variety in vegetation.



**Ridge and Valley** – The Ridge and Valley province occupies most of northwestern portion of Georgia. It includes the Chickamauga Valley, Armuchee Ridges, and the Great Valley. These form a series of parallel valleys separated by ridges in the northwest corner of the state. Lowland areas are about 210 - 240 m (700 - 800 ft) above sea level, but the higher ridges may be above 480 m (1,600 ft). Plant species vary from area to area, based on local soil type, elevation, moisture, and disturbances. Major cities in the Ridge and Valley province include Rome, Dalton and metro Chattanooga.



**Appalachian Plateau** – This mountainous province is found in extreme northwestern Georgia. Its most prominent features are Lookout and Sand Mountains. A variety of vegetation types occur in this area, depending on elevation, but Appalachian Oak Forests cover most of the Province. For example, forests on north-facing ravines between 800 and 1,200 m (2,640 - 3,960 ft) include Basswood, Sugar Maple, Tulip Poplar, Beech, Birch, and Hemlock trees. More northern species of evergreens and shrubs appear in the forests above 1,200 m (3,960 ft). The understory may include rhododendrons, native azaleas, and Mountain Laurel.

**Floodplain Plant Communities** – Floodplain areas are a microclimatic area that results in a characteristic plant community that is similar in all five physiographic provinces. Floodplain plant communities are an important reference community since many stormwater practices are located with this area. Floodplains occur along streams in both steep and level areas. The most noteworthy plants found along floodplains are River Birch, Willows, Poplars, Silver Maple, Sweet Gum (Coastal Plain and Piedmont); Sycamore, Box Elder, Green Ash, American Elm, Swamp White Oak, Bur Oak (Piedmont); and Honeylocust and Hackberry. Shrubs commonly found in floodplains include Shrub Willows, Ninebark, Silkey Cornel, Buttonbush, Spicebush, Black Alder, Winterberry, Black Elderberry, and Alders.

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### F.3.3 Other Considerations in Plant Selection

#### Use or Function

In selecting plants, consideration must be given to their desired function in the stormwater management facility. Is the plant needed as ground cover, soil stabilizer, biofilter or source of shade? Will the plant be placed for functional or aesthetic purposes? Does the adjacent use provide conflicts or potential problems and require a barrier, screen, or buffer? Nearly every plant and plant location should be provided to serve some function in addition to any aesthetic appeal.

#### Plant Characteristics

Certain plant characteristics are so obvious; they may actually be overlooked in the plant selection. These are:

- Size
- Shape

For example, tree limbs, after several years, can grow into power lines. A wide growing shrub may block maintenance access to a stormwater facility. Consider how these characteristics can work for you or against you, today and in the future.

Other plant characteristics must be considered to determine how the plant grows and functions seasonally, and whether the plant will meet the needs of the facility today and in the future. Some of these characteristics are:

- Growth Rate
- Regeneration Capacity
- Maintenance Requirements (e.g. mowing, harvesting, leaf collection, etc.)
- Aesthetics

In urban or suburban settings, a plant's aesthetic interest may be of greater importance. Residents living next to a stormwater system may desire that the facility be appealing or interesting to look at throughout the year. Aesthetics is an important factor to consider in the design of these systems. Failure to consider the aesthetic appeal of a facility to the surrounding residents may result in reduced value to nearby lots. Careful attention to the design and planting of a facility can result in maintained or increased values of a property.

#### Availability and Cost

Often overlooked in plant selection is the availability from wholesalers and the cost of the plant material. There are many plants listed in landscape books that are not readily available from the nurseries. Without knowledge of what is available, time spent researching and finding the one plant that meets all the needs will be wasted, if it is not available from the growers. It may require shipping, therefore, making it more costly than the budget may allow. Some planting requirements, however, may require a special effort to find the specific plant that fulfills the needs of the site and the function of the plant in the landscape.

#### Native versus Nonnative Species

This Manual encourages the use of native plants in stormwater management facilities, since they are best suited to thrive under the physiographic and hardiness conditions encountered at a site. Unfortunately, not all native plants provide the desired landscape or appearance, and may not always be available in quantity from local nurseries. Therefore, naturalized plants that are not native species, but can thrive and reproduce in the new area may be a useful alternative.

Because all landscaping needs may not be met by native or naturalized plants, some ornamental and exotic species are provided in this guide that can survive under difficult conditions encountered in a stormwater management facility. Since many stormwater facilities are adjacent to residential areas, the objectives of the stormwater planting plan may shift to resemble the more controlled appearance of nearby yards, or to provide a pleasing view. Great care should be taken; however, when introducing plant species so as not to create a situation where they may become invasive and take over adjacent natural plant communities.

## Moisture Status

In landscaping stormwater management facilities, hydrology plays a large role in determining which species will survive in a given location.

For areas that are to be planted within a stormwater management facility it is necessary to determine what type of hydrologic zones will be created within the facility.

The six zones shown in Table F-1 in the next section describe the different conditions encountered in stormwater management facilities. Every facility does not necessarily reflect all of these zones. The hydrologic zones designate the degree of tolerance the plant exhibits to differing degrees of inundation by water. Each zone has its own set of plant selection criteria based on the hydrology of the zone, the stormwater functions required of the plant and the desired landscape effect.

## F.4 Specific Landscaping Criteria for Structural Stormwater Controls

### F.4.1 Stormwater Ponds and Wetlands

Stormwater ponds and wetlands are engineered basins and wetland areas designed to control and treat stormwater runoff. Aquatic vegetation plays an important role in pollutant removal in both stormwater ponds and wetlands. In addition, vegetation can enhance the appearance of a pond or wetland, stabilize side slopes, serve as wildlife habitat, and can temporarily conceal unsightly trash and debris.

Within a stormwater pond or wetland, there are various hydrologic zones as shown in Table F-1 that must be considered in plant selection. These hydrologic zones designate the degree of tolerance a plant must have to differing degrees of inundation by water. Hydrologic conditions in an area may fluctuate in unpredictable ways; thus the use of plants capable of tolerating wide varieties of hydrologic conditions greatly increases the successful establishment of a planting. Plants suited for specific hydrologic conditions may perish when those conditions change, exposing the soil, and therefore, increasing the chance for erosion. Each of the hydrologic zones is described in more detail below along with examples of appropriate plant species.

