

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP)



Hosted by the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Welcome!

- ▶ A history of VCAP
- ▶ Overview of the program and BMP's
- ▶ Outreach and involvement
- ▶ Resources and questions



2011 - How to engage residential property owners?

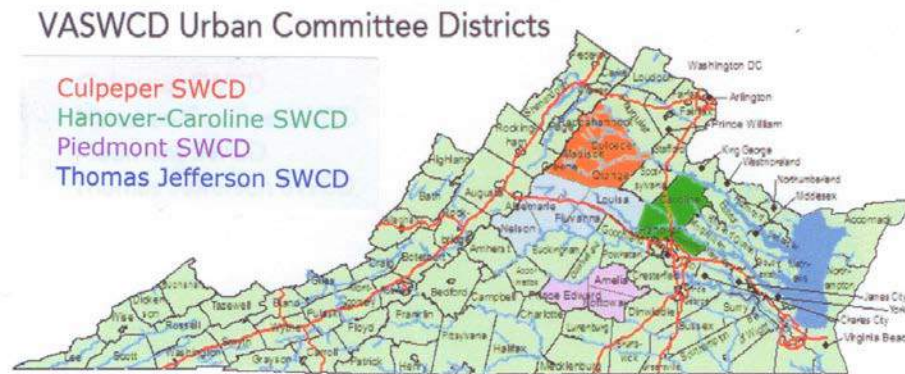


Virginia's Chesapeake Bay WIP: "THE GAP"

- Partner with SWCDs and DCR to reduce residential fertilizer use
- Rain gardens, cisterns, downspout disconnection ... demonstrate effectiveness to the public & homeowners
- Implement urban forest buffers
- Consider developing a cost-share program to encourage private property owners

2012 - Four Central Virginia SWCDs

1. Develop programmatic template - policies, procedures, small scale BMP specifications
2. Implement pilot “community-residential BMP cost share program” across four soil and water conservation districts with a total of 15 localities (Thomas Jefferson, Culpeper, Piedmont, and Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation Districts).
3. Establish support (financial and legislative) for statewide program based on lessons learned from the pilot project.



The Work Begins ...

- ▶ Staff from four SWCD applied for 10 Grants
→ And ... received 10 grants.
- ▶ \$188,825
- ▶ Funds used to accomplish Goals 1 & 2
 - Programmatic template completed
 - Pilot program implemented for over 3 years
- ▶ Successful beyond expectations

