

Stormwater Quality Control Criteria Plan

New Development and Redevelopment Standards



FAQ

Answers to the most frequently asked questions to help developers, engineers, and planners understand the key requirements of the Stormwater Quality Control Criteria Plan within the City of Stockton and San Joaquin County.

Where can I find the official SWQCCP? The full Stormwater Quality Control Criteria Plan (SWQCCP), along with other information and valuable resources, are available through both the [City](#) and [County](#) websites.

What geographic area does the Plan apply to? It is applicable within the “Stockton Urbanized Area” (SUA), which includes the area within Stockton city limits and portions of the County ([See full plan](#), Figure 2-3).

Are there similar stormwater requirements for other areas of San Joaquin County not in the SUA? Yes. There are similar requirements for certain types of new and redevelopment projects. See the Plan for these more rural areas of SJC [here](#).

Why is a SWQCCP needed? Municipal stormwater permits require the City and County to implement a plan to protect the local water resources from potential adverse impacts from urban development. See the regulatory requirements [here](#).

When was the SWQCCP developed and first implemented? The Plan has been in place for over 17 years. It was initially developed and implemented in 2003, with major revisions occurring in 2009 and 2020.

Why were revisions necessary in 2020? The revisions were needed to address two new regulatory requirements:

- In 2016, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted a region-wide municipal stormwater NPDES Permit (Region-wide Permit), which regulates both the City and County that require them to comply with permit provisions that include requirements for new development and redevelopment. Provisions include increased requirements for Low-Impact Development (LID) features and reductions in overall discharges and pollutant loading to the local water bodies. [Region-wide Municipal Stormwater Permit for Central Valley](#).
- In 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Trash Amendments, which require all municipal stormwater agencies to implement trash controls that reduce the discharge of trash from priority land uses [high-density residential, industrial, commercial, mixed urban, and public transportation stations]. [Statewide Trash Amendments](#).

How will the revised SWQCCP affect projects already underway? When do the updated guidelines go into effect? The SWQCCP is effective as of January 2021. Projects that are currently underway can consult with the City or County to determine if the new requirements apply.

Are all new development and redevelopment projects subject to the SWQCCP? No. The Plan applies to certain types of “priority projects” – see call out box on next page and Section 2.1 for more detailed information).

What are the development and redevelopment requirements for Priority Projects?

Priority Projects must apply for four categories of stormwater pollution control measures including:

Site Design Controls to reduce stormwater runoff peak flows and volumes through appropriate site design. (Section 3)

Source Controls are practices to prevent pollutants from contacting stormwater runoff or to prevent the discharge of contaminated runoff to the storm drainage system. (Section 4)

Volume Reduction Measures (VRMs) are controls that can be used to direct, retain, reuse and/or infiltrate stormwater runoff (e.g., rain gardens and rain barrels). (Section 5)

Treatment Controls are engineered systems designed to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff. (Section 6)

- The process for application of these controls is outlined in Section 2 of the [Plan](#), Figures 2-1 and 2-2.

How do Treatment Controls need to be designed? Treatment controls are engineered technologies designed to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff. With the exception of the [Trash Full Capture Systems](#) (C-5), controls need to be designed to meet the stormwater quality design flow (SQDF) or stormwater quality design volume (SQDV) of stormwater runoff from the site. (Section 6 and T-0).

What is the Volume Reduction Requirement (VRR)? The VRR is the stormwater runoff volume that must be mitigated using control measures for the project to comply with the stormwater requirements of the Plan. The VRR is a separate and independent requirement from the treatment control SQDV and SQDF. It is determined by subtracting the pre-project runoff volume from the post-project runoff volume for the 0.51-inch storm depth, which is the average 85th percentile/24-hour storm depth estimated for the Stockton urbanized area. Priority Projects may apply a combination of VRM and LID Treatment Controls in order to meet the VRR. Project applicants can access a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet [Calculator](#) assist them in determining compliance with the VRR. (Section 5, and Appendices B and J). The recent modifications to the SWQCCP do not affect the VRR or associated calculator.

Are there any incentives provided for redevelopment projects? Yes. Priority Significant Redevelopment Projects may receive an incentive in the form of credits that can be applied based on the type of redevelopment project (Section 2).

