CHANGES FROM 2020 SWMM TO 2026 SWMM

Abbreviations and Definitions

Deleted abbreviations and definitions that are no longer used.

Added new abbreviations and definitions that are used.

Updated definitions based on industry standards or revised stormwater code.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Removed information on organization of manual because it is part of the table of contents.

Removed information on best management practices because it is covered in the design section.

Updated information on impacts of stormwater on water-quality and the regulatory requirements issued by DEQ to the City (MS4 Permit, UIC Permit, and TMDL allocations).

Updated information on climate change and impacts of stormwater volume on streams (hydromodification).

Added a section on stormwater documents used for design and their hierarchy.

Chapter 2: Project Planning, Permits, and Stormwater Management Requirements (now "Development Process")

Removed information on permits and non-stormwater discharges.

Moved information on project classification into 2026 Chapter 3 (Stormwater Thresholds).

Moved information on design professional requirements and stormwater facility certifications to 2026 Chapter 4 (Submittals).

Moved information on Oregon Drainage Law and site assessments into 2026 Chapter 6 (Site Assessment).

Moved information on equivalent stormwater management, onsite retention, treatment, and flow control to 2026 Chapter 7 (Stormwater Facility Selection). Updated the information on pre-treatment, treatment, and flow control.

Moved information on erosion and sediment control (ESC) permits to 2026 Chapter 12 (Erosion and Sediment Control).

Updated tables and figures showing the development process.

Updated information on exemptions and waivers (now variances) and moved to 2026 Chapter 3 (Stormwater Thresholds).

Updated information on report submittals and DEQ notification for underground injection controls and moved to 2026 Chapter 4 (Submittals).

Added information for restoring, renovating, replacing, and augmenting stormwater facilities.

Chapter 3: Site Assessment (now "Stormwater Thresholds")

Moved map requirements and design certification requirements to 2026 Chapter 4 (Submittals).

Moved information on soil types, hydrology, geotechnical considerations, contaminated soil, and setbacks to 2026 Chapter 6 (Site Assessment). Updated the information on soil mixes and increased setback for contaminated sites from 100 to 200 ft.

Moved information on proprietary stormwater management to 2026 Chapter 9 (Stormwater Facility Design).

Moved information on soil quality to Appendix C (Plant Selection and Approved Plant List).

Updated information on infiltration tests and moved to 2026 Chapter 6 (Site Assessments).

Updated information on stormwater facility types and moved to 2026 Chapter 7 (Stormwater Facility Selection).

Updated information on offsite discharges and moved to 2026 Chapter 7 (Stormwater Facility Selection) and 2026 Chapter 9 (Stormwater Facility Design).

Added requirement for all projects that exceed the stormwater thresholds to provide stormwater management even if a building permit is not required.

Chapter 4: Stormwater Facility Design Guidelines (now new Chapter "Submittals")

New chapter that clarifies the information required for submittal of construction plans and reports for review.

Removed the Portland PAC from the list of approved stormwater models. Removed the design equations because they are available in general hydrology/hydraulics textbooks.

Removed information on manholes – they are now covered in the Engineering Design Standards.

Removed green roofs and rainwater harvesting from list of approved stormwater facilities because of complexity of maintenance.

Moved information on soils to 2026 Chapter 6 (Site Assessments).

Moved performance standards to 2026 Chapter 7 (Stormwater Facility Selection).

Moved and updated information on stormwater facility design methods to 2026 Chapter 8 (Stormwater Modeling).

Moved information on orifices to 2026 Chapter 8 (Stormwater Modeling).

Moved design requirements for stormwater facilities to 2026 Chapter 9 (Stormwater Facility Design).

Merged sheetflow dispersion into vegetated filter strips because they are so similar.

Moved information on landscape design to Appendix C (Plant Selection and Approved Plant List).

Updated information on vegetation and moved to 2026 Chapter 9 (Stormwater Facility Design).

Chapter 5: Conveyance Design (now new Chapter "Source Controls")

New Chapter that formalizes current engineering policy to provide cover for loading docks and areas used for storage of raw materials and waste. Formalized engineering policy that requires trash areas to be covered and connected to the wastewater system.

Deleted most of this chapter because it is now covered in the Engineering Design Standards.

Moved requirement to use City's Standard Details to 2026 Chapter 4 (Submittals).

Moved information on floodplains to 2026 Chapter 6 (Site Assessments).

