

APPENDIX C

CURVE NUMBERS, RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS AND N-VALUES

TABLE C-1. RUNOFF CURVE NUMBERS

Source: Table 2-2a, Table 2-2b, and Table 2-2c from U. S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, June 1986, Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds, Technical Release No. 55 (TR-55), Second Edition.

TABLE C-2. RATIONAL RUNOFF COEFFICIENTS

Source: Table F.2 from Delaware County Planning Department, December 2011, Crum Creek Watershed Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan.

TABLE C-3. MANNING'S 'n' VALUES

Source: Table 3-1 from United States Army Corps of Engineers, January 2010, HEC-RAS River Analysis System, Hydraulic Reference Manual, Version 4.1.

Table 2-2a Runoff curve numbers for urban areas ^{1/}

Cover description		Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group			
Cover type and hydrologic condition	Average percent impervious area ^{2/}	A	B	C	D
<i>Fully developed urban areas (vegetation established)</i>					
Open space (lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, etc.) ^{3/} :					
Poor condition (grass cover < 50%)		68	79	86	89
Fair condition (grass cover 50% to 75%)		49	69	79	84
Good condition (grass cover > 75%)		39	61	74	80
Impervious areas:					
Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc. (excluding right-of-way)		98	98	98	98
Streets and roads:					
Paved: curbs and storm sewers (excluding right-of-way)		98	98	98	98
Paved: open ditches (including right-of-way)		83	89	92	93
Gravel (including right-of-way)		76	85	89	91
Dirt (including right-of-way)		72	82	87	89
Western desert urban areas:					
Natural desert landscaping (pervious areas only) ^{4/}		63	77	85	88
Artificial desert landscaping (impervious weed barrier, desert shrub with 1- to 2-inch sand or gravel mulch and basin borders)		96	96	96	96
Urban districts:					
Commercial and business	85	89	92	94	95
Industrial	72	81	88	91	93
Residential districts by average lot size:					
1/8 acre or less (town houses)	65	77	85	90	92
1/4 acre	38	61	75	83	87
1/3 acre	30	57	72	81	86
1/2 acre	25	54	70	80	85
1 acre	20	51	68	79	84
2 acres	12	46	65	77	82
<i>Developing urban areas</i>					
Newly graded areas (pervious areas only, no vegetation) ^{5/}		77	86	91	94
Idle lands (CN's are determined using cover types similar to those in table 2-2c).					

¹ Average runoff condition, and $I_a = 0.2S$.² The average percent impervious area shown was used to develop the composite CN's. Other assumptions are as follows: impervious areas are directly connected to the drainage system, impervious areas have a CN of 98, and pervious areas are considered equivalent to open space in good hydrologic condition. CN's for other combinations of conditions may be computed using figure 2-3 or 2-4.³ CN's shown are equivalent to those of pasture. Composite CN's may be computed for other combinations of open space cover type.⁴ Composite CN's for natural desert landscaping should be computed using figures 2-3 or 2-4 based on the impervious area percentage (CN = 98) and the pervious area CN. The pervious area CN's are assumed equivalent to desert shrub in poor hydrologic condition.⁵ Composite CN's to use for the design of temporary measures during grading and construction should be computed using figure 2-3 or 2-4 based on the degree of development (impervious area percentage) and the CN's for the newly graded pervious areas.

Table 2-2b Runoff curve numbers for cultivated agricultural lands ^{1/}

Cover description			Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group			
Cover type	Treatment ^{2/}	Hydrologic condition ^{3/}	A	B	C	D
Fallow	Bare soil	—	77	86	91	94
	Crop residue cover (CR)	Poor	76	85	90	93
		Good	74	83	88	90
Row crops	Straight row (SR)	Poor	72	81	88	91
		Good	67	78	85	89
	SR + CR	Poor	71	80	87	90
		Good	64	75	82	85
	Contoured (C)	Poor	70	79	84	88
		Good	65	75	82	86
	C + CR	Poor	69	78	83	87
		Good	64	74	81	85
	Contoured & terraced (C&T)	Poor	66	74	80	82
		Good	62	71	78	81
Small grain	SR	Poor	65	76	84	88
		Good	63	75	83	87
	SR + CR	Poor	64	75	83	86
		Good	60	72	80	84
	C	Poor	63	74	82	85
		Good	61	73	81	84
	C + CR	Poor	62	73	81	84
		Good	60	72	80	83
	C&T	Poor	61	72	79	82
		Good	59	70	78	81
Close-seeded or broadcast legumes or rotation meadow	C&T+ CR	Poor	60	71	78	81
		Good	58	69	77	80
	SR	Poor	66	77	85	89
		Good	58	72	81	85
	C	Poor	64	75	83	85
		Good	55	69	78	83
	C&T	Poor	63	73	80	83
		Good	51	67	76	80

¹ Average runoff condition, and $I_a = 0.2S$ ² Crop residue cover applies only if residue is on at least 5% of the surface throughout the year.³ Hydraulic condition is based on combination factors that affect infiltration and runoff, including (a) density and canopy of vegetative areas, (b) amount of year-round cover, (c) amount of grass or close-seeded legumes, (d) percent of residue cover on the land surface (good $\geq 20\%$), and (e) degree of surface roughness.