**Table F-1** Hydrologic Zones

Zone #	Zone Description	Hydrologic Conditions
Zone 1	Deep Water Pool	1-6 feet depth (permanent pool)
Zone 2	Shallow Water Bench	Normal pool elevation to 1 foot depth
Zone 3	Shoreline Fringe	Regularly inundated
Zone 4	Riparian Fringe	Periodically inundated
Zone 5	Floodplain Terrace	Infrequently inundated
Zone 6	Upland Slopes	Seldom or never inundated

#### Zone 1: Deep Water Area (1- 6 Feet)

Ponds and wetlands both have deep pool areas that comprise Zone 1. These pools range from one to six feet in depth, and are best colonized by submergent plants, if at all.

This pondscaping zone is *not* routinely planted for several reasons. First, the availability of plant materials that can survive and grow in this zone is limited, and it is also feared that plants could clog the stormwater facility outlet structure. In many cases, these plants will gradually become established through natural recolonization (e.g., transport of plant fragments from other ponds via the feet and legs of waterfowl). If submerged plant material is commercially available and clogging concerns are addressed, this area can be planted. The function of the planting is to reduce resedimentation and improve oxidation while creating a greater aquatic habitat.

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- Plant material must be able to withstand constant inundation of water of one foot or greater in depth.
  - Plants may be submerged partially or entirely.
  - Plants should be able to enhance pollutant uptake.
  - Plants may provide food and cover for waterfowl, desirable insects, and other aquatic life.

Some suggested emergent or submergent species include, but are not limited to: Water Lily, Deepwater Duck Potato, Spatterdock, Wild Celery and Redhead Grass.

### **Zone 2: Shallow Water Bench (Normal Pool To 1 Foot)**

Zone 2 includes all areas that are inundated below the normal pool to a depth of one foot, and is the primary area where emergent plants will grow in stormwater wetlands. Zone 2 also coincides with the aquatic bench found in stormwater ponds. This zone offers ideal conditions for the growth of many emergent wetland species. These areas may be located at the edge of the pond or on low mounds of earth located below the surface of the water within the pond. When planted, Zone 2 can be an important habitat for many aquatic and nonaquatic animals, creating a diverse food chain. This food chain includes predators, allowing a natural regulation of mosquito populations, thereby reducing the need for insecticidal applications.

- Plant material must be able to withstand constant inundation of water to depths between six inches and one foot deep.
- Plants will be partially submerged.
- Plants should be able to enhance pollutant uptake.
- Plants may provide food and cover for waterfowl, desirable insects and other aquatic life.

Common emergent wetland plant species used for stormwater wetlands and on the aquatic benches of stormwater ponds include, but are not limited to: Arrowhead/Duck Potato, Soft Rush, various Sedges, Softstem Bulrush, Cattail, Switchgrass, Southern Blue-Flag Iris, Swamp Hibiscus, Swamp Lily, Pickerelweed, Pond Cypress and various Asters.

### **Zone 3: Shoreline Fringe (Regularly Inundated)**

Zone 3 encompasses the shoreline of a pond or wetland, and extends vertically about one foot in elevation from the normal pool. This zone includes the safety bench of a pond, and may also be periodically inundated if storm events are subject to extended detention. This zone occurs in a wet pond or shallow marsh and can be the most difficult to establish since plants must be able to withstand inundation of water during storms, when wind might blow water into the area, or the occasional drought during the summer. In order to stabilize the soil in this zone, Zone 3 must have a vigorous cover.

- Plants should stabilize the shoreline to minimize erosion caused by wave and wind action or water fluctuation.
- Plant material must be able to withstand occasional inundation of water. Plants will be partially submerged partially at this time.
- Plant material should, whenever possible, shade the shoreline, especially the southern exposure. This will help to reduce the water temperature.
- Plants should be able to enhance pollutant uptake.
- Plants may provide food and cover for waterfowl, songbirds, and wildlife. Plants could also be selected and located to control overpopulation of waterfowl.
- Plants should be located to reduce human access, where there are potential hazards, but should not block the maintenance access.
- Plants should have very low maintenance requirements, since they may be difficult or impossible to reach.
- Plants should be resistant to disease and other problems which require chemical applications (since chemical application is not advised in stormwater ponds).

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Many of the emergent wetland plants that perform well in Zone 2 also thrive in Zone 3. Some other species that do well include Broom Grass, Upland Sea-Oats, Dwarf Tickseed, various Ferns, Hawthorns. If shading is needed along the shoreline, the following tree species are suggested: Boxelder, Ash, Willow, Red Maples and Willow Oak.

#### **Zone 4: Riparian Fringe (Periodically Inundated)**

Zone 4 extends from one to four feet in elevation above the normal pool. Plants in this zone are subject to periodic inundation after storms, and may experience saturated or partly saturated soil inundation. Nearly all of the temporary extended detention (ED) storage area is included within this zone.

- Plants must be able to withstand periodic inundation of water after storms, as well as occasional drought during the warm summer months.
- Plants should stabilize the ground from erosion caused by run-off.
- Plants should shade the low flow channel to reduce the pool warming whenever possible.
- Plants should be able to enhance pollutant uptake.
- Plant material should have very low maintenance, since they may be difficult or impossible to access.
- Plants may provide food and cover for waterfowl, songbirds and wildlife. Plants may also be selected and located to control overpopulation of waterfowl.
- Plants should be located to reduce pedestrian access to the deeper pools.

Some frequently used plant species in Zone 4 include Broom Grass, Yellow Indian Grass, Ironweed, Joe Pye Weed, Lilies, Flatsedge, Hollies, Forsythia, Lovegrass, Hawthorn and Sugar Maples.

#### **Zone 5: Floodplain Terrace (Infrequently Inundated)**

Zone 5 is periodically inundated by flood waters that quickly recede in a day or less. Operationally, Zone 5 extends from the maximum two year or  $Cp_v$  water surface elevation up to the 25 or 100 year maximum water surface elevation. Key landscaping objectives for Zone 5 are to stabilize the steep slopes characteristic of this zone, and establish a low maintenance, natural vegetation.