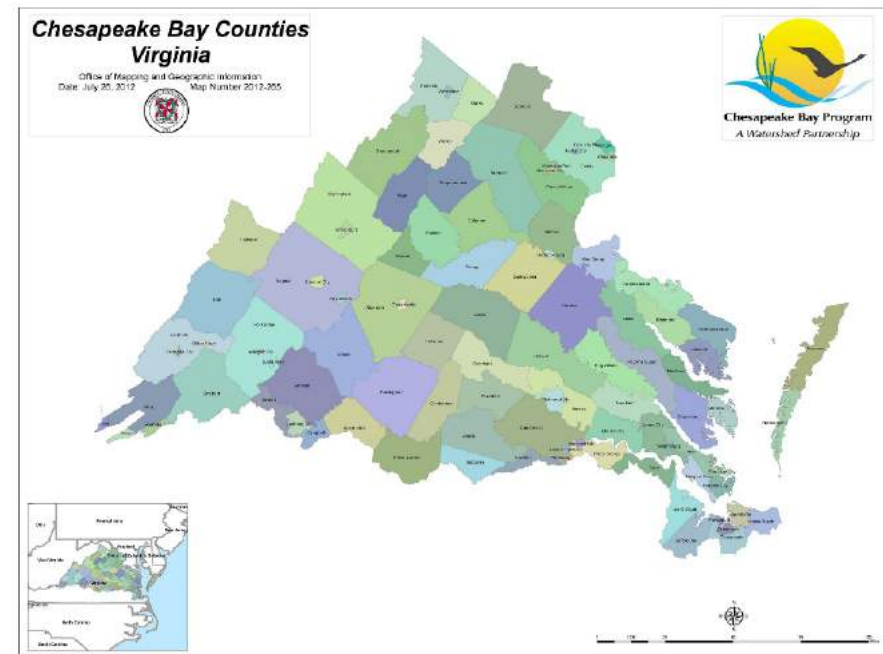
VCAP Pilot Program

- ▶ Impervious Surface Removal
- ▶ Conservation Landscaping
- ▶ Rain Gardens
- ▶ Bioretention
- ▶ Dry Well
- ▶ Infiltration Basin
- ▶ Rainwater Harvesting
- ▶ Vegetated Stormwater Conveyances
- ▶ Constructed Wetlands
- ▶ Permeable Pavement
- ▶ Urban Nutrient Management
- ▶ Pet Waste Stations

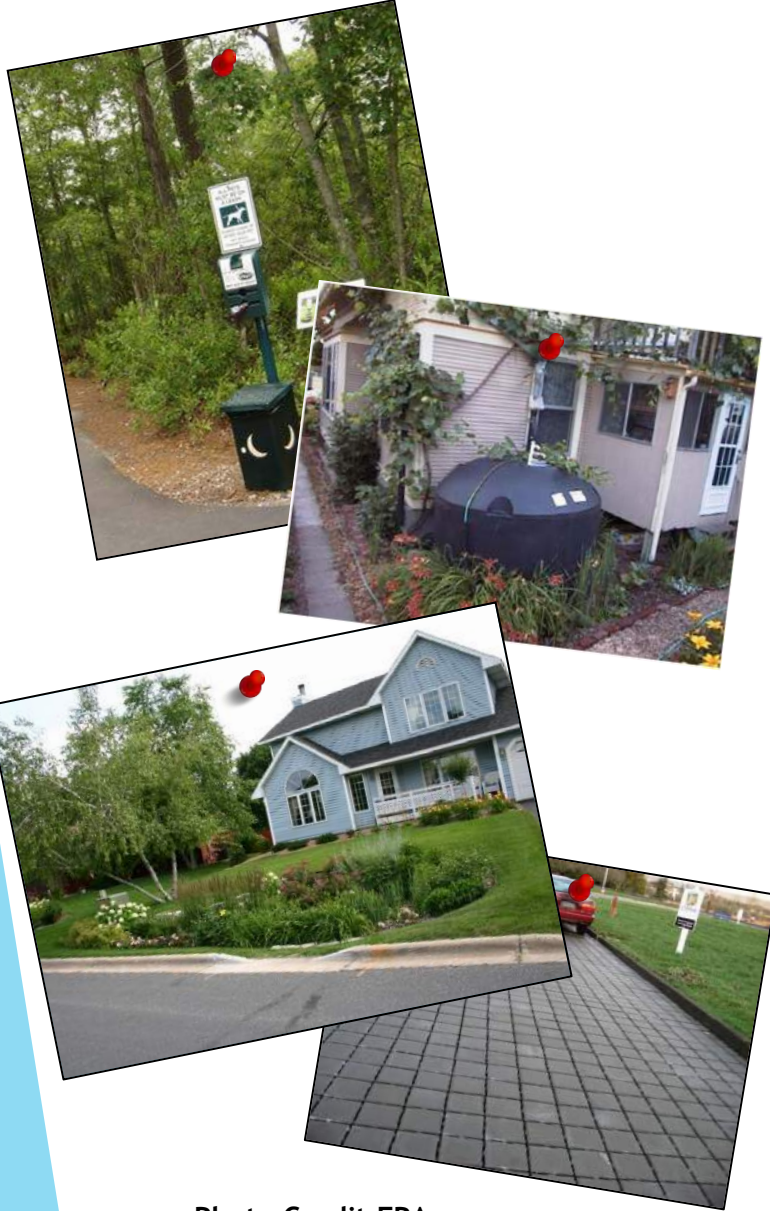


Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant (CBIG)