Moved information on location for offsite discharges to 2026 Chapter 7 (Stormwater Facility Selection).

Updated and moved information on upstream/downstream impacts and downstream analysis to 2026 Chapter 8 Stormwater Modeling.

Updated and moved information on laterals and extensions to the public stormwater system to 2026 Chapter 10 (Conveyance Design).

Chapter 6: Erosion and Sediment Control (now "Site Assessments")

Most of the information in the 2020 chapter was updated and moved to a new 2026 Chapter 12 (Erosion and Sediment Controls).

Added a flowchart on site assessment process.

Added prohibition of groundwater disposal into stormwater facilities to conform with municipal code and to prevent overflow from stormwater facilities.

Added a maximum infiltration rate (10 inches/hr) for design to prevent lateral migration of stormwater.

Added requirement for a groundwater mounding analysis for projects treating >10,000 sq ft of impervious area to prevent lateral migration of stormwater to adjacent properties.

Added requirement that stormwater facilities cannot be in a floodplain nor in the area flooded during the 25-yr 24-hour storm.

Added exemption to floodplain requirements for maintenance on existing facilities and culverts.

Chapter 7: Stormwater BMP Maintenance (now "Stormwater Facility Selection")

Moved inspection information to 2026 Chapter 11 (Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities).

Consolidated maintenance requirements common among vegetated facilities to one section.

Consolidated maintenance requirements common among UICs to one section.

Added facility hierarchy to conform with the NPDES MS4 permit requirements.

Added requirement to treat all stormwater prior to discharge offsite to conform with the NPDES MS4 permit requirements and to provide a path for attaining the City's TMDL allocations issued by DEQ.

Chapter 8: Stormwater Modeling (new Chapter)

Contains information from 2020 SWMM regarding modeling, flow control, and downstream analysis.

Flow control and downstream analysis were updated. Flow control is required for discharge to exempted waters when the public system downstream is already operating at full capacity in order to reduce surcharging of the system. Matching of pre-construction flows is relaxed when a 10-yr 24-hr storm is treated instead of a water-quality storm.

The downstream analysis specifies when a public extension is required. A built-out analysis, instead of qualitative determinations are required to determine if there are downstream capacity issues instead of qualitative determinations.

Chapter 9: Stormwater Facility Design (new Chapter)

Much of the information in this Chapter is also present in the 2020 SWMM.

Added new information on inlets and liners.

Added new requirement for providing maintenance access to underground stormwater facilities.

Chapter 10: Conveyance Design (new Chapter)

Much of the information in this Chapter is in the Engineering Design Standards or was in the 2020 SWMM.

Added requirement that public stormwater system extensions remain in the public right-of-way.

Added design information for culverts, bridges, ditches, and outfalls.

Added prohibition of encroachments in areas of frequent stormwater maintenance or flooding.

Chapter 11: Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities (new Chapter)

Much of the information in this Chapter was in the 2020 SWMM.

Chapter 12: Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC – new Chapter)

Much of the information in this Chapter was in the 2020 SWMM.

Added requirement that non-residential projects must have a certified ESC professional at the project for inspecting the ESCs and updating the ESC plan.

Added requirement for steep slopes (>15%) and riparian areas to have coconut coir blankets to prevent erosion.

Added requirement that concrete washouts must be prefabricated.

Constrained the use of mulch for stabilization to areas < 100 sq ft.

Appendix A
Most of the information was deleted. The stormwater report template was revised. A basic stormwater report was added for projects that use prescriptive sizing.

Appendix B
Most of the information was removed. The infiltration test log was revised and a template added for the infiltration test report.

Appendix C
Removed 2020 information. Now contains information on plant selection and the approved plant list

Appendix D
Removed 2020 information on soil mixes. Soil mix in 2026 SWMM is much simpler (see Chapter 9 – Stormwater Facility Design).

Appendix E
Removed rational method specifications because it is available in general hydrology text books and inherent in most stormwater models.

Appendix F
Information on inputs to SBUH was removed because stormwater models already contain the information. The information on Portland's PAC was removed because it is no longer approved for stormwater design due to differences between the City of Portland and the City of Lake Oswego.

Appendix G
Removed because it is used for street trees and not appropriate for stormwater facilities.

Appendix H
Approved plant lists were moved to 2026 Appendix C. Information on seed mixes were removed in favor of plants in containers.