

MAKING THE CASE FOR A STATEWIDE STORMWATER RULE

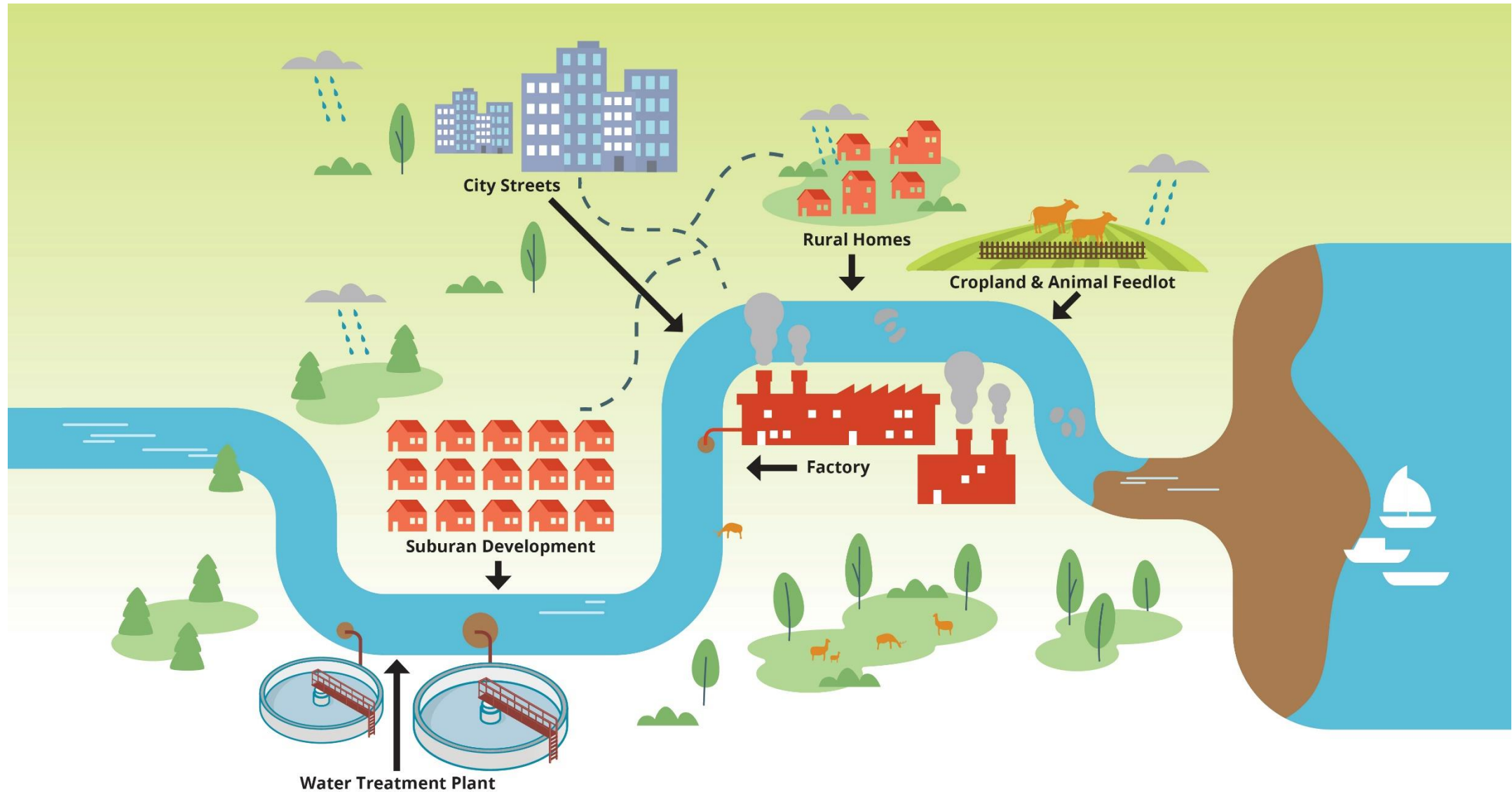


Marisa Carrozzo
Environmental Policy Manager
Conservancy of Southwest Florida

Cela Tega Conference
January 25, 2020



POLLUTION SOURCES



Why do we need a State Stormwater Rule?