- ▶ 30 Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- ▶ \$250,000 available to landowners in 2016, increasing to \$500,00 during first half of 2017
- ▶ Applications ranked on environmental criteria
- ▶ Approvals made each month
- ▶ Some BMPs require engineer certification
- ▶ All BMPs are provided cost-share on a reimbursement basis
- ▶ 10 year maintenance contract on all BMPs



VCAP Manual BMPs



- ▶ Impervious Surface Removal
- ▶ Conservation Landscaping
- ▶ Rain Gardens
- ▶ Bioretention
- ▶ Dry Well
- ▶ Infiltration Basin
- ▶ Rainwater Harvesting
- ▶ Vegetated Conveyance Systems
- ▶ Constructed Wetlands
- ▶ Permeable Pavement
- ▶ Green Roofs
- ▶ Urban Nutrient Management
- ▶ Pet Waste Stations



Turf to Landscaped Beds: HCSWCD

- Small Charlottesville lot
- 84 ft³ treatment volume
- 2754 ft² drainage area, with 1502 ft² impervious

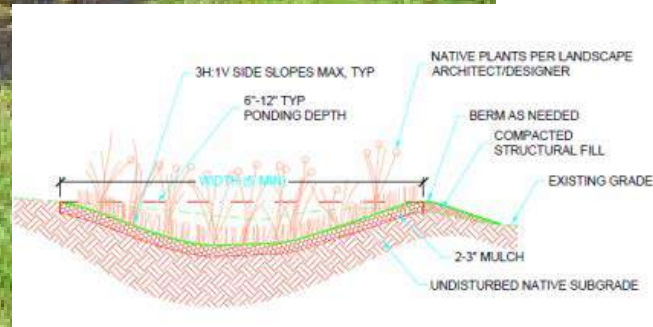


Raingarden: TJSWCD

Raingarden: CSWCD



Pearl Sample Elementary School



- Size 708 ft²
- Edging material between gravel and mulch

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- ▶ Consists of engineering professionals, landscape designers, and others from districts and private industries
- ▶ Will continue to provide input on BMP specifications and engineering approvals
- ▶ VCAP Manual and Specifications available at <http://vaswcd.org/vcap>
- ▶ Will continue to evolve as more practices are installed

BMP Ranking System Activity

VCAP Urban Practice Ranking Sheet (VCAP Form - 6)				
<i>This form is to be filled out by District Staff for each application submitted for funding approval to the VCAP Steering Committee. Include the Contract Number (District#-FY-###), Practice Code (abbreviation), Estimated Cost (If applicable) and Cost Share Requested</i>			Contract #	
			Practice	
			Estimated Cost	
			Cost Share Requested	
RANKING CRITERIA	Input (1/0)	POINT VALUE	TOTAL POINTS EARNED	NOTE
Site Specific Criteria				
Existing BMPs				
There are no existing BMPs to treat the contributing drainage area of the practice.	0	10	0	
Ownership				
Public (The practice is for a public owned space or building); or	0	10	0	
HOA (The practice is for private community owned or managed land); or	0	7	0	
Private (The practice is for an individual owner)	0	5	0	
Proximity to Waterway or Storm Drain				
Less than 100 feet	0	10	0	
Type of Problem				
Erosion Impact Area (visible erosion and/or deposition); and/or	0	10	0	
Poor Vegetative Cover (Density <=75%)	0	10	0	
TMDL Watershed				
Is the Site located within a Local TMDL Watershed with an approved Implementation Plan	0	5	0	
BMP Specific Criteria				
BMP Type				
Is the proposed BMP structural (e.g. RG, DW, CW, VSC, RH, BR, IF, PP, GR)?	0	10	0	
Is the proposed BMP Nonstructural (e.g. PWS, UNMP, ISR, CL)?	0	0	0	
TMDL Considerations				
Practice addresses a local TMDL impairment (see instructions)	0	5	0	
Buffer				