- Plant material should be able to withstand occasional but brief inundation during storms, although typical moisture conditions may be moist, slightly wet, or even swing entirely to drought conditions during the dry weather periods.
- Plants should stabilize the basin slopes from erosion.
- Ground cover should be very low maintenance, since they may be difficult to access on steep slopes or if the frequency of mowing is limited. A dense tree cover may help reduce maintenance and discourage resident geese.
- Plants may provide food and cover for waterfowl, songbirds, and wildlife.
- Placement of plant material in Zone 5 is often critical, as it often creates a visual focal point and provides structure and shade for a greater variety of plants.

Some commonly planted species in Zone 5 include many wildflowers or native grasses, many Fescues, many Viburnums, Witch Hazel, Blueberry, American Holly, American Elderberry and Red Oak.

#### **Zone 6: Upland Slopes (Seldom or Never Inundated)**

The last zone extends above the maximum 100 year water surface elevation, and often includes the outer buffer of a pond or wetland. Unlike other zones, this upland area may have sidewalks, bike paths, retaining walls, and maintenance access roads. Care should be taken to locate plants so they will not overgrow these routes or create hiding places that might make the area unsafe.

- Plant material is capable of surviving the particular conditions of the site. Thus, it is not necessary to select plant material that will tolerate any inundation. Rather, plant selections should be made based on soil condition, light, and function within the landscape.

- ❑ Ground covers should emphasize infrequent mowing to reduce the cost of maintaining this landscape.
- ❑ Placement of plants in Zone 6 is important since they are often used to create a visual focal point, frame a desirable view, screen undesirable views, serve as a buffer, or provide shade to allow a greater variety of plant materials. Particular attention should be paid to seasonal color and texture of these plantings.

Some frequently used plant species in Zone 6 include most ornamentals (as long as soils drain well, many wildflowers or native grasses, Linden, False Cypress, Magnolia, most Spruce, Mountain Ash and most Pine.

Table F-2 provides a list of selected wetland plants for Georgia stormwater ponds and wetlands for hydrologic zones 1-4.

**Table F-2** Wetland Plants (Herbaceous Species) for Stormwater Facilities

Scientific Name	Common Name	Hydrologic Zone
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	Sweetflag	2
<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>	Bushy Broom Grass	3
<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broom Grass	4
<i>Canna flaccida</i>	Golden Canna	2
<i>Carex spp.</i>	Caric Sedges	2
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Upland Sea-Oats	3
<i>Coreopsis leavenworthii</i>	Tickseed	2
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Dwarf Tickseed	3
<i>Crinum americanum</i>	Swamp Lily	2
<i>Cyperus odoratus</i>	Flat Sedge	2
<i>Eleocharis cellulosa</i>	Coastal Spikerush	2
<i>Eleocharis interstincta</i>	Jonited Spikerush	2
<i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i>	Joe Pye Weed	4
<i>Helianthus angustifolius</i>	Swamp Sunflower	2
<i>Hibiscus coccineus</i>	Swamp Hibiscus	2
<i>Iris louisiana</i>	Louisiana Iris	2
<i>Iris virginica</i>	Southern Blue-Flag	2
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	2
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice Cut Grass	2
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Spiked Gayfeather	3
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	Cardinal Flower	3
<i>Nuphar luteum</i>	Spatterdock	1
<i>Nymphaea mexicana</i>	Yellow Water Lily	1
<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	Fragrant Water Lily	1
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	Cinnamon Fern	3
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Royal Fern	3
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass	2
<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	Green Arum	2
<i>Polygonum hydropiperoides</i>	Smartweed	2
<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Pickerelweed	2
<i>Pontederia lanceolata</i>	Pickerelweed	2

Table F-2 continued

Scientific Name	Common Name	Hydrologic Zone
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	4
<i>Sagittaria lancifolia</i>	Lance-leaf Arrowhead	2
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	Duck Potato	2
<i>Saururus cernuus</i>	Lizard's Tail	2
<i>Scirpus americanus</i>	Three-square	2
<i>Scirpus californicus</i>	Giant Bulrush	2
<i>Scirpus validus</i>	Softstem Bulrush	2
<i>Sorgham nutans</i>	Yellow Indian Grass	4
<i>Thalia geniculata</i>	Alligator Flag	2
<i>Typha spp.</i>	Cat-tail	2
<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>	Ironweed	4
<i>Woodwardia virginica</i>	Virginia Chain Fern	2

Source: Aquascape, Inc.



**12- to 36-inch depth below normal pool elevation**

Water Lily, Deep Water Duck Potato, Spatterdock, Wild Celery, Redhead Grass



**0- to 12-inch depth below normal pool elevation**

Arrowhead / Duck Potato, Soft Rush, various Sedges, Softstem Bulrush, Cattail, Switchgrass, Southern Blue Flag Iris, Swamp Hibiscus, Swamp Lily, Pickerelweed, Pond Cypress, various Asters



**0- to 12-inch elevation above normal pool elevation**

Various species from above, Broom Grass, Upland Sea-Oats, Dwarf Tickseed, various Ferns, Hawthorns, Boxelder, Ash, Willow, Red Maple, Willow Oak



**1- to 4-foot elevation above normal pool elevation**

Broom Grass, Yellow Indian Grass, Ironweed, Joe Pye Weed, various Lilies, Flatsedge, Hollies, Lovegrass, Hawthorn, Sugar Maple



