

# Performance Analysis of an Innovative Stormwater Management Infiltration System with Implications for Land Management Practices

2022 Association of Conservation Engineers

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# Overview

- The evolving stormwater landscape
- The stormwater management device
- Lab work
- Test sites
- Data collection
- Site 1 Specifics
- Data analysis
- Modeling
- Conclusions and Next Steps
- Device applications



# The Evolving Stormwater Landscape

- Stormwater management is important in developed and conservation-focused areas
- For developed areas, as more and more is learned about stormwater and the management methods for stormwater, changes are made in practice and regulation
  - For example:
    - Short-comings of basins
    - Benefits of retaining water onsite
      - Water Quality Volumes and infiltration requirements
  - New management methods are required
    - Stormwater Redistribution and Infiltration Device
- Similarly, in conservation areas the need and principles still apply, independent of the regulatory framework
  - Erosion mitigation
  - Water quality concerns
  - Wetland preservation/enhancement
  - Aquatic life preservation/enhancement



# Origins of the Device

- Developed throughout the course of general work in and understanding of hydraulics, hydrology, and stormwater management
- Not based on a particular research project
- Provisional patent by the University of Missouri
- Intellectual property released by MU to Kathleen Trauth
- Patent received by Kathleen Trauth for the theoretical device

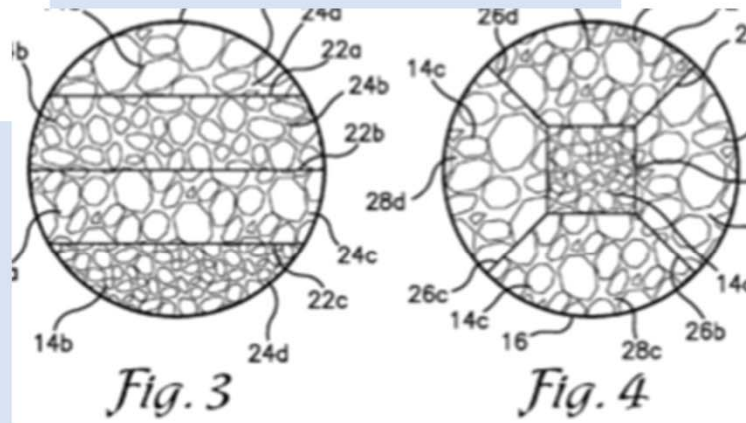
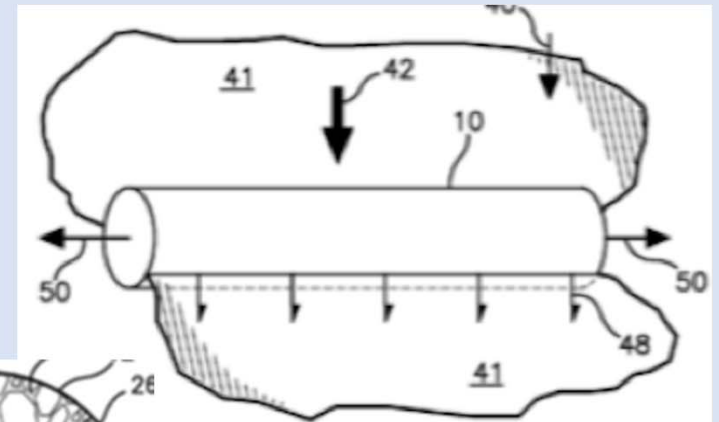
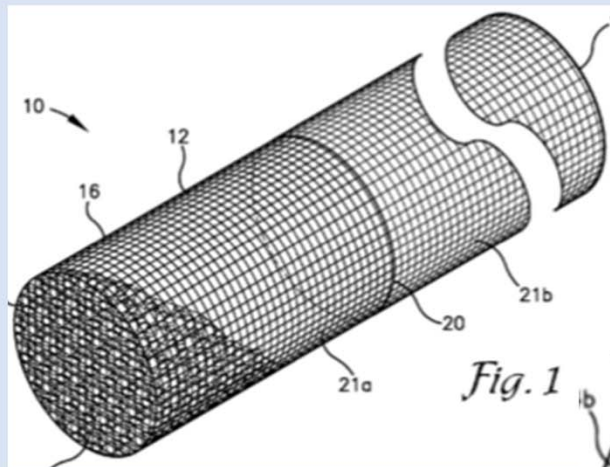


# Stormwater Management Device

- The device is a system of tubular structures, composed of aggregate-filled geotextile segments
  - No piping withing the device, only for “feeding” the system
- It produces 3D flow, dictated by differences in hydraulic conductivities, due to differences in aggregate sizes and the configuration of the aggregate segments
  - Dictate how the water flows around a site
  - Slow it down, spread it out, soak it in
- It is installed shallowly below ground and works to maximize redistribution and infiltration of stormwater runoff
- A system of multiple devices placed throughout the landscape helps redistribute the stormwater around the site to avoid water “mounding” in one area, helping to maximize infiltration



# Stormwater Management Device



# Stormwater Management Device



# Stormwater Management Device

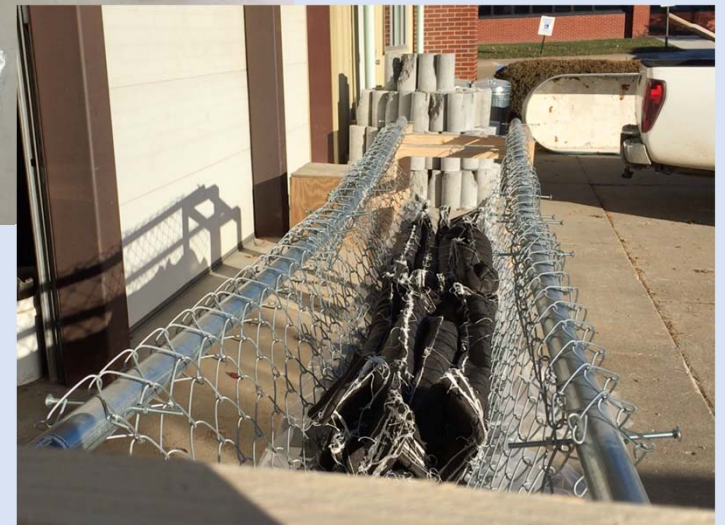
- Mix and configurations will vary
- Design based on:
  - Soil characteristics
  - Site slope
  - Impervious cover
  - Rainfall
  - Site layout
  - Applicable regulations