Pollution entering our waterways via stormwater is contributing to declining water quality throughout Florida



Thank you to Lighthawk for aerial support



Image from Pinellas County

Why do we need a State Stormwater Rule?

What are the current Stormwater Standards supposed to do?

FL Statutes: 62-40

- 80% average annual load reduction of pollutants
- 95% average annual load reduction for discharges of pollutants to Outstanding Florida Waters

Provide net improvement in discharges to “impaired”, i.e., polluted waters



Examples of private stormwater systems (Top: wet detention system; Bottom: swale)

Why do we need a State Stormwater Rule?

What do the current Stormwater Standards actually do?

- “...existing stormwater design criteria fail to consistently meet either the 80% or 95% target goals outlined in Chapter 62-40.”
- Wet detention (i.e., stormwater ponds) “can be expected to provide a net removal of approximately 20-40% for total nitrogen; 60-70% for total Phosphorus”

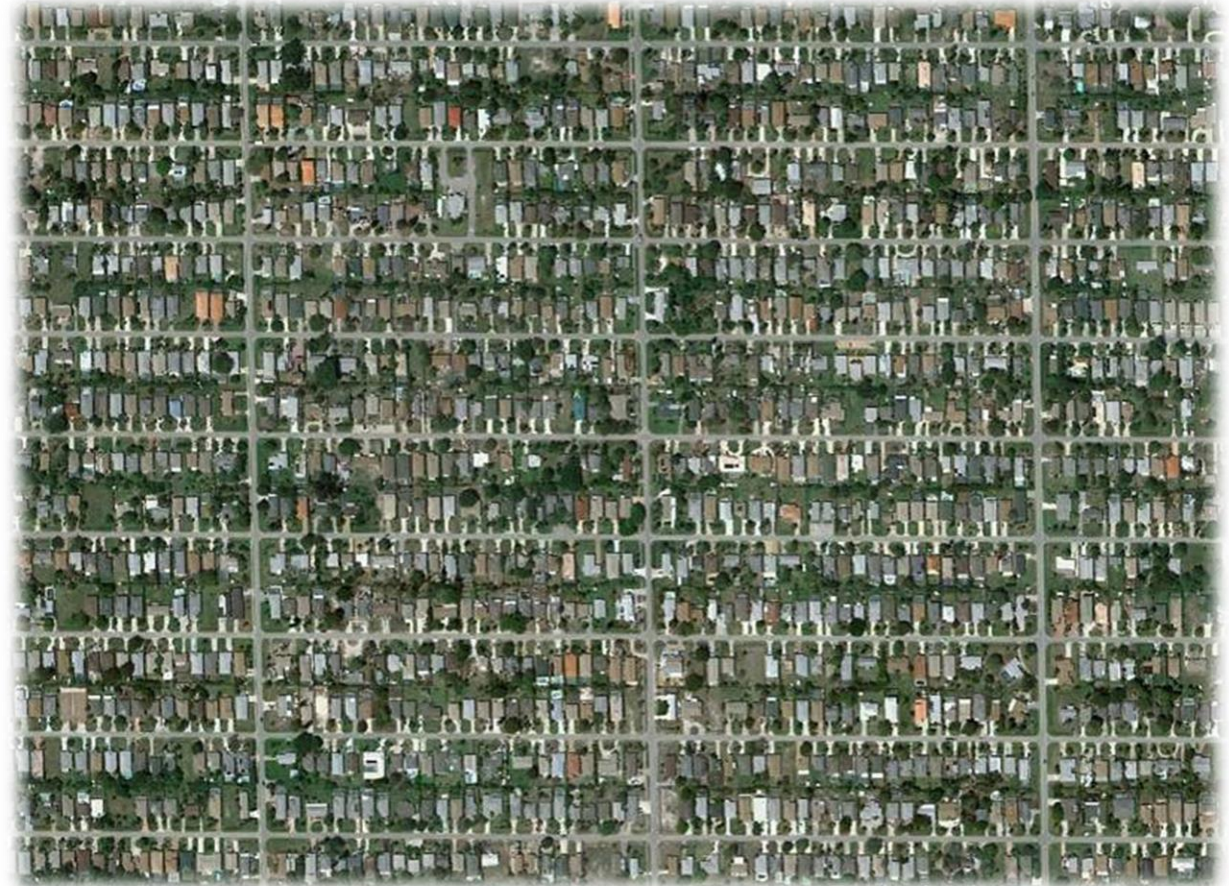
2007 Evaluation of Current Stormwater Design Criteria in the State of Florida