**C<sub>p<sub>v</sub></sub> to Q<sub>p25</sub> to Q<sub>f</sub> water surface elevation**

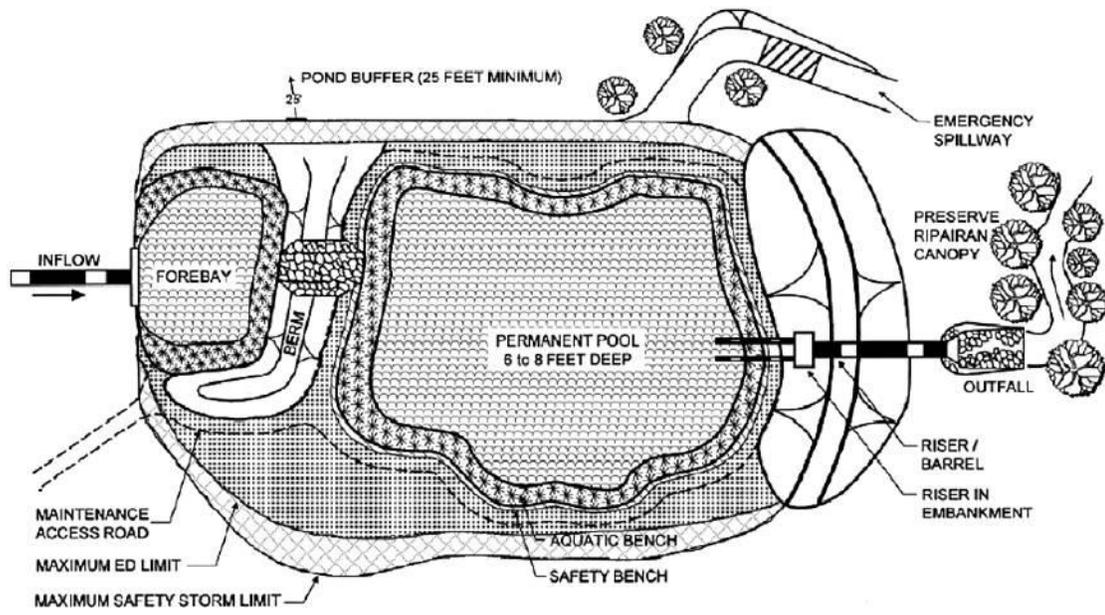
Many wildflowers or native grasses, many Fescues, many Viburnums, Witch Hazel, Blueberry, American Holly, American Elderberry, Red Oak



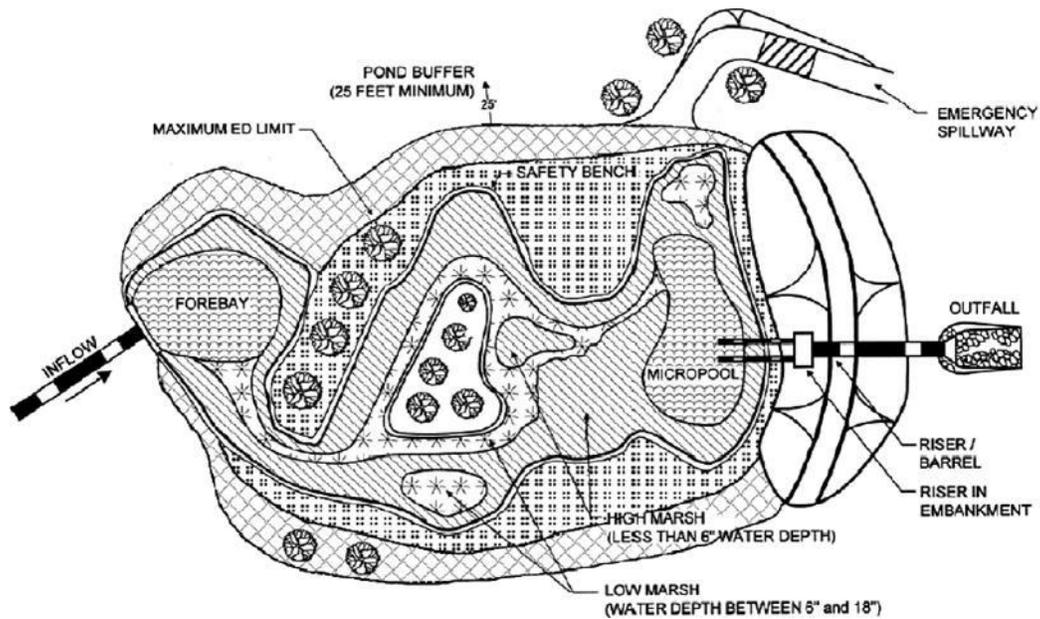
**Q<sub>f</sub> water surface elevation and above**

Many ornamentals as long as soils drain well, many wildflowers or native grasses, Linden, False Cypress, Magnolia, most Spruce, Mountain Ash, most Pine