# Theory to Lab to Field

- Theoretical patent
- Lab work
  - Device construction
  - 3D flow
  - Continuation of flow
- Field sites
  - 3D flow
  - Continuation of flow
  - Soil interactions
  - Real world conditions



# Site 1:



- Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School (Columbia, MO)
- 2018 (extended 2020)
- Concentrated flow



## Site 2:



- Rock Bridge Memorial State Park (Columbia, MO)
- 2019
- Overland Flow



# Site 3:



- Rock Bridge Memorial State Park (Columbia, MO)
- 2019
- Continuous and concentrated flow



# Site 4:



- Shaw Nature Reserve (Grey Summit, MO)
- 2021
- Overland flow that concentrates in a drainage ditch



# Site 5:



- Residential site (Pittsburgh, PA)
- 2022
- Overland Flow



# Data Collection

- Soil moisture sensors are located around the installations
  - Placed three-dimensionally
  - Allows for flow around the installations to be “seen”
- Ultrasonic level sensors have been installed at Site 1
  - Allows for volumetric analysis



# Site 1:



- Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School (Columbia, MO)
- 2018 (ext. 2020)
- Concentrated flow





# Site 1: Soil

- Site is an urban soil on a 25% slope
- Subsoil:
  - Filled in 6" lifts, compacted to 4-5", lifted to meet design specifications.
  - Fat Clays, ~45% of matrix
  - Glacial Till
  - LEP approximately 8%
- Topsoil
  - Topped with 8-10" topsoil
  - Seeded with Tall Fescue
- Some root penetration into subsoil,  
with roots splaying along  
horizontal lift contacts



# Site 1: Installation



# Site 1: Installation

- Excavation
  - 2' wide x 1.5' deep
- Alignment
  - 25' @ 3% slope
  - 25' @ 4.5% slope
- Device placement
  - 3' segments
  - 3 layers with 4 units a layer
  - 1 sand layer with 2 layers of 1" clean gravel on top



# Site 1: Data Collection

- Sensors Placement
  - Vertical: 12", 24", 36"
  - Transverse: 2.5', 5'
  - Longitudinal: 8.3', 16.6', 26.5'
  - Upslope: 12' longitudinal & -1.5'



# Site 1: Finished Installation



# Site 1: Extension





# Site 1: Extension





# Site 1: Extension

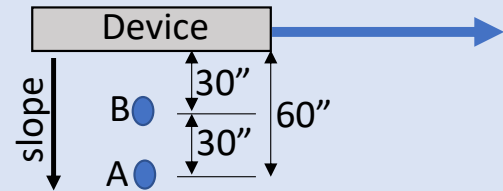
- Sensors have been added along the two extension sites in the same configuration as the original installation
- Additional downhill sensors have been added to the entire installation
- To better track how much water is entering the system and to allow for volume calibration of the device:
  - New sedimentation basins have been installed and will have ultrasonic level sensors placed above them to quantify the discharge each side (3% slope and 4.5% slope) of the installation is receiving



# Site 1: Extension



# Data Analysis: Basic Comparison



				A			B		
				36"	24"	12"	36"	24"	12"
10/6/2018 7:19	1538828340	T223	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 8:19	1538831940	T224	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 9:19	1538835540	T225	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 10:19	1538839140	T226	0.03	15	5	0.18	239	239	3
10/6/2018 11:19	1538842740	T227	0.02	10	0	0.12	239	239	3
10/6/2018 12:19	1538846340	T228	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 13:19	1538849940	T229	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 14:19	1538853540	T230	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 15:19	1538857140	T231	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 16:19	1538860740	T232	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 17:19	1538864340	T233	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 18:19	1538867940	T234	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 19:19	1538871540	T235	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 20:19	1538875140	T236	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 21:19	1538878740	T237	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 22:19	1538882340	T238	0	0	0	0	239	239	3
10/6/2018 23:19	1538885940	T239	0.07	35	25	0.42	239	239	3
10/7/2018 0:19	1538889540	T240	0.15	75	65	0.9	239	239	2
10/7/2018 1:19	1538893140	T241	0	0	0	0	239	10	2
10/7/2018 2:19	1538896740	T242	0.02	10	0	0.12	239	10	2
10/7/2018 3:19	1538900340	T243	0.02	10	0	0.12	239	10	2
10/7/2018 4:19	1538903940	T244	0	0	0	0	239	10	2
10/7/2018 5:19	1538907540	T245	0	0	0	0	239	11	2
10/7/2018 6:19	1538911140	T246	0	0	0	0	239	11	2
10/7/2018 7:19	1538914740	T247	0	0	0	0	239	11	2
10/7/2018 8:19	1538918340	T248	0	0	0	0	239	11	2
10/7/2018 9:19	1538921940	T249	0	0	0	0	239	12	2
10/7/2018 10:19	1538925540	T250	0	0	0	0	239	12	2
10/7/2018 11:19	1538929140	T251	0	0	0	0	239	3	2
10/7/2018 12:19	1538932740	T252	0	0	0	0	239	4	2
10/7/2018 13:19	1538936340	T253	0	0	0	0	239	5	2
10/7/2018 14:19	1538939940	T254	1.27	635	625	7.62	5	4	2
10/7/2018 15:19	1538943540	T255	0.07	35	25	0.42	6	5	2
10/7/2018 16:19	1538947140	T256	0.03	15	5	0.18	4	3	2
10/7/2018 17:19	1538950740	T257	0.05	25	15	0.3	6	3	2
10/7/2018 18:19	1538954340	T258	0.16	80	70	0.96	6	3	2
10/7/2018 19:19	1538957940	T259	0.02	10	0	0.12	6	3	2
10/7/2018 20:19	1538961540	T260	0.18	90	80	1.08	7	2	2
10/7/2018 21:19	1538965140	T261	1.73	865	855	10.4	8	3	2
10/7/2018 22:19	1538968740	T262	0.11	55	45	0.66	9	2	3

