

Hawai'i Storm Patrol Young Professionals Program

Comprehensive Vocabulary List

Accuracy: How close the acquired results are to the actual value.

Best Management Practice (BMP): BMPs are a broad term encompassing resource use techniques recognized as the most practical and effective means of controlling or treating related pollutants.

Biofiltration: The process wherein living materials degrade or absorb pollutants.

Biodegradation: The natural breakdown of materials by bacteria, fungi, or other living organisms.

Biological Parameters: Biotic characteristics, such as biodiversity and species abundance.

Biomimicry: The design and production of materials, structures, and systems that are modeled on biological entities and processes.

Chemical Parameters: Information about the chemical makeup of the storm water, such as pH, oxygen and nutrient levels.

Collaboration: The process of working together with others to achieve a common goal, emphasizing teamwork and shared contributions.

Constraints: Limits or restrictions that must be considered when designing a solution.

Critical Thinking: Analyzing information to make informed decisions or solve problems.

Curve Radius: The radius of the circle that best approximates the curve at a given point, and it's the distance from the center of that circle to any point on the curve.

Debrief: A reflective discussion, evaluation, and analysis of a particular experience.

Design Charette: A collaborative workshop gathering community input for design projects.

Drainage Infrastructure: Network of man-made structures and systems designed to collect, convey, and manage storm water to prevent flooding.

Engineering Design Process: Step-by-step method engineers use to solve problems and build effective solutions.

Erosion: The geological process in which earthen materials are worn away and transported by natural forces such as wind or water.

Eutrophication: Excessive richness of nutrients in a body of water, frequently due to runoff from the land, which causes a dense growth of plant life and death of animal life due to a lack of oxygen.

Geographic Information System (GIS): The combination of recorded data with spatial information to produce visualizations that can be used to communicate data results, analysis, and ideas.

Green storm water infrastructure (GSI): BMPs that capture, filter, and infiltrate storm water using or mimicking natural processes.

Hypoxic: The condition of hypoxia, which refers to low or depleted oxygen in a water body. Hypoxia is often associated with the overgrowth of certain species of algae.

Impervious/Impermeable: Often used interchangeably, both refer to surfaces or materials that prevent water from passing through or soaking into them.

Infiltration: The process by which rainfall and storm water runoff is captured and absorbed into the ground and enters subsurface soil or rock.

Infiltration Rate: The speed at which water is absorbed into the ground.

Landscape Performance: Measure of the effectiveness of landscape solutions to fulfill purpose.

Land Use: The designated purpose for which an area of land is used.

Landscaping Design Plans: Maps, drawings, and models that detail the specifics of a site's outdoor space.

Media: The materials or substances used to enhance or increase the efficiency of storm water infiltration and filtration.

Micro-Management: A management style characterized by excessive control and oversight of team members' work, often hindering autonomy and productivity.

Milestone: A significant point or event marking progress in a project.

Model/Modeling: The creation and use of representations or simulations of natural systems to understand their behavior, predict outcomes, and inform decision-making.

Multi-Benefit Design: Planning and implementing projects to achieve multiple positive outcomes across various dimensions.

Networking: The exchange of information and ideas among people with a common interest.

Nitrogen: Nitrogen is naturally taken up by plants and algae as nitrates and used to build up the bases needed to construct DNA, RNA and all amino acids, components essential for growth.

Nonpoint Source Pollution: Pollution that originates from numerous, diffuse sources rather than a single, identifiable point, and is carried into waterways by runoff.

Objectives: Specific, measurable goals that guide the direction and outcomes of a project.

Pervious/Permeable: Both mean allowing passage through or penetration, allowing liquids to pass through.

Phosphorous: Phosphorus, often in commercial fertilizers, is vital for all living organisms, including plants and animals. Often limited in natural systems, causing rapid plant growth when introduced.

Physical Parameters: Observable measurements of the storm water, such as temperature and flow rate.

Precision: How close the acquired results are to one another.

Project Management: The profession that makes things happen by planning, organizing, and executing project activities.

Project Scope: The boundaries and deliverables of a project, outlining what is included and what is excluded from the project.

Resource Allocation: Process of assigning and distributing resources to various tasks and activities within a project

Resources: Various assets, materials, tools, and personnel required to effectively plan, execute, monitor, and control a project.

Retention and Detention: An approach that captures storm water runoff to let it infiltrate naturally or release it in smaller quantities.

Riprap: Loose stone used to form a foundation for a breakwater or other structure.

Risk Analysis: Identifying and evaluating potential risks to determine their impact and likelihood

Risk Management: Process of identifying, analyzing and responding to any risk that arises over the life cycle of a project

Sediment: Matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid. In large quantities, particularly from erosion, it clouds waters, impairs fish and aquatic vegetation, and reduces water depth.

Source Reduction: Cutting down waste at its origin by using fewer materials or creating less trash.

Specifications: Detailed descriptions of the requirements for a specific product, service, or process.

Stakeholder: A person with an interest or concern in something, especially a business or project.

Standards: Established norms or requirements that provide guidelines and criteria to ensure consistency, quality, safety, and interoperability in products, services, and processes.

Storm Water Monitoring: The process of conducting sampling and collecting quantitative data on parameters within the storm water runoff of a target area.

Total Maximum Daily Load: A plan for restoring impaired waters that identifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards.

Trash Capture Device: A structure that traps solid waste to prevent it from entering storm water systems.

Urbanization: The process of making an area more urban.

Watershed: An area of land in which all water flows toward a common outlet, such as the ocean or a larger river.