Figure F-3 Legend of Hydrologic Zones Around Stormwater Facilities



**Figure F-4** Plan View of Hydrologic Zones around Stormwater Wet ED Pond



**Figure F-5** Plan View of Hydrologic Zones around Stormwater ED Shallow Wetland

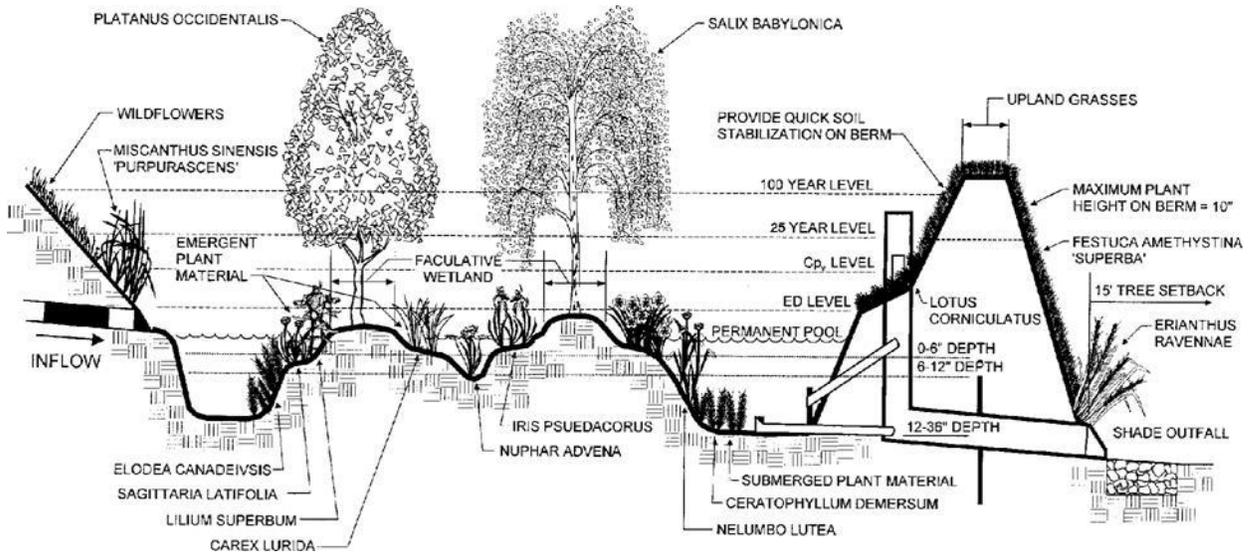


Figure F-6 Section of Typical Shallow ED Wetland

### F.4.2 Bioretention Areas

Bioretention areas are structural stormwater controls that capture treat runoff using soils and vegetation in shallow basins or landscaped areas. Landscaping is therefore critical to the performance and function of these facilities. Below are guidelines for soil characteristics, mulching, and plant selection for bioretention areas.

#### Planting Soil Bed Characteristics

The characteristics of the soil for the bioretention facility are perhaps as important as the facility location and size. The soil must be permeable enough to allow runoff to filter through the media, while having characteristics suitable to promote and sustain a robust vegetative cover crop. In addition, much of the nutrient pollutant uptake (nitrogen and phosphorus) is accomplished through adsorption and microbial activity within the soil profile. Therefore, the soils must balance soil chemistry and physical properties to support biotic communities above and below ground.

The planting soil should be a sandy loam, loamy sand, loam, or a loam/sand mix (should contain a minimum 35 to 60% sand, by volume). The clay content for these soils should be less than 25% by volume. Soils should fall within the SM, ML, SC classifications or the Unified Soil Classification System (USCS). A permeability of at least 1.0 feet per day (0.5"/hr) is required (a conservative value of 0.5 feet per day should be used for design). The soil should be free of stones, stumps, roots, or other woody material over 1" in diameter. Brush or seeds from noxious weeds, such as Johnson Grass, Mugwort, Nutsedge, and Canadian Thistle should not be present in the soils. Placement of the planting soil should be in lifts of 12 to 18", loosely compacted (tamped lightly with a dozer or backhoe bucket). The specific characteristics are presented in Table F-3.

Table F-3 Planting Soil Characteristics

Parameter	Value
pH range	5.2 to 7.00
Organic matter	1.5 to 4.0%
Magnesium	35 lbs. per acre, minimum
Phosphorus (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	75 lbs. per acre, minimum
Potassium (K <sub>2</sub> O)	85 lbs. per acre, minimum
Soluble salts	500 ppm
Clay	10 to 25%
Silt	30 to 55%
Sand	35 to 60%

(Adapted from EQR, 1996; ETAB, 1993)

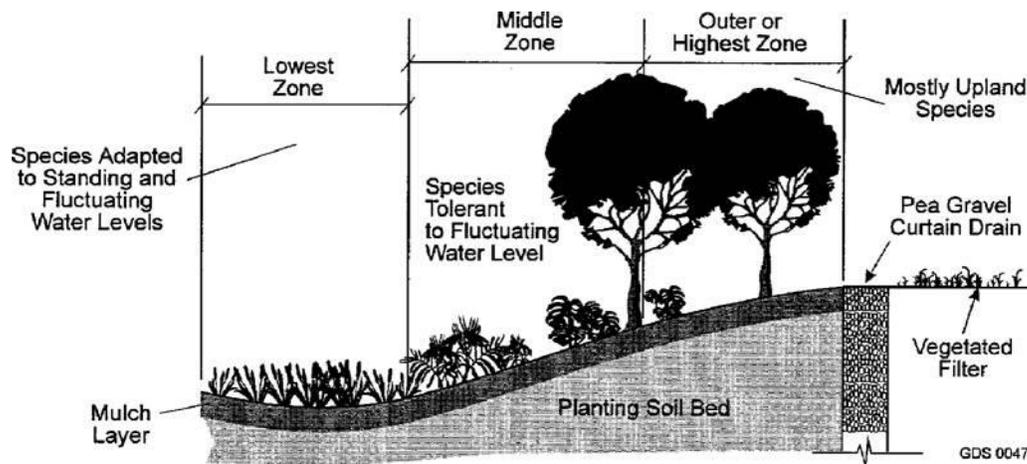
## Mulch Layer

The mulch layer plays an important role in the performance of the bioretention system. The mulch layer helps maintain soil moisture and avoids surface sealing which reduces permeability. Mulch helps prevent erosion, and provides a micro-environment suitable for soil biota at the mulch/soil interface. It also serves as a pretreatment layer, trapping the finer sediments which remain suspended after the primary pretreatment. The mulch layer should be standard landscape style, single or double, shredded hardwood mulch or chips. The mulch layer should be well aged (stockpiled or stored for at least 12 months), uniform in color, and free of other materials, such as weed seeds, soil, roots, etc. The mulch should be applied to a maximum depth of three inches. Grass clippings should not be used as a mulch material.

## Planting Plan Guidance

Plant material selection should be based on the goal of simulating a terrestrial forested community of native species. Bioretention simulates an ecosystem consisting of an upland- oriented community dominated by trees, but having a distinct community, or sub-canopy, of understory trees, shrubs and herbaceous materials. The intent is to establish a diverse, dense plant cover to treat stormwater runoff and withstand urban stresses from insect and disease infestations, drought, temperature, wind, and exposure.

The proper selection and installation of plant materials is key to a successful system. There are essentially three zones within a bioretention facility (Figure F-7). The lowest elevation supports plant species adapted to standing and fluctuating water levels. The middle elevation supports a slightly drier group of plants, but still tolerates fluctuating water levels. The outer edge is the highest elevation and generally supports plants adapted to dryer conditions. A sample of appropriate plant materials for bioretention facilities are included in Table F-4. More potential bioretention species can be found in the wetland plant list in subsection F.5.



**Figure F-7** Planting Zones for Bioretention Facilities

The layout of plant material should be flexible, but should follow the general principals described below. The objective is to have a system that resembles a random and natural plant layout, while maintaining optimal conditions for plant establishment and growth.