12" sensor is wet, no storm response

12" sensor is moist, then wets during first hour

24" sensors are moist, then wet during second hour

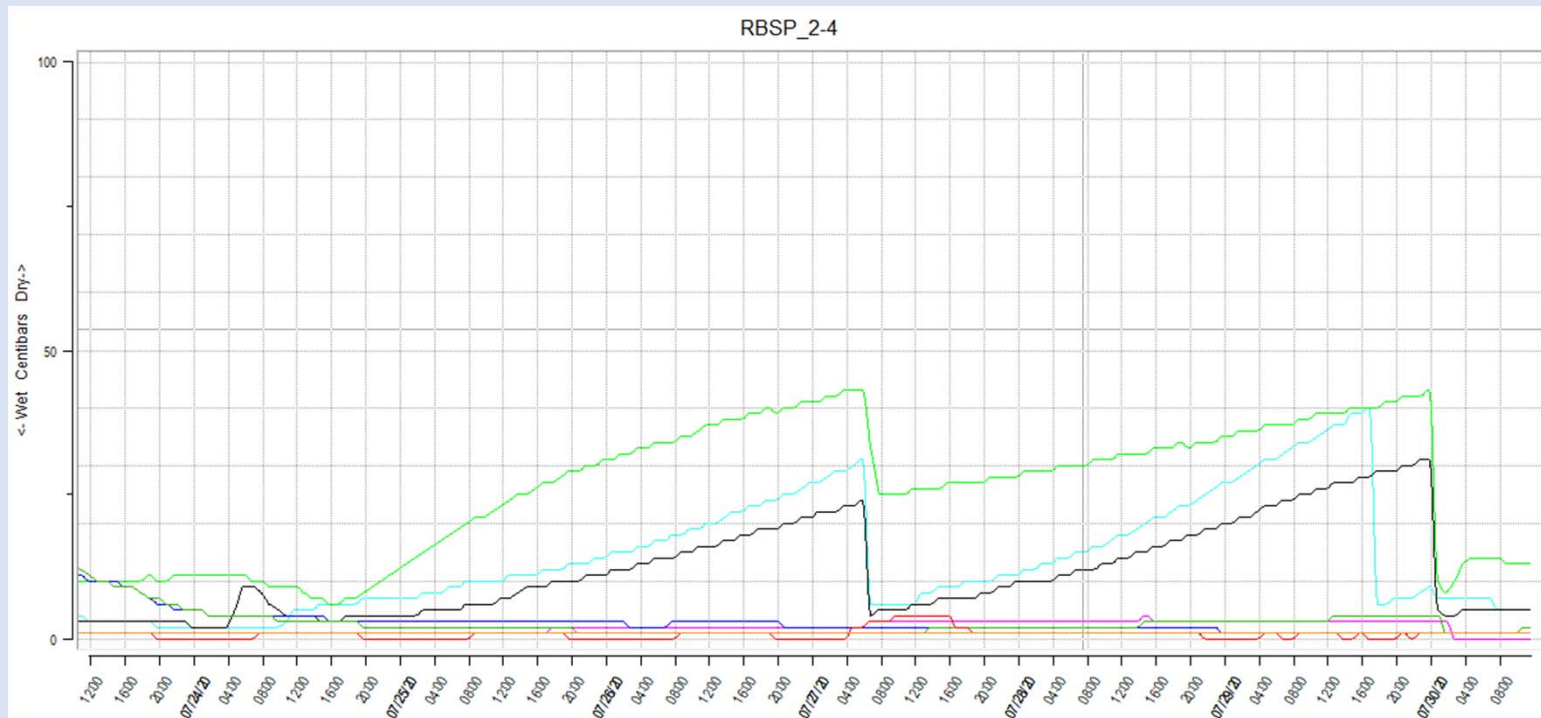
36" sensor is moist, and stays moist, with no response