Eligibility and Examples

- ▶ Practices are not intended to meet regulatory requirements
- ▶ Sites must be released from existing erosion and sediment control permits or other regulatory programs and construction completed prior to applying
- ▶ If an applicant's project qualifies for the State Ag BMP Cost-share Program, they are not eligible for VCAP on that project
- ▶ The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all local, state and federal permits, policies and ordinances are met
- ▶ All practices will be subject to spot checks during the lifespan of the practice
- ▶ The landowner must accept maintenance responsibilities per and Operations and Maintenance plan specific to each BMP

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP)

Contract Number: _____



CONTRACT VCAP Form - 1

Part A. Application

I, _____ (PRINT) hereby make application to _____ Soil & Water Conservation District for cost-share assistance to purchase and install a best management practice as described in part B below.

I /We agree that the best management practice(s) approved will be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the practice(s) standard(s) found in the VCAP manual and the Landowner Agreement (VCAP Form - 3). I/We agree not to use the BMP for purposes of Nutrient Trading or regulatory compliance. I/We shall indemnify and save the District harmless from any and all claims for damages to persons or property arising from the installation, maintenance, repair, operation or use of the BMP(s).

I/We understand that it is my/our responsibility to pay in full all bills for work completed under this agreement prior to submission of eligible bills for reimbursement.

Applicant Signature: _____	Directions to site: _____
Mailing Address: _____	
County: _____	
Phone: _____ Cell: _____	
Email: _____	
SSN / Tax ID: _____	Circle one: Landowner / Manager / Other _____

The local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is required to issue a 1099-MISC to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for any individual to whom it issues a check for over \$600.00. Because the IRS uses the Social Security number or Federal Tax ID number as a unique identifier, the SWCD requires the applicant to complete an IRS W9 form. The SWCD does not use the Social Security number or Federal Tax ID number for any purpose other than that stated above.

Part B. Technical Determination and District Approval (to be filled out by District Staff)

Practice Title	Quantity	Total Estimated Cost	Approved Estimated Cost-Share	Required Completion

Job Sheet Attachment (VCAP Form-2): Yes/No _____ Supporting Documentation: Yes/No _____

I have reviewed this application and all supporting documentation, and have indicated the quantity authorized based on technical need. This practice must be installed and certified by the completion date.