Poor: Factors impair infiltration and tend to increase runoff.

Good: Factors encourage average and better than average infiltration and tend to decrease runoff.

TABLE C-1

Table 2-2c Runoff curve numbers for other agricultural lands ^{1/}

Cover description		Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group			
Cover type	Hydrologic condition	A	B	C	D
Pasture, grassland, or range—continuous forage for grazing. ^{2/}	Poor	68	79	86	89
	Fair	49	69	79	84
	Good	39	61	74	80
Meadow—continuous grass, protected from grazing and generally mowed for hay.	—	30	58	71	78
Brush—brush-weed-grass mixture with brush the major element. ^{3/}	Poor	48	67	77	83
	Fair	35	56	70	77
	Good	30 ^{4/}	48	65	73
Woods—grass combination (orchard or tree farm) ^{5/}	Poor	57	73	82	86
	Fair	43	65	76	82
	Good	32	58	72	79
Woods. ^{6/}	Poor	45	66	77	83
	Fair	36	60	73	79
	Good	30 ^{4/}	55	70	77
Farmsteads—buildings, lanes, driveways, and surrounding lots.	—	59	74	82	86

¹ Average runoff condition, and $I_a = 0.2S$.

² *Poor*: <50% ground cover or heavily grazed with no mulch.

Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover and not heavily grazed.

Good: > 75% ground cover and lightly or only occasionally grazed.

³ *Poor*: <50% ground cover.

Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover.

Good: >75% ground cover.

⁴ Actual curve number is less than 30; use CN = 30 for runoff computations.

⁵ CN's shown were computed for areas with 50% woods and 50% grass (pasture) cover. Other combinations of conditions may be computed from the CN's for woods and pasture.

⁶ *Poor*: Forest litter, small trees, and brush are destroyed by heavy grazing or regular burning.

Fair: Woods are grazed but not burned, and some forest litter covers the soil.

Good: Woods are protected from grazing, and litter and brush adequately cover the soil.

TABLE C-2

	HYDROLOGIC SOIL GROUP			
LAND USE DESCRIPTION	A	B	C	D
Cultivated land : without conservation treatment	.49	.67	.81	.88
: with conservation treatment	.27	.43	.61	.67
Pasture or range land: poor condition	.38	.63	.78	.84
: good condition	---*	.25	.51	.65
Meadow: good condition	---*	---*	.44	.61
Woods: thin stand, poor cover, no mulch	---*	.34	.59	.70
: good cover	---*	---*	.45	.59
Open spaces, lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries				
Good condition: grass cover on 75% or more of the area	---*	.25	.51	.65
Fair condition: grass cover on 50% to 75% of the area	---*	.45	.63	.74
Commercial and business areas (85% impervious)	.84	.90	.93	.96
Industrial districts (72% impervious)	.67	.81	.88	.92
Residential:				
Average lot size Average % impervious				
1/8 acre or less 65	.59	.76	.86	.90
1/4 acre 38	.25	.49	.67	.78
1/3 acre 30	---*	.49	.67	.78
1/2 acre 25	---*	.45	.65	.76
1 acre 20	---*	.41	.63	.74
Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc.	.99	.99	.99	.99
Streets and roads:				
Paved with curbs and storm sewers	.99	.99	.99	.99
Gravel	.57	.76	.84	.88
Dirt	.49	.69	.80	.84

Notes: Values are based on SCS definitions and are average values.

Values indicated by ---* should be determined by the design engineer based on site characteristics.

Source : New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Technical Manual for Stream Encroachment, August 1984