36" sensor is dry, wets 15 hours later

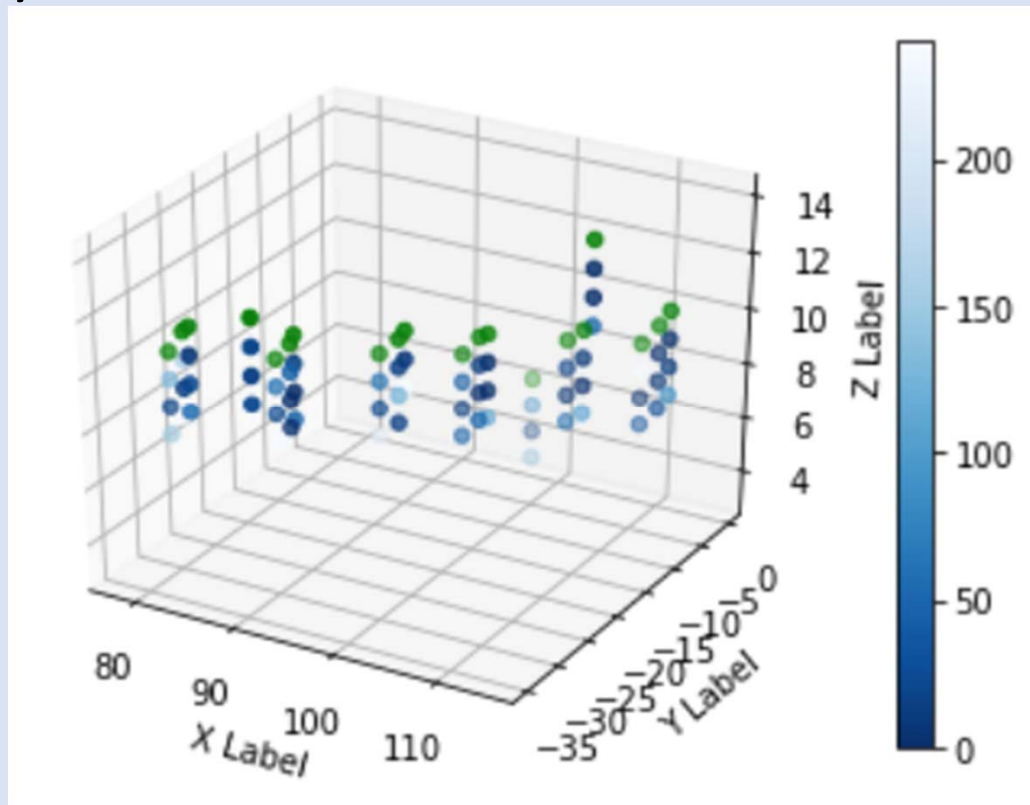
36" sensor is moist, draining



# Data Analysis: Graphical



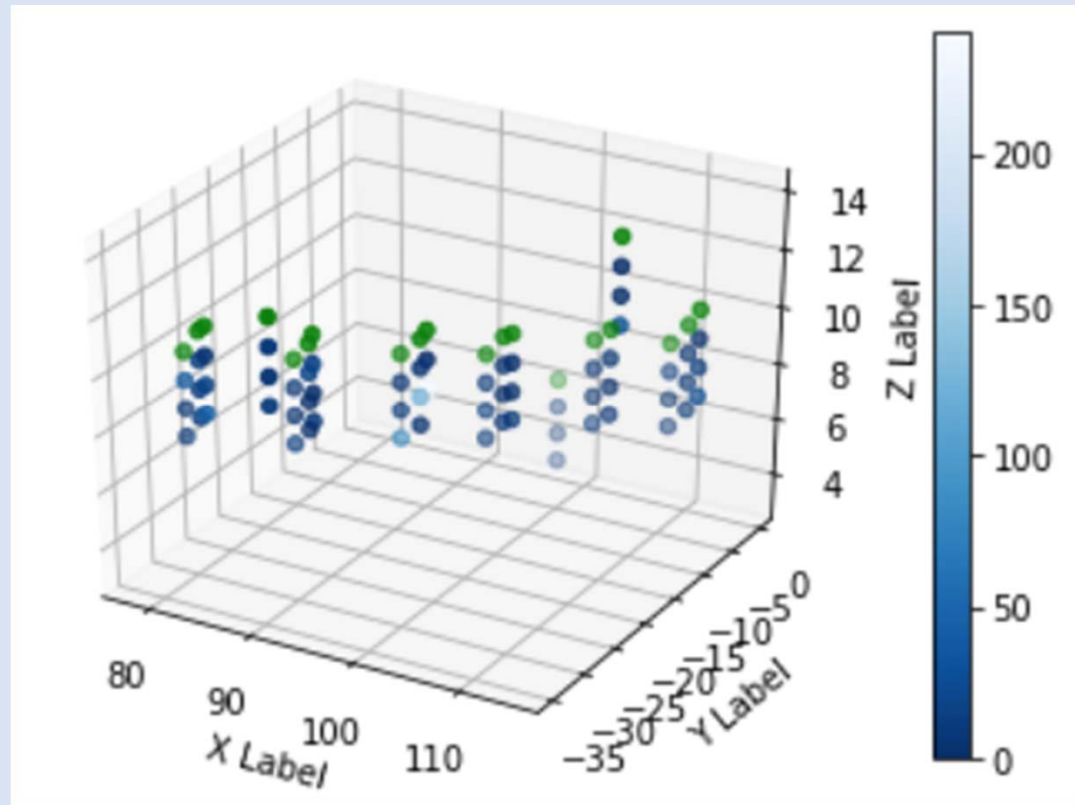
# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture



9/20/21 15:52



# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture



9/21/21 4:52



# Data Analysis: Soil Observation



# Data Analysis: Soil Observation





# Data Analysis: Soil Observation



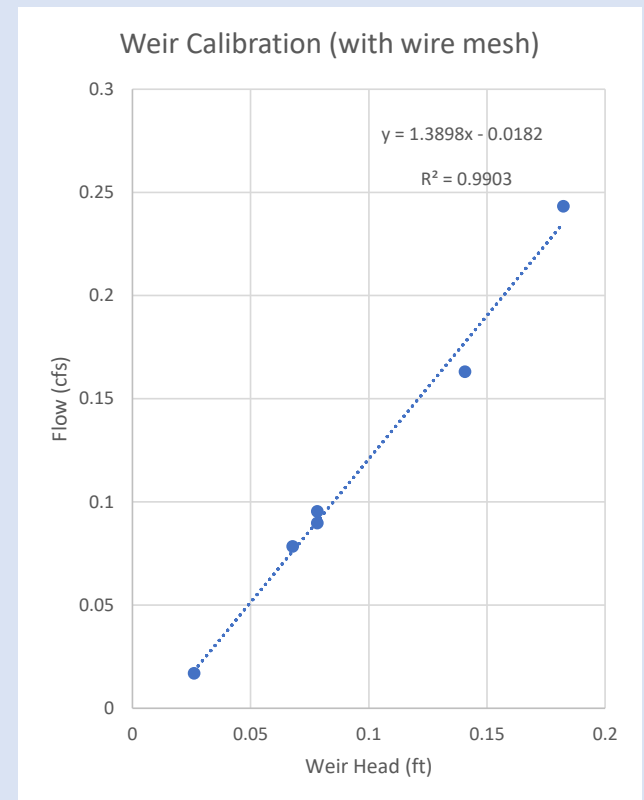
# Data Analysis: Soil Observation



# Data Analysis: Weir Calibration

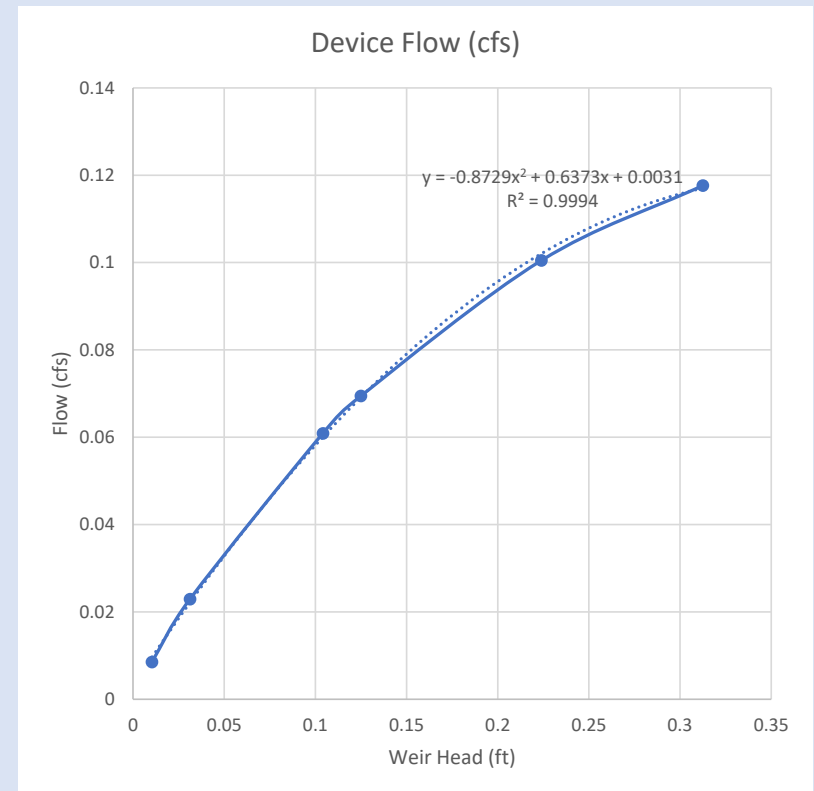
Pumps	Flow rate (gpm)	Middle height (in)	Height above weir (ft)	Flow rate (ft <sup>3</sup> /s)
Lg pump	35.22504892	11.875	0.0677083	0.0784814
2 Lg pumps	73.23180568	12.75	0.140625	0.1631605
3 Lg pumps	109.2318057	13.25	0.1822917	0.2433685
Lg pump + Lg fountain	40.3000461	12	0.078125	0.0897885
Lg fountain + Sm fountain	7.617370062	11.375	0.0260417	0.0169715
Lg pump + Lg fountain + Sm fountain	42.84241899	12	0.078125	0.0954529
Height of weir from inside (middle height)	11.0625			

$$Q = 0.9589y^{1.37}$$



# Data Analysis: Device Calibration

Device Flow Calibration					
Pump	Inflow	Height	Weir	Height	Device
	(cfs)	above weir	flow	above weir	flow
	(cfs)	(ft)	(cfs)	(ft)	(cfs)
Orange hose	0.00982704	0.0104	0.00184123	0.0104	0.00855877
Fountain	0.02268335	0.03125	0.00831224	0.03125	0.02293776
Lg pump #1	0.08639415	0.10417	0.04325943	0.10417	0.06091057
Lg pump #1 + Fountain	0.1090775	0.125	0.05553158	0.125	0.06946842
Lg pumps #1 + #2	0.17704551	0.223958	0.12345297	0.223958	0.10050503
Lg pumps #1 + #2 + #3	0.27587293	0.3125	0.19485782	0.3125	0.11764218



# Data Analysis: In-situ Performance

						Weir Crest (ft)	1					
						Basin Area		2				
						Device Invert (ft)			0.67			
Rain												
Gage		Rainfall	Runoff	Water	Weir	Weir	Weir	Weir	Device	Device		
Events	Rain	Intensity	Vol	310 Level	Elevation	Head	Flow	Volume	Flow	Volume		
Label	Minute	(tips)	(in)	(in/hr)	(ft^3)	(in)	(ft)	(ft)	(ft^3/s)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)
2021-09-20T22:31:00	1	3	0.03	1.8	15							
2021-09-20T22:32:00	2	4	0.04	2.4	20							
2021-09-20T22:33:00	3	5	0.05	3	25	6.647637	0.55397	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T22:34:00	4	5	0.05	3	25	13.16831	1.09736	0.097359	0.0394319	2.3659132	0.056873	3.412367
2021-09-20T22:35:00	5	5	0.05	3	25	14.20079	1.1834	0.183399	0.0938917	5.6335014	0.09062	5.437201
2021-09-20T22:36:00	6	5	0.05	3	25	15.01477	1.25123	0.25123	0.1445015	8.6700881	0.108115	6.486873