Examples of private stormwater systems (Top: wet detention system; Bottom: swale)

Why do we need a State Stormwater Rule?

Florida's population continues to increase which leads to more development with outdated stormwater standards



What should the rule contain?

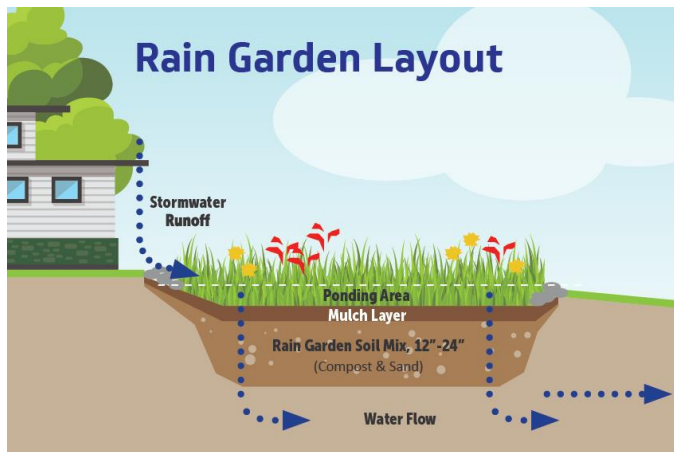
- Updated design criteria for **new development** and **redevelopment** projects

- Require each new development/redevelopment project to retain and treat more stormwater onsite that will meet the statutorily required 80% and 95% reduction goals



What should the rule contain?

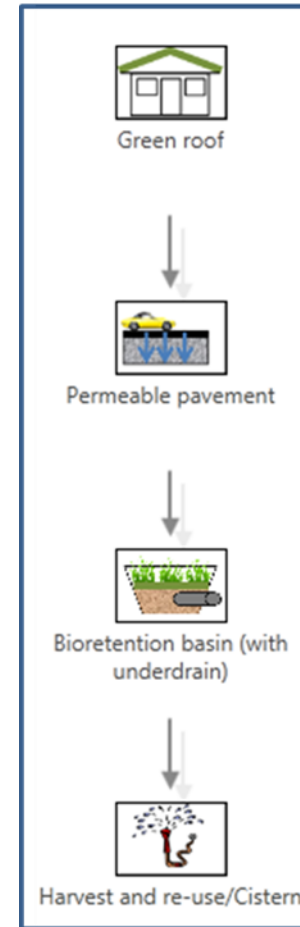
- Higher treatment requirements for discharges to impaired waters
- Require the use of a “treatment train” stormwater best management practices (BMPs)
 - Structural (retention basins, rain gardens)
 - Non-structural (preserving open space, utilizing smart growth techniques - LID)
 - BMPTrains model



