

Sarah Porter

From: Taber, Bernie - NRCS, West Wareham, MA [bernadette.taber@ma.usda.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:07 PM
To: Sarah Porter
Subject: NB airport

Sarah:

Just happened across Nitsch Engineering to Ken Motta with regards the airport project (and my apology for butting in!). Two very minor points,

- Soils: the Bristol County Soil Survey and even the more recent WebSoilSurvey are to be used as a guide only and are not meant to be used on site specific cases, especially for a site as small as this one. The soil "Udorthents" is typically found in an area that has been previously filled, as to what Hydrologic Soil Group it fits under (A, B, C, or D) can be a matter of interpretation. This interpretation should be left up to a professional soil scientist (not a certified soil evaluator). HSG "B" seems to be a decision, especially if you want to provide more groundwater recharge (required for any new impervious surfaces) or provide some additional peak flow control. I have not seen the plans for the site or run the calculations, so I am not sure how much of a difference HSG B vs C makes.
- Using Manholes as detention ponds. I have seen this being done and I don't encourage it. Detention ponds are designed to drain between storms, allowing for storage of stormwater. Manholes act more like a wet pond, they don't drain fully because the pipe is not at the bottom of the pond. The only "storage" that can be claimed is what is above the outlet pipe. In addition to their "undrained" condition, manholes are partially filled with sediment which reduces any potential storage. Plus whatever "storage" that can be claimed in a manhole is so minor in size.

Neither of these are probably major issues on this site, but it may come up again on other future sites.

Bernie Taber | Soil Conservationist | USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service |
15 Cranberry Highway, West Wareham, Massachusetts 02576
<mailto:bernie.taber@ma.usda.gov> | P: 508 295 5151 x128 | F: 508 291 2368 | www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov

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