# Data Analysis: In-situ Performance

						Weir Crest (ft)	1					
							Basin Area	2				
								Device Invert (ft)	0.67			
		Rain										
		Gage	Rainfall	Runoff		Water	Weir	Weir	Weir	Device	Device	
		Events	Rain	Intensity	Vol	310 Level	Elevation	Head	Flow	Volume	Flow	Volume
Label	Minute	(tips)	(in)	(in/hr)	(ft^3)	(in)	(ft)	(ft)	(ft^3/s)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)
2021-09-20T22:55:00	25	0	0	0	0	10.82677	0.90223	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T22:56:00	26	0	0	0	0	10.44685	0.87057	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T22:57:00	27	0	0	0	0	10.0689	0.83907	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T22:58:00	28	1	0.01	0.6	5	9.711615	0.8093	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T22:59:00	29	0	0	0	0	9.437009	0.78642	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:00:00	30	0	0	0	0	9.206693	0.76722	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:01:00	31	1	0.01	0.6	5	9.015749	0.75131	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:02:00	32	0	0	0	0	9.021653	0.7518	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:03:00	33	0	0	0	0	9.448819	0.7874	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:04:00	34	0	0	0	0	10.2874	0.85728	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:05:00	35	1	0.01	0.6	5	11.25492	0.93791	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:06:00	36		0	0	0	11.99508	0.99959	0	0	0	0	0
2021-09-20T23:07:00	37		0	0	0	12.12402	1.01033	0.010335	0.0018254	0.1095256	0.009593	0.575586
2021-09-20T23:08:00	38		0	0	0	12.12303	1.01025	0.010253	0.0018056	0.1083344	0.009542	0.572533
2021-09-20T23:09:00	39		0	0	0	12.09843	1.0082	0.008202	0.00133	0.0798007	0.008269	0.496111



# Data Analysis: In-situ Performance

						Weir Crest (ft)	1					
						Basin Area		2				
								Device Invert (ft)		0.67		
		Rain										
	Gage		Rainfall	Runoff		Water	Weir	Weir	Weir	Device	Device	
	Events	Rain	Intensity	Vol	310 Level	Elevation	Head	Flow	Volume	Flow	Volume	
Label	Minute	(tips)	(in)	(in/hr)	(ft^3)	(in)	(ft)	(ft)	(ft^3/s)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)	(ft^3)
2021-09-21T00:07:00	97		0	0	0	12.25886	1.02157	0.021572	0.0050026	0.3001548	0.016441	0.986486
2021-09-21T00:08:00	98		0	0	0	12.23032	1.01919	0.019193	0.0042626	0.2557571	0.01501	0.900606
2021-09-21T00:09:00	99	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.18701	1.01558	0.015584	0.0032044	0.1922626	0.01282	0.769181
2021-09-21T00:10:00	100	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.18996	1.01583	0.01583	0.0032739	0.1964325	0.01297	0.778183
2021-09-21T00:11:00	101		0	0	0	12.18996	1.01583	0.01583	0.0032739	0.1964325	0.01297	0.778183
2021-09-21T00:12:00	102	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.36122	1.0301	0.030102	0.0078966	0.4737966	0.021493	1.289568
2021-09-21T00:13:00	103		0	0	0	12.42913	1.03576	0.035761	0.0099988	0.5999253	0.024774	1.486454
2021-09-21T00:14:00	104	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.37303	1.03109	0.031086	0.0082526	0.4951537	0.022068	1.324058
2021-09-21T00:15:00	105	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.32579	1.02715	0.027149	0.0068551	0.4113082	0.019759	1.18552
2021-09-21T00:16:00	106	1	0.01	0.6	5	12.42717	1.0356	0.035597	0.009936	0.5961593	0.02468	1.480795
2021-09-21T00:17:00	107	3	0.03	1.8	15	12.64961	1.05413	0.054134	0.0176452	1.0587117	0.035042	2.102492



# Data Analysis: In-situ Performance

				Weir Crest (ft)		1					
				Basin Area		2					
				Device Invert (ft)		0.67					
Rain											
Gage	Rainfall	Runoff	Water	Weir	Weir	Weir	Device	Device			
Events	Rain	Intensity	Vol	310 Level	Elevation	Head	Flow	Volume	Flow	Volume	
Minute	(tips)	(in)	(in/hr)	(ft <sup>3</sup> )	(in)	(ft)	(ft)	(ft <sup>3</sup> /s)	(ft <sup>3</sup> )	(ft <sup>3</sup> )	(ft <sup>3</sup> )
	136								318.54215		267.8294
Total Rain (in)		1.36		680							





# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

- We look for trends
  - Soil discontinuities
  - Surface impacts
  - Foreign bodies in the soil (i.e.: silt fence from construction)
- In general, for all storms, more saturation occurs at the end of the installation
- During drought and when there are long durations between storms
  - The middle and bottom sensors were drying, but not as much as the top sensor
  - Wetter soil at the end of the installation
- Upper sensors:
  - May experience surface impacts
    - Occasional wetting up for sensors near the overflow weir, from overflow
  - Often experience draining
  - May be located above the flow, and miss impacts from the flow
  - Limited capillary action, but some does occur
    - Particularly with big events



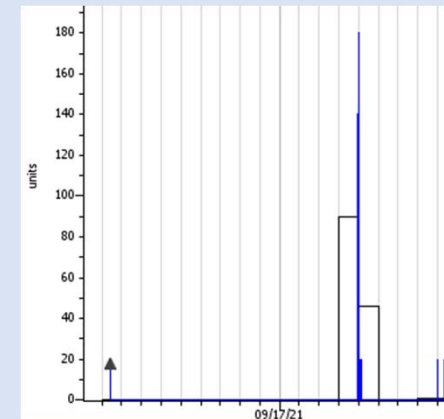
# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

A1.3-3-5	A1.2-3-6	A1.1-3-7
21	8	22
21	8	22
21	8	23

9/20/2021 6:52:00 PM-8:52 PM  
 No recent rainfall  
 Stack A1 located 8.33' longitudinal  
 and 2.5' downslope transverse  
 (close to basin)

G1.3-16-1	G1.2-16-2	G1.1-16-3
11	0	24
11	0	24
11	0	25

9/20/2021 6:52:00 PM-8:52 PM  
 No recent rainfall  
 Stack G1 located 50' longitudinal  
 and 2.5' downslope transverse  
 (close to end)