TABLE C-3

Chapter 3— Basic Data Requirements

Table 3-1 Manning's 'n' Values

Type of Channel and Description	Minimum	Normal	Maximum
A. Natural Streams			
1. Main Channels			
a. Clean, straight, full, no rifts or deep pools	0.025	0.030	0.033
b. Same as above, but more stones and weeds	0.030	0.035	0.040
c. Clean, winding, some pools and shoals	0.033	0.040	0.045
d. Same as above, but some weeds and stones	0.035	0.045	0.050
e. Same as above, lower stages, more ineffective slopes and sections	0.040	0.048	0.055
f. Same as "d" but more stones	0.045	0.050	0.060
g. Sluggish reaches, weedy, deep pools	0.050	0.070	0.080
h. Very weedy reaches, deep pools, or floodways with heavy stands of timber and brush	0.070	0.100	0.150
2. Flood Plains			
a. Pasture no brush	0.025	0.030	0.035
1. Short grass	0.030	0.035	0.050
2. High grass			
b. Cultivated areas	0.020	0.030	0.040
1. No crop	0.025	0.035	0.045
2. Mature row crops	0.030	0.040	0.050
3. Mature field crops			
c. Brush	0.035	0.050	0.070
1. Scattered brush, heavy weeds	0.035	0.050	0.060
2. Light brush and trees, in winter	0.040	0.060	0.080
3. Light brush and trees, in summer	0.045	0.070	0.110
4. Medium to dense brush, in winter	0.070	0.100	0.160
5. Medium to dense brush, in summer			
d. Trees	0.030	0.040	0.050
1. Cleared land with tree stumps, no sprouts	0.050	0.060	0.080
2. Same as above, but heavy sprouts	0.080	0.100	0.120
3. Heavy stand of timber, few down trees, little undergrowth, flow below branches	0.100	0.120	0.160
4. Same as above, but with flow into branches			
5. Dense willows, summer, straight	0.110	0.150	0.200
3. Mountain Streams, no vegetation in channel, banks usually steep, with trees and brush on banks submerged			
a. Bottom: gravels, cobbles, and few boulders	0.030	0.040	0.050
b. Bottom: cobbles with large boulders	0.040	0.050	0.070

TABLE C-3

Chapter 3— Basic Data Requirements

Table 3-1 (Continued) Manning's 'n' Values

Type of Channel and Description	Minimum	Normal	Maximum
B. Lined or Built-Up Channels			
1. Concrete			
a. Trowel finish	0.011	0.013	0.015
b. Float Finish	0.013	0.015	0.016
c. Finished, with gravel bottom	0.015	0.017	0.020
d. Unfinished	0.014	0.017	0.020
e. Gunite, good section	0.016	0.019	0.023
f. Gunite, wavy section	0.018	0.022	0.025
g. On good excavated rock	0.017	0.020	
h. On irregular excavated rock	0.022	0.027	
2. Concrete bottom float finished with sides of:			
a. Dressed stone in mortar	0.015	0.017	0.020
b. Random stone in mortar	0.017	0.020	0.024
c. Cement rubble masonry, plastered	0.016	0.020	0.024
d. Cement rubble masonry	0.020	0.025	0.030
e. Dry rubble on riprap	0.020	0.030	0.035
3. Gravel bottom with sides of:			
a. Formed concrete	0.017	0.020	0.025
b. Random stone in mortar	0.020	0.023	0.026
c. Dry rubble or riprap	0.023	0.033	0.036
4. Brick			
a. Glazed	0.011	0.013	0.015
b. In cement mortar	0.012	0.015	0.018
5. Metal			
a. Smooth steel surfaces	0.011	0.012	0.014
b. Corrugated metal	0.021	0.025	0.030
6. Asphalt			
a. Smooth	0.013	0.013	
b. Rough	0.016	0.016	
7. Vegetal lining	0.030		0.500

TABLE C-3

Chapter 3— Basic Data Requirements

Table 3-1 (Continued) Manning's 'n' Values

Type of Channel and Description	Minimum	Normal	Maximum
<i>C. Excavated or Dredged Channels</i>			
1. Earth, straight and uniform			
a. Clean, recently completed	0.016	0.018	0.020
b. Clean, after weathering	0.018	0.022	0.025
c. Gravel, uniform section, clean	0.022	0.025	0.030
d. With short grass, few weeds	0.022	0.027	0.033
2. Earth, winding and sluggish			
a. No vegetation	0.023	0.025	0.030
b. Grass, some weeds	0.025	0.030	0.033
c. Dense weeds or aquatic plants in deep channels	0.030	0.035	0.040
d. Earth bottom and rubble side	0.028	0.030	0.035
e. Stony bottom and weedy banks	0.025	0.035	0.040
f. Cobble bottom and clean sides	0.030	0.040	0.050
3. Dragline-excavated or dredged			
a. No vegetation	0.025	0.028	0.033
b. Light brush on banks	0.035	0.050	0.060
4. Rock cuts			
a. Smooth and uniform	0.025	0.035	0.040
b. Jagged and irregular	0.035	0.040	0.050
5. Channels not maintained, weeds and brush			
a. Clean bottom, brush on sides	0.040	0.050	0.080
b. Same as above, highest stage of flow	0.045	0.070	0.110
c. Dense weeds, high as flow depth	0.050	0.080	0.120
d. Dense brush, high stage	0.080	0.100	0.140

Other sources that include pictures of selected streams as a guide to n value determination are available (Fasken, 1963; Barnes, 1967; and Hicks and Mason, 1991). In general, these references provide color photos with tables of calibrated n values for a range of flows.

Although there are many factors that affect the selection of the n value for the channel, some of the most important factors are the type and size of materials that compose the bed and banks of a channel, and the shape of the channel. Cowan (1956) developed a procedure for estimating the effects of these factors to determine the value of Manning's n of a channel. In Cowan's procedure, the value of n is computed by the following equation: