Best Management Practices (BMPs) are used in stormwater management to prevent and mitigate problems related to stormwater. BMPs include mechanisms that control the volume, rate, and quality of stormwater. BMPs also include practices that prevent the creation of stormwater runoff and stormwater pollution. BMPs used in stormwater management are classified as either non-structural or structural.

**Non-Structural BMPs**

Non-structural BMPs include design approaches and practices that are used for their ability to prevent the occurrence of stormwater runoff. A majority of non-structural BMPs must be incorporated during site development.

- **Principle Groups of Non-Structural BMPs**
  - Protect Sensitive & Special Value Features
  - Cluster & Concentrate
  - Minimize Disturbance & Maintenance
  - Reduce Impervious Cover
  - Disconnect / Distribute / Decentralize
  - Source Control

**Structural BMPs**

Structural BMPs are stormwater management techniques that have to be constructed and are typically used to mitigate the effects of stormwater runoff. Structural BMPs can be implemented during site development and in retrofit situations.

- **Principle Groups of Structural BMPs**
  - Volume / Peak Rate Reduction by Infiltration
  - Volume / Peak Rate Reduction
  - Runoff Quality / Peak Rate BMPs
  - Restoration BMPs
  - Other BMPs & Related Structural Measures

This information was adapted from the Pennsylvania Stormwater Best Practices Manual. Check out SPC’s other fact sheets to learn more about specific BMPs, flooding, and more.