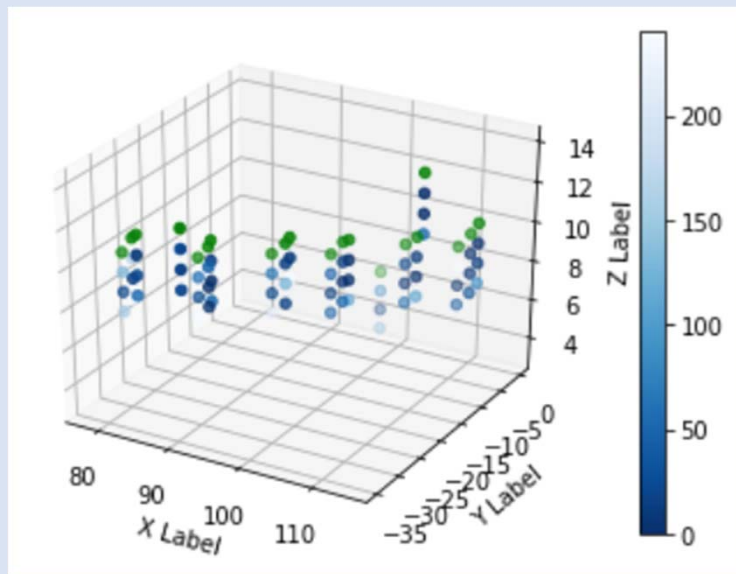
# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

- Intense Storms

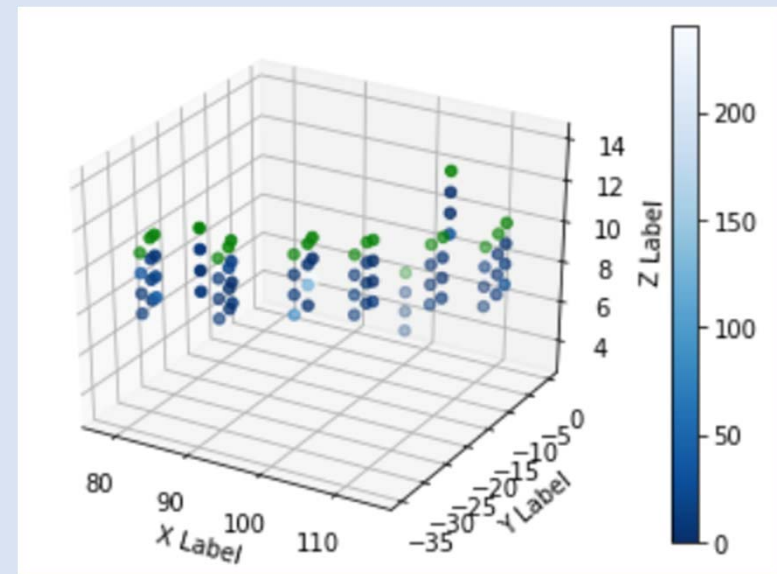
- Water moves longitudinally towards the end and then moves to fill the rest of the device installation, towards the basin
- Water is then pushed into the surrounding soil in all directions
- In general, for all storms, more saturation occurs at the end of the installation
- Some capillary action



# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture



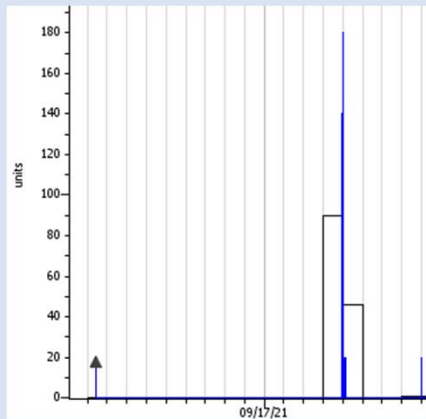
9/20/21 15:52



9/21/21 4:52



# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement



Moisture increase is seen with both stacks at the same time, but after the initial increase the stack closer to the basin (A3) sees a slower moistening trajectory than the stack closer to the end (G3).

Also, stack at the end has higher overall saturation, even before the rain event

A3.3-12-7	A3.2-12-8	A3.1-3-1		G3.3-16-7	G3.2-16-8	G3.1-15-7
15	120	239		0	16	101
15	122	239	Rain event begins	0	16	101
15	122	239		0	16	101
15	122	239		0	16	101
3	12	8		0	1	10
3	12	6	Rain event ends	0	1	22
3	11	7		0	1	28
3	11	8		0	1	27
3	11	8		0	1	25
3	11	9		0	1	23
3	11	9		0	1	23
3	11	9		0	1	23
3	11	9		0	1	23
3	11	9		0	1	19
3	11	9		0	1	16
3	11	9		0	1	15
3	10	9		0	1	14
3	10	9		0	1	13
3	10	9		0	1	13
3	10	10		0	1	12
3	10	10	Drying begins	0	1	12
3	10	10		0	1	12

9/20/21 6:52 PM-9/21/22 4:52 PM  
Stack A3 located 8.33' longitudinal and 10' downslope transverse

9/20/21 6:52 PM-9/21/22 4:52 PM  
Stack G3 located 50'' longitudinal and 10' downslope transverse