TYPES OF PRIORITY PROJECTS SUBJECT TO THE SWQCCP

Priority Land Use Projects

- [High Density Residential](#). Land uses with at least 10 developed dwelling units per acre.
- [Industrial](#). Land uses where the primary activities involve product manufacture, storage, or distribution.
- [Commercial](#). Land uses where the primary activities involve the sale or transfer of goods or services to consumers.
- [Mixed Urban](#). Where high-density residential, industrial, and/or commercial land uses predominate collectively.
- [Public Transportation Stations](#). Facilities or sites where public transit agencies' vehicles load or unload passengers or goods.

Priority Projects

- [Residential subdivision of 10 housing units or more](#). Single-family homes, multi-family homes, condominiums, and apartments and the related street and road paved surfaces for transporting automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles.
- [Commercial and industrial developments greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet](#). Any development on private land that is not for residential uses, where the land area for development is \geq to 5,000 sf of impervious area (not including the parking lot), as well as the related street and road paved surfaces that are used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles.
- [Parking lots 5,000 sf or with 25 or more parking spaces and potentially exposed to urban runoff](#). Parking lot is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary parking or storage of motor vehicles used personally, for business, or for commerce.
- [Significant redevelopment](#). Significant redevelopment is defined as the creation or addition of at least 5,000 sf of impervious surfaces on an already developed site.

A maximum credit of 0.25 inch from the 0.51-inch VRR may be applied to any of the following types of redevelopment. Credits are issued in 0.05-inch increments for each applicable criterion:

- Significant Redevelopment (as defined in Step 1)
- Brownfield redevelopment
- High density (>7 units per acre)
- Vertical Density, (FAR of 2 or >18 units per acre)
- Mixed use and Transit Oriented Development (within ½ mile of public transit, such as a bus stop)



What if a Priority Project cannot meet the Volume Reduction Requirements? Meeting the VRR is an iterative process. Designers should return to prior steps to explore alternative combinations of volume reduction measures and low impact development Treatment Controls. A waiver may be granted if the VRR cannot be met due to site constraints (Section 5.2 and Appendix C). The burden of proof is on the project applicant to demonstrate that it is technically infeasible to meet the VRR. In general, given the regulatory requirements, the City and County do not expect to grant waivers for the VRR.

What types of devices/controls can be used to meet the trash requirements? There are two types of controls that can be used to meet the trash requirements – certified full capture systems (primarily proprietary devices) and certified multi-benefit trash treatment systems (public domain controls). Either type must be on the State Water Resources Control Board certified list. For more information, visit the [Water Board Stormwater page](#).

What must be submitted to the City and County for Priority Projects subject to the SWQCCP You must submit a:

- Project Stormwater Quality Control Plan (SWQCP) that adequately demonstrates that the proposed project will conform to all requirements; and
- Maintenance Plan that includes guidelines for how and when inspection and maintenance should occur for each In addition, a Maintenance Agreement must be executed with the owner/operator of stormwater control measures prior to the final acceptance of a private project for projects using any of the Structural Source Controls that require maintenance, VRMs, and Treatment Controls.
- City and County-specific examples are provided within Appendices D and E.

For questions or more information contact

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Additional Resources & Tools

Find additional resources on the [San Joaquin County Stormwater Program Webpage](#)

- 1 [Volume Reduction Requirement Summary Worksheet \(SWQCCP Appendix B\)](#)
- 2 [Volume Reduction Requirement Calculator](#)
- 3 [Maintenance Agreement Template \(Appendix D\)](#)
- 4 [Stormwater Quality Criteria Plan Template \(Appendix E\)](#)
- 5 [Example Calculation \(Appendix J\)](#)



Quick Links

- [Stormwater Quality Control Criteria Plan 2020](#)
- [City of Stockton Stormwater Resources](#)
- [County of San Joaquin Stormwater Program](#)
- [Multi Agency Post Construction Stormwater Standards Manual](#)
- [Region-wide Municipal Stormwater Permit for Central Valley](#)
- [Statewide Small Municipal Stormwater Permit](#)
- [Statewide Trash Amendments](#)
- [Trash Full Capture Systems](#)
- [Volume Reduction Requirement Calculator](#)