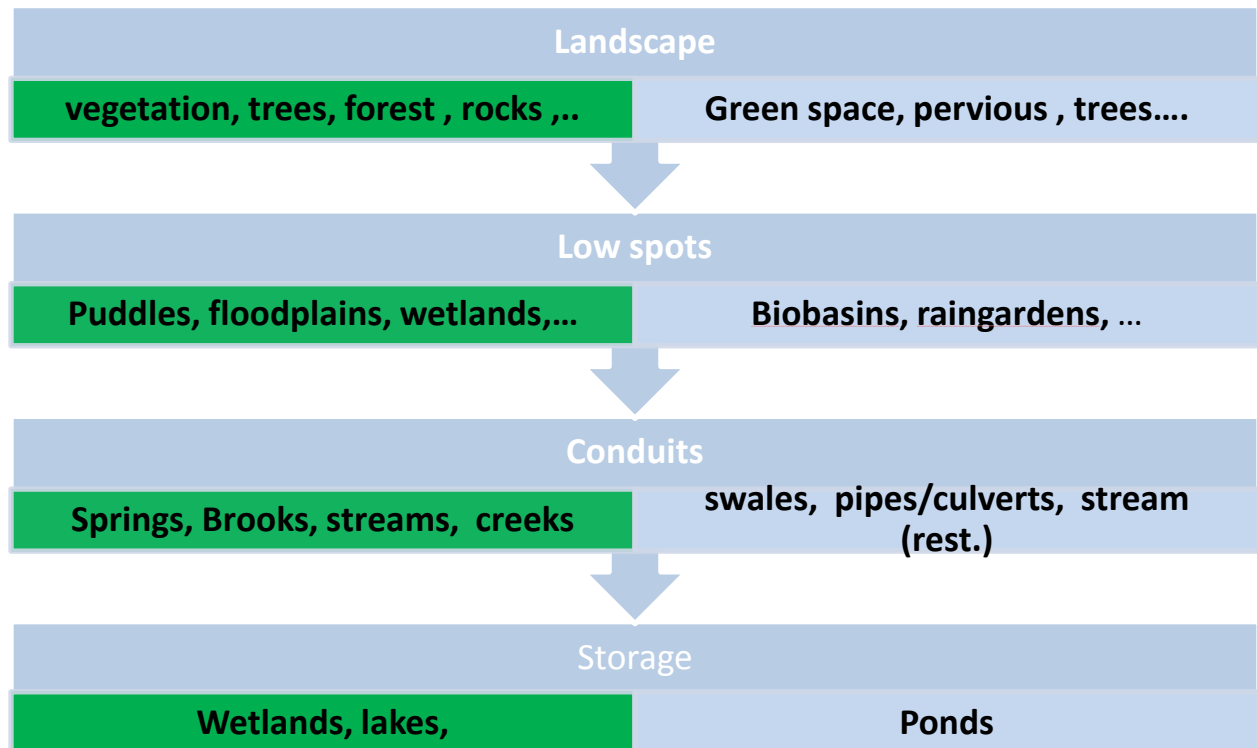


There Are No Silver Bullets

In managing stormwater, the goal is to mimic nature, by designing like nature. All of these BMPs are meant to do that—but again the most effective BMP is to preserve the existing natural landscape and prevent the loss of natural ecological functions. If the natural **features** (streams, wetlands, pot holes) are gone, then we can bring back the lost **functions**, and the benefits, using green infrastructure.

No single BMP will “fix” a stormwater management problem. Managing stormwater effectively requires us to use a treatment train of practices that restore the functions of natural systems that are lost when we