X _____

District Employee Signature _____ Date _____

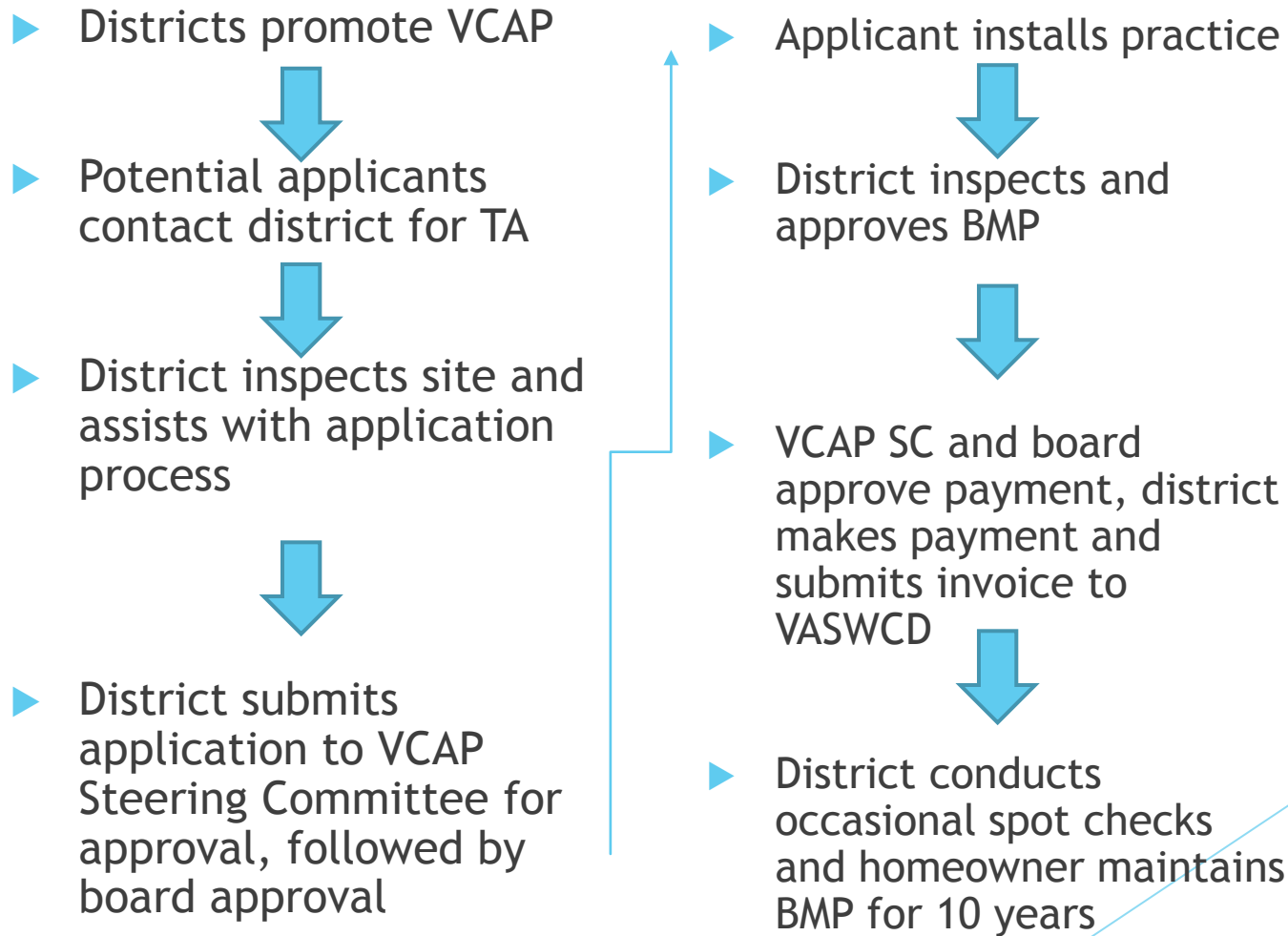
Application Approval:

X _____

District Director Signature _____ Date _____

Carryover of this practice is granted to be completed by date: _____ X _____
District Director Signature Date

VCAP Process



Cost Share Guidance

VCAP Reference Sheet

Practice	Lifespan	Reimbursement Rate	Max per application
Impervious Surface Removal (ISR)	10 years	\$2.50 per square foot	\$ 10,000.00
Conservation Landscaping (CL) - all others	10 years	\$250.00 per 1000 sq. ft.	\$ 3,500.00
Conservation Landscaping (CL) - trees	10 years	\$9.00 per tree	\$ 3,500.00
Rain Gardens (RG)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 2,000.00
Bioretention Basins and Areas (BB and BA)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 10,000.00
Dry Well (DW)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 2,000.00
Infiltration Basin (IB)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 10,000.00
Rainwater Harvesting (RH)	10 years	\$2.00 per gallon of storage volume	\$ 10,000.00
Vegetated Stormwater Conveyance (VSC)	10 years		
* Dry Swales (DS)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
* Step Pools (SP)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
* Wet Swales (WS)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 3,000.00
Constructed Wetlands (CW)	10 years	75% of costs	\$ 5,000.00
Permeable Pavement (PP)	10 years	50% of costs up to \$3.00 per sq. ft.	\$ 12,000.00
Green Roof (GR)	10 years	\$10 per square foot	\$ 10,000.00

Outreach Potential

- ▶ Most early adopters are already connected to the soil and water world
- ▶ Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Landscape Designers
- ▶ Public installations and signage may help to widen reach



Resources for Districts

- Kevin McLean, VCAP Coordinator:
kevin.mclean@vaswcd.org
- VCAP Brochure available, website
- Technical trainings
- One on one outreach
- Speaking engagements

- A grassroots effort!