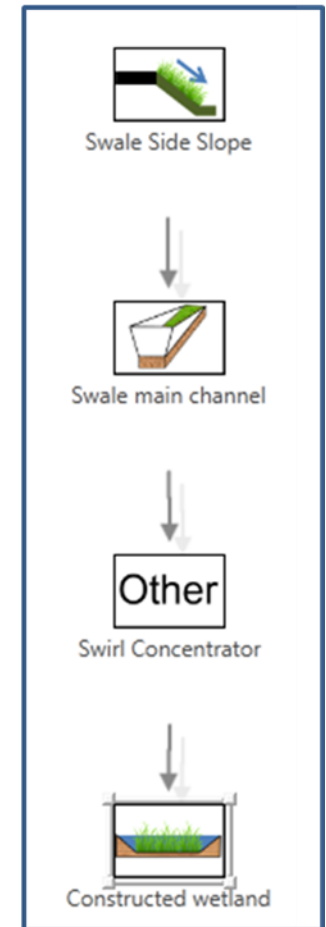
Ex: rain garden



Ex: pervious pavement



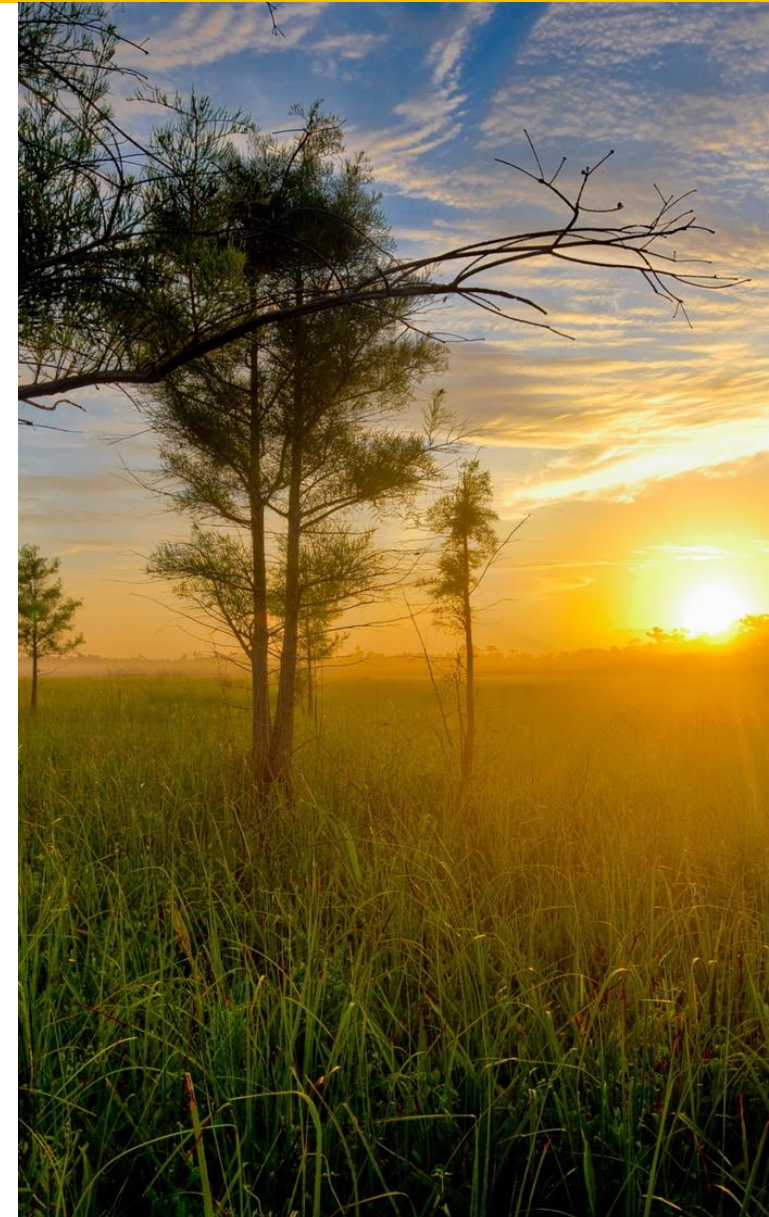
Low impact
development
treatment train



Traditional
development
treatment train

What's Next?

- Blue-Green Algae Task Force included stormwater in their recommendations
- Legislation directing DEP to undertake stormwater rulemaking (SB 712)
- Other stormwater bills (SB 686 and HB 405)
- Participate in future rulemaking process
 - Reach out to other stakeholders, the SWFL community
 - Engage to ensure the updated rule is protective of our water resources and achieves the necessary pollution reduction goals



Contact Information

Marisa Carrozzo

Environmental Policy Manager
Conservancy of Southwest Florida
1495 Smith Preserve Way
Naples, FL 34102
(239) 403-4231
marisac@conservancy.org
www.conservancy.org



CONSERVANCY
of Southwest Florida
OUR WATER, LAND, WILDLIFE, FUTURE.