



DESCRIPTION

This fact sheet is intended to provide information about permeable pavers and permeable pavement to Mille Lacs County homeowners who may wish to install or retrofit a permeable pavement driveway, sidewalk, or patio on their property. Permeable pavement, also known as porous or pervious pavement, refers to paving that allows stormwater to seep and infiltrate into the ground rather than running off into nearby drains or natural waterways.

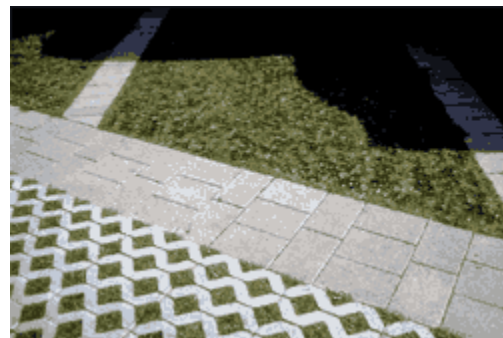
WHY PERMEABLE PAVEMENT?

Permeable pavement is an effective way to reduce the flow of untreated stormwater into surface waters, and allows for increased stormwater infiltration and treatment. The use of permeable pavement has been shown to mimic the breakdown of pollutants that takes place in natural soils. Research has also shown that snow and ice melt faster on permeable pavement than on traditional pavement.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) has established guidelines stating that the use of permeable pavement does not sufficiently replace natural soils and vegetation as a pervious surface/ground cover. Therefore, permeable pavement is considered to be an impervious surface for the purposes of calculating the allowable 25% impervious surface limit in shoreland districts.

While the use of permeable pavement may not reduce shoreland impervious surface limitations, it offers many benefits as a method of stormwater management. Article 305.17 of the Mille Lacs County Development Ordinance outlines local standards for stormwater management.



GUIDELINES FOR PERMEABLE PAVEMENT USE

- The slope of the pervious pavement system should not exceed 2%.
- There should be a separation of three feet between the bottom of the pervious system and seasonally saturated soils or bedrock.
- The system should be designed to infiltrate the first inch of any storm.