- Native plant species should be specified over exotic or foreign species.
- Appropriate vegetation should be selected based on the zone of hydric tolerance
- Species layout should generally be random and natural.
- The tree-to-shrub ratio should be 2:1 to 3:1. On average, the trees should be spaced 8 feet apart.
- Plants should be placed at regular intervals to replicate a natural forest.
- Woody vegetation should not be specified at inflow locations.

- A canopy should be established with an understory of shrubs and herbaceous materials.
- Woody vegetation should not be specified in the vicinity of inflow locations.
- Trees should be planted primarily along the perimeter of the bioretention area.
- Urban stressors (e.g., wind, sun, exposure, insect and disease infestation, drought) should be considered when laying out the planting plan.
- Noxious weeds should not be specified.
- Aesthetics and visual characteristics should be a prime consideration.
- Traffic and safety issues must be considered.
- Existing and proposed utilities must be identified and considered.

Plant materials should conform to the American Standard Nursery Stock, published by the American Association of Nurserymen, and should be selected from certified, reputable nurseries. Planting specifications should be prepared by the designer and should include a sequence of construction, a description of the contractor's responsibilities, a planting schedule and installation specifications, initial maintenance, and a warranty period and expectations of plant survival. Table F-5 presents some typical issues for planting specifications. Figure F-8 shows an example of a sample planting plan for a bioretention area.

**Table F-4** Commonly Used Species for Bioretention Areas

<b>Trees</b>	<b>Shrubs</b>	<b>Herbaceous Species</b>
<i>Acer rubrum</i> Red Maple	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i> Bottlebrush Buckeye	<i>Andropogon virginicus</i> Broomsedge
<i>Betula nigra</i> River Birch	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i> Red Chokeberry	<i>Eupatorium perpurea</i> Joe Pye Weed
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Fothergilla gardenii</i> Fothergilla	<i>Hemerocallis spp.</i> Day Lily
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> Golden Rain Tree	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> Witch Hazel	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i> Yellow Iris
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> Black Gum	<i>Hypericum densiflorum</i> Common St. Johns Wort	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal Flower
<i>Platanus acerifolia</i> London Plane-Tree	<i>Ilex glabra</i> Inkberry	<i>Panicum virgatum</i> Switchgrass
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> Sycamore	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> Winterberry	<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> Fountaingrass
<i>Quercus palustris</i> Pin Oak	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> Creeping Juniper	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i> Greenhead Coneflower
<i>Quercus phellos</i> Willow Oak	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> Spicebush	<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i> Woolgrass
<i>Salix nigra</i> Black willow	<i>Myrica pennsylvanica</i> Bayberry	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i> Ironweed



### F.4.3 Surface Sand Filters and Infiltration Trenches

Both surface sand filters and infiltration trenches can be designed with a grass cover to aid in pollutant removal and prevent clogging. The sand filter or trench is covered with permeable topsoil and planted with grass in a landscaped area. Properly planted, these facilities can be designed to blend into natural surroundings.

Grass should be capable of withstanding frequent periods of inundation and drought. Vegetated filter strips and buffers should fit into and blend with surrounding area. Native grasses are preferable, if compatible.

#### Design Constraints:

- Check with Columbia County to see if the planning of a grass cover or turf over a sand filter or infiltration trench is allowed.
- Do not plant trees or provide shade within 15 feet of infiltration or filtering area or where leaf litter will collect and clog infiltration area.
- Do not locate plants to block maintenance access to the facility.
- Sod areas with heavy flows that are not stabilized with erosion control mats.
- Divert flows temporarily from seeded areas until stabilized.
- Planting on any area requiring a filter fabric should include material selected with care to insure that no tap roots will penetrate the filter fabric.

### F.4.4 Enhanced Swales, Grass Channels and Filter Strips

Table F-6 provides a number of grass species that perform well in the stressful environment of an open channel structural control such as an enhanced swale or grass channel, or for grass filter strips. In addition, wet swales may include other wetland species (see F.4.1). Select plant material capable of salt tolerance in areas that may include high salt levels.

**Table F-6** Common Grass Species for Dry and Wet Swales and Grass Channels

Common Name	Scientific Name	Notes
Bermuda grass	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	
Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Not for wet swales
Creeping Bentgrass	<i>Agrostis palustris</i>	
Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Not for wet swales
Reed Canary grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Wet swales
Redtop	<i>Agrostis alba</i>	
Smooth Brome	<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Not for wet swales
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	
<p><i>Note 1:</i> These grasses are sod-forming and can withstand frequent inundation, and are thus ideal for the swale or grass channel environment. Most are salt-tolerant, as well.</p> <p><i>Note 2:</i> Where possible, one or more of these grasses should be in the seed mixes</p>		

## F.5 Trees and Shrubs for Stormwater Facilities

The following pages present a detailed list of wetland trees and shrubs that may be used for stormwater management facilities such as stormwater ponds, stormwater wetlands and bioretention areas in Georgia (Source: Garber and Moorhead, 1999)

**Table F-7** Wetland indicator status, growth form, flood tolerance and seed dispersal and treatment for selected native Georgia wetland trees and shrubs