To see the VCAP BMP Manual:
www.vaswcd.org/vcap

Conservation Landscaping (TCN)

- ▶ Conversion of Turfgrass or Bare Soils to Native Herbaceous and Woody Species
- ▶ Incentives:
 - ▶ Meadow: \$250/1000 ft²
 - ▶ Landscaped Mulched Beds: \$250/1000 ft²
 - ▶ Tree Planting Projects: \$9/tree
- ▶ Cap on Practice - \$3500
- ▶ Only 1 cost-share payment can be applied to a planted area
- ▶ Proximity to streams and other environmentally sensitive features considered



Raingardens (RG)

- ▶ Runoff captured within 40 feet of downspout
- ▶ Soils must be capable of infiltrating water
- ▶ Cannot be placed in the 100-year floodplain
- ▶ Project drainage areas less than 10,000 sq feet and no more than 2500 sq feet of impervious surface cover
- ▶ Must have overflow route
- ▶ Cost share 75% up to a maximum payment of \$2000

Dry Wells (DW)

- Project drainage areas less than 10,000 sq. ft. - no more than 2,500 sq. ft. of impervious surface cover
- Project drainage areas over 10,000 sq. ft. - no more than 25% impervious cover
- Runoff captured within 40 ft. of downspout/impervious surface
- Soils must be capable of infiltrating water
- Should retain water for less than 48 hours after a storm event
- Not be placed in wetland soil or within the 100-year flood plain



Rainwater Harvesting (RH)

- ▶ 250 Gallons or larger
- ▶ To collect 1 inch rainfall (minimum)
- ▶ Retrofit applications only; not new construction
- ▶ Year round water use plan
- ▶ Outdoor and indoor use allowable
- ▶ Engineer stamp to verify safety or liability release
- ▶ \$2/gallon, up to max \$10,000



Permeable Pavement (PP)



- ▶ Will involve projects of ½ acre or less
- ▶ Project sites must be free from impacts of adjacent construction sites
- ▶ PP will not be installed on wetland soils or in the 100 year flood plain
- ▶ The applicant should be aware that some PP applications or products require substantially more on-going maintenance

Bioretention (BR)