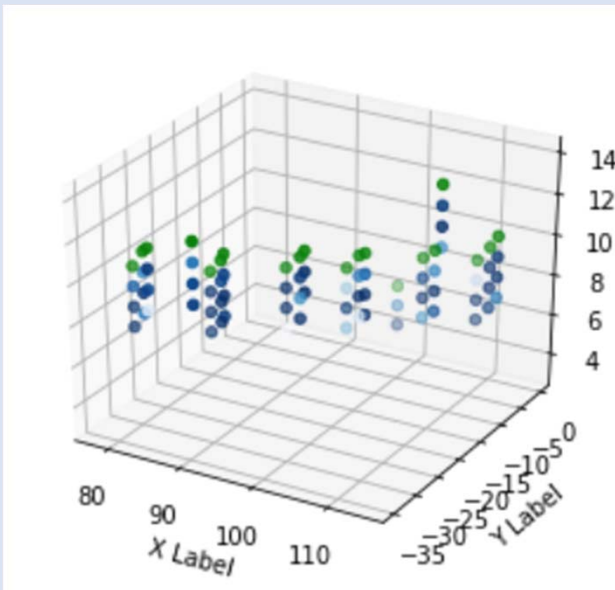


# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

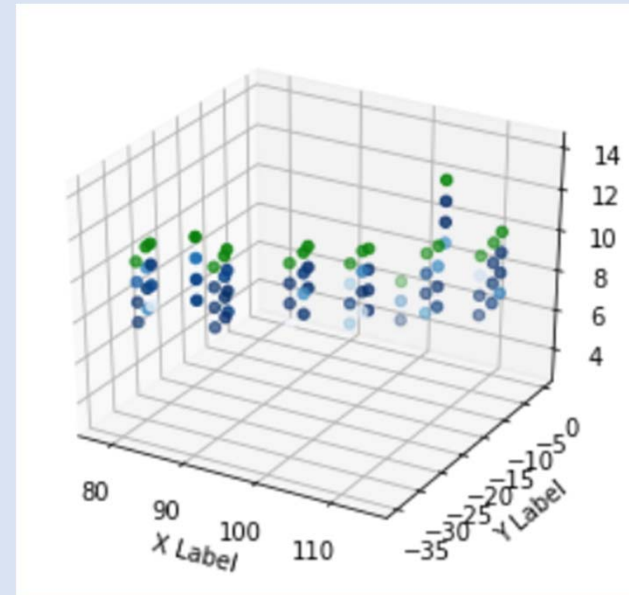
- Gentle Storms
  - As seen in the device calibration testing
    - 5gpm/2:40
  - Only see saturation at the end



# Data Analysis: Device Calibration



7/8/22 16:30



7/9/22 4:30

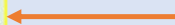


# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

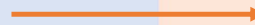
- Filling event occurred in the soil moisture record between 7/8/2022 5:30:00 PM and 7/8/2022 8:30:00 PM

A2.3-3-2	A2.2-3-3	A2.1-3-4
6	86	211
6	86	212
6	86	211
6	86	211
6	87	212
6	86	212
6	87	212
6	87	213
6	87	214
6	88	215
6	88	215

Filling event begins



Filling event begins



Even while water is entering the system, A2 continues to dry, while G2 maintains it's saturation, with some draining of the lowest sensor

G2.3-16-4	G2.2-16-5	G2.1-16-6
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
0	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
2	0	0
2	0	0

7/8/2022 4:30:00 PM-7/9/2022 2:30:00 AM  
Stack A2 located 8.33' longitudinal and 5' downslope transverse

7/8/2022 4:30:00 PM-7/9/2022 2:30:00 AM  
Stack G2 located 50' longitudinal and 5' downslope transverse





# Data Analysis: Soil Moisture Movement

- If the location of the site at Tolton was not in compacted clay lifts and on a constructed slope the soil moisture analysis demonstrates potential to contribute to baseflow-water getting into the subsurface
- In intense storms the installation is able to handle more water, due to an increased head, an important feature with storm intensity increasing
- Consistently high moisture content in deeper (2' and 3' down) soil around the installation could support native species with deeper roots and potentially soil conditions conducive to wetland vegetation



# Modeling: Green-Ampt

- Infiltrates all precipitation until surface saturation
- Decreasing rate of infiltration after surface saturation
- Reaching saturated hydraulic conductivity
  
- Based on precipitation on the landscape
- No consideration of a head driving the infiltration



# Modeling: Darcy Flow

- Head per flow length
- Multiples of saturated hydraulic conductivity
- Cross-sectional area of flow



# Modeling: Hydraulic Conductivities

- Sand is the bottom layer of the device
  - Lower hydraulic conductivity than other aggregates
- Retains water longer, maintaining saturation
- Saturation facilitates the flow to be more like Darcy than Green-Ampt
- Initial wetting to get through Green-Ampt phase, and then saturated sand helps maintain Darcy flow, maximizing infiltration



# Effective Hydraulic Conductivity

- Volume infiltrated through device for the 5.5-hr storm with level sensor measurements: 276.7 ft<sup>3</sup>
- Performed a Darcy flow calculation
  - 17 individual 3-ft segments
  - Variable head along length of installation
  - Area: bottom and sides of installation trench
  - Summed infiltrated volumes over time
- Unknowns
  - Length of saturated zone
  - Hydraulic conductivity



# Effective Hydraulic Conductivity

- Soil scientist estimated hydraulic conductivity of in situ soil as 0.00008
- Volume infiltrated through device for the 5.5-hr storm with level sensor measurements: 276.7 ft<sup>3</sup>
- Producing at least an order of magnitude increase in the hydraulic conductivity of the soil

Saturated Length (ft)	Hydraulic Conductivity (ft/sec)	Volume (ft <sup>3</sup> )
4	0.001	278.1
5	0.00125	278.1
6	0.0015	278.1
7	0.0017	270.1
8	0.002	278.1



# Conclusions and Next Steps

- Results show water is getting into the system
- This is demonstrated by multiple means of assessment
- With a stronger understanding of the processes involved, work on a design tool can begin



# Device Application

- Developed Areas:
  - Regulations
    - Onsite retention
    - Retrofit or additions on small urban sites
    - Infiltration
    - Reduce flow to combined sewer systems
  - Reduce basin size
  - Stand-alone or as a part of a treatment train
  - Mitigate erosion issues
- Conservation Areas:
  - Mitigate erosion issues
  - Reduce overland pollutant transport
  - Preserve or enhance wetlands
  - Promote infiltration to support baseflow for aquatic life





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