Species	Indicator*	Form	Flood Tolerance**	Seed Dispersal***	Seed Treatments****	Comments
Boxelder <i>Acer negundo</i>	FACW	Tree	T	Sept.-Mar.	Cold Strat. 30 - 40 Days (Mech. Rup. Peri- carp)	Can propagate by softwood cuttings
Red Maple <i>Acer rubrum</i>	FAC	Tree	T	Apr.-July	Strat. not required	Can propagate by softwood cuttings, tissue culture
Silver Maple <i>Acer saccharinum</i>	FACW	Tree	T	Apr.-June	Strat. not req.	
Red Buckeye <i>Aesculus pavia</i>	FAC	Shrub	NE	Sept.-Nov.	Strat. not req.	Plant seed as soon as collected. Do not let dry out.
Painted Buckeye <i>Aesculus sylvatica</i>	FAC	Shrub	NE	July-Aug.	Cold Strat. 90 Days	
Hazel Alder <i>Alnus serrulata</i>	FACW +	Tree	NE	Sept.-Oct.	Cold Strat. 30 - 60 Days	Can propagate by cuttings, tissue culture
Common Pawpaw <i>Asimina triloba</i>	FAC	Tree	I	Sept.-Oct.	Scarification Required Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i>	FACW	Tree	IT	May-June	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	Can propagate by softwood cuttings
American Hornbeam <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	FAC	Tree	WT	Oct.-Spring	Cold Strat. 60 Days	
Water Hickory <i>Carya aquatica</i>	OBL	Tree	IT	Oct.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days Warm Strat. 60 Days	
Bitternut Hickory <i>Carya cordiformis</i>	FAC	Tree	NE	Sept.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 90 Days	
Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	FAC +	Tree	IT	Sept.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	
Shellbark Hickory <i>Carya laciniosa</i>	FACW-	Tree	NE	Sept.-Oct.	Cold Strat. 90 - 120 Days	
Sugarberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	FACW	Tree	IT	Oct.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
Common Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	OBL	Shrub	VT	Sept.-Oct.	Strat. not req.	
Atlantic White Cedar <i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	OBL	Tree	T	Oct.-March	Warm Strat. 30 Days Cold Strat. 30 Days	
Slash Pine <i>Pinus elliotii</i>	FACW	Tree	IT	Oct.	Cold Strat. 30 Days	
Spruce Pine <i>Pinus glabra</i>	FACW	Tree	IT	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 28 Days	
Pond Pine <i>Pinus serotina</i>	FACW +	Tree	T	Spring	Cold Strat. 30 Days	Cones often remain closed after ripening
Loblolly Pine <i>Pinus taeda</i>	FAC	Tree	IT	Oct.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 60 Days	
American Sycamore <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	FACW +	Tree	T	Feb.-Apr.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	

\* **Indicator:** OBL-obligate; FACW-facultative wetland; FAC-facultative; FACII-facultative upland.

Indicators may be modified by ( + ) or ( - ) suffix; ( + ) indicates a species more frequently found in wetlands; ( - ) indicates species less frequently found in wetlands.

\*\* **Flood Tolerance Mature Plants:**

**VT-Very Tolerant:** Survives flooding for periods of two or more growing seasons.

**T-Tolerant:** Survives flooding for one growing season.

**I-Intermediately Tolerant:** Survives one to three months of flooding during growing season

**WT-Weakly Tolerant:** Survives several days to several weeks of growing-season flooding.

**IT-Intolerant:** Cannot survive even short periods of a few days or weeks of growing-season flooding.

**NE-Not established.**

\*\*\* **Seed Dispersal:** Approximate dates across natural range of a given species.

\*\*\*\* **Seed Treatments:**

**Cold stratification:** Place moist seeds in polyethylene plastic bags and place in refrigerated storage at 33°-41 ° F for specified time.

**Warm stratification:** Place moist seeds in polyethylene plastic bags at 68°-86° F for specified time. Scarification-mechanical or chemical treatment to increase permeability of seed coat.

Table F-7 continued

Species	Indicator*	Form	Flood Tolerance**	Seed Dispersal***	Seed Treatments****	Comments
Eastern Cottonwood <i>Populus deltoides</i>	FAC +	Tree	VT	May-Aug.	Strat. not req.	Can propagate by cuttings
Swamp Cottonwood <i>Populus heterophylla</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Apr.-July	Strat. not req.	Can propagate by cuttings
Wafer Ash <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i>	FAC	Shrub	NE	Sept.	Cold Strat. 90 - 120 Days	
Swamp White Oak <i>Quercus bicolor</i>	FACW +	Tree	T	Aug.-Dec.	Strat. not req.	White oak group, check native range
Cherrybark Oak <i>Quercus pagoda</i>	FAC +	Tree	I	Aug.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	Red Oak group
Laurel Oak <i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	FACW	Tree	IT	Aug.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	Red Oak group
Overcup Oak <i>Quercus lyrata</i>	OBL	Tree	T	Aug.-Dec.	Strat. not req.	White Oak group
Swamp Chestnut Oak <i>Quercus michauxii</i>	FACW-	Tree	I	Aug.-Dec.	Strat. not req.	White Oak group
Water Oak <i>Quercus nigra</i>	FAC	Tree	T	Aug.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	Red Oak group
Willow Oak <i>Quercus phellos</i>	FACW-	Tree	T	Aug.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	Red Oak group
Shumard Oak <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	FACW-	Tree	IT	Aug.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	Red Oak group
Coastal Plain Willow <i>Salix caroliniana</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Mar.-Apr.	Strat. not req.	Seed will not remain viable in storage; plant within 10 days after collection. Can propagate by cuttings
Black Willow <i>Salix nigra</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	June-July	Not required.	Seed will not remain viable in storage. Plant within 10 days after collection. Can propagate by cuttings
Baldcypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i> var. <i>distichum</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 90 Days.	Soak seed for 5 min. in ethyl alcohol before placing in cold stratification.
Pondcypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i> var. <i>nutans</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days.	Soak seed for 24 to 48 hrs. in 0.0196 citric acid before placing in cold stratification.
American Elm <i>Ulmus americana</i>	FACW	Tree	T	Mar.-June	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	Can propagate by cuttings
Slippery elm <i>Ulmus rubra</i>	FAC	Tree	I	Apr.-June	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	Can propagate by cuttings
Rough-Leaf Dogwood <i>Cornus drummondii</i>	FAC	Tree	T	Aug.-Jan.	Warm Strat. 70° - 80° 1 Day Cold Strat. 30 Days	
Hawthornes <i>Crataegus spp.</i>	FAC	Shrub	IT	Fall-Winter	May Req. Scarification Warm Strat. 70° - 80° 30 - 90 Days Cold Strat. 90 - 180 Days	
Common Persimmon <i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	FAC	Tree	T	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
Eastern Burning Bush <i>Euonymus atropurpureus</i>	FAC	Shrub	NE	Sept.-Oct.	Warm Strat. 68° - 86° 60 Days Cold Strat. 60 Days	
Carolina Ash <i>Fraxinus caroliniana</i>	OBL	Shrub	VT	Sept.- Dec.	Cold Strat. 60 Days	
Green Ash <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	FACW	Tree	VT	Oct.-Feb.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
Pumpkin Ash <i>Fraxinus profunda</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Oct.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 60 Days	
Waterlocust <i>Gleditsia aquatica</i>	OBL	Tree	T	Sept.-Dec.	Req. Scarification	
Loblolly Bay <i>Gordonia laisianthus</i>	FACW	Tree	T	Fall	Not Established	
Decidious Holly <i>Illex decidua</i>	FACW	Shrub	VT	Sept.-Mar.	Warm Strat. 68° Day - 86° Night 60 Days Cold Strat. 60 Days	
Spicebush <i>Lindera benzoin</i>	FACW	Shrub	NE	Sept.-Oct.	Cold Strat. 120 Days	
Sweetgum <i>Liquidamber styraciflua</i>	FAC +	Tree	T	Sept.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 30 Days	
Yellow Poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	FAC	Tree	I	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
Sweetbay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	FACW +	Tree	IT	Sept.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 90 - 180 Days	Can propagate by cuttings

