

Vegetation for Final Stabilization

There are three levels of vegetation to use for infiltration-based practices, fair, better and best. Each level is progressively better for stormwater management purposes, as the plant choices become deeper-rooted and taller and are better able to filter, absorb, infiltrate and retain more water both above and below ground.

Vegetation	Good	Better	Best
Plant Species	Cool season turf grass, such as Kentucky Bluegrass	Cultivated plants, such as those found at the local nursery or garden center, shrubs, young trees	Native plants / flower, forbes, sedges, warm season grasses, and mature trees
Maintenance	"Mow" to High Maintenance, depending on personal expectations for a green, weed-free lawn	Low to Medium Maintenance – Watering until plants / shrubs / trees are established; Deadheading, Weeding and Pruning occasionally thereafter	Medium to High through year 3 for native prairie plants; Low to Very Little Maintenance thereafter

Recommended Guidelines

Practice	Selection			
	Exposed Rock	Turf	Cultivated Plants	Native Plants
Bioretention Cells			X	X
Bioswale		X	X	X
Dry Well		X		
Engineered Soil		X	X	X
French Drain / Infiltration Trench	X	X		
Vegetated Filter Strip		X		

Vegetation Rule of Thumb: The height of any given plant in an infiltration-based practice should be no taller than ½ the site width - i.e. plants / shrubs, etc. in a 4' wide bioretention cell should be get no taller than 2'

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