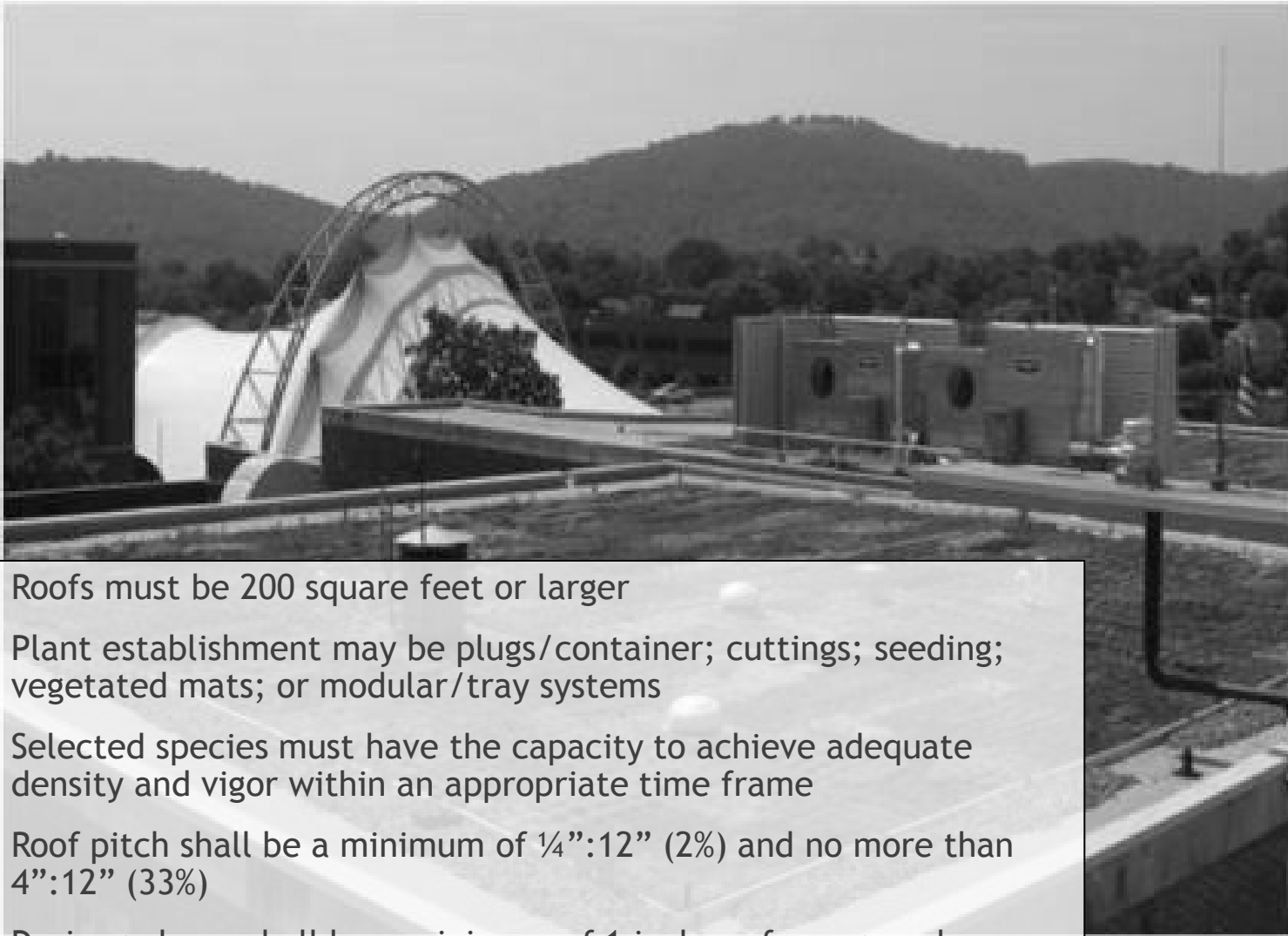


- ▶ Intended to treat impervious surface areas greater than 2,500 square feet, with a contributing drainage area of less than 2 acres
- ▶ Shall not be placed on wetland soils or in the 100 year flood plain
- ▶ Depth to water table and bedrock shall be greater than 2 feet from bottom of excavation
- ▶ Sites must have soils capable of infiltrating. Ponded water should be retained no longer than 48 hours.

Vegetated Stormwater Conveyances (VSC)

- ▶ Maximum contributing drainage area should be 5 acres or less
- ▶ Riprap lining and concrete hardening are not eligible activities
- ▶ The practice shall not convey flows from an intermittent or perennial stream
- ▶ Should be designed with enough capacity to convey runoff from the 10-year design storm event within the channel banks and be non-erosive during the 10-year design storm events

Green Roofs (GR)



- ▶ Roofs must be 200 square feet or larger
- ▶ Plant establishment may be plugs/container; cuttings; seeding; vegetated mats; or modular/tray systems
- ▶ Selected species must have the capacity to achieve adequate density and vigor within an appropriate time frame
- ▶ Roof pitch shall be a minimum of $\frac{1}{4}$ " : 12" (2%) and no more than 4" : 12" (33%)
- ▶ Drainage layer shall be a minimum of 1 inches of pea gravel or a mat system