Table F-7 continued

Species	Indicator*	Form	Flood Tolerance**	Seed Dispersal***	Seed Treatments****	Comments
Sweetbay <i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	FACW +	Tree	IT	Sept.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 90 - 180 Days	Can propagate by cuttings
Red Mulberry <i>Morus rubra</i>	FAC	Tree	IT	June-Aug.	Cold Strat. 30 - 90 Days	
Southern Bayberry <i>Myrica cerifera</i>	FAC +	Shrub	NE	Aug.-Oct.	Cold Strat. 60 - 90 Days	
Water Tupelo <i>Nyssa aquatica</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Oct.-Nov.	Cold Strat. 30 - 120 Days	
Ogeechee Tupelo <i>Nyssa ogeche</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Aug.-Sept.	Cold Strat. 30 - 120 Days	
Swamp Tupelo <i>Nyssa sylvatica var. biflora</i>	OBL	Tree	VT	Sept.-Dec.	Cold Strat. 30 - 120 Days	
Redbay <i>Persea borbonia</i>	FACW	Tree	MT	Fall	Not established	

Table F-8 Seedling response of selected species to flooding conditions

Species	Water Level	Seedling Survival*	Comments
Boxelder <i>Acer negundo</i>	Total submersion Growing Season	100% at 2 weeks 70% at 3 weeks 36% at 4 weeks 0% at 32 days	Chlorotic leaves after 4 days. Slow recovery.
Red Maple <i>Acer rubrum</i>	Partial submersion Growing season	100% at 5 days 90% at 10 days 0% at 20 days	Adventitious roots developed after 15 days Height growth decreased in saturated soil Soil saturation
	Soil saturation Growing season	Growing season 100% at 32 days	
Silver Maple <i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 3 weeks	Lower leaves wilt after 2 days. Slow recovery Height growth better at saturated soil than soil at field capacity.
	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 60 days	
River Birch <i>Betula nigra</i>	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 32 days	Growth severely stunted
Pecan <i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Total submersion Growing season	75% at 4 weeks	
Sugarberry <i>Celtis laevigata</i>	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 60 days	
Common Buttonbush <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 30 days	
Green Ash <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 5 days 90% at 10 days 73% at 20 days 20% at 30 days	Lower leaves chlorotic after 8 days Better growth in saturated soil than soil at field capacity
	Partial submersion Growing season	100% at 14 days	
	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 60 days	

Adapted from Teskey & Hinkley, 1977

\* Seedling survival in relation to length of flooding

Table F-8 continued

Sweetgum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Total submersion Growing season	0% at 32 days	
	Partial submersion Growing season	0% at 3 months	
Yellow Poplar <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Partial submersion Growing Season	0% at 2 months No adverse effects	
Water Tupelo <i>Nyssa aquatica</i>	Partial submersion Growing season	90-100% over growing season 32% when seedlings nearly overtopped	Best growth when water table fluctuates
Swamp Tupelo <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> var. <i>biflora</i>	Partial submersion Growing season	90 - 100% over growing season	Poor root growth in stagnant water
	Soil saturation Growing season	90 - 100% over growing season	Best growth in saturated soil
Slash Pine <i>Pinus elliotii</i>	Partial submersion Growing season	68% at 2 months 12% at 7 months	Root and shoot growth decreased
Loblolly Pine <i>Pinus taeda</i>			Root & shoot growth reduced during flooding Dormant season flooding increased height and diameter growth
American Sycamore <i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 10 days 0% at 30 days	Growth decreased by saturated soil
	Soil saturation Grnwina season	95% at 32 days	
Eastern Cottonwood <i>Populus deltoides</i>	Total submersion Growing season	0% at 16 days	Best growth when water table is 2 feet below surface High mortality when deeply flooded
	Partial submersion Growing season	90% at 10 days 70% at 20 days 47% at 30 days	
Cherrybark Oak <i>Quercus pagoda</i>	Total submersion Growing season	87% at 5 days 6% at 10 days 0% at 20 days	Height growth decreased by soil saturation
	Soil saturation Growing season	89% at 15 days 47% at 30 days 13% at 60 days	
Water Oak <i>Quercus nigra</i>	Partial submersion Growing season	Survived 2 months	
Willow Oak <i>Quercus phellos</i>	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 50 days	Poorer growth in saturated soil than soil at field capacity
Shumard Oak <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 5 days 90% at 10 days 6% at 20 days	Height growth poorer in saturated soil than soil at field capacity
	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 30 days 66% at 60 days	
Black Willow <i>Salix nigra</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 30 days	Better height growth in saturated soil than soil at field capacity
	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 60 days	
Baldcypress <i>Taxodium distichum</i> var. <i>disti- chum</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 4 weeks	
American Elm <i>Ulmus americana</i>	Total submersion Growing season	100% at 10 days 27% at 20 days 0% at 30 days	Height growth decreased in saturated soil
	Soil saturation Growing season	100% at 15 days 94% at 60 days	

\* Seedling survival in relation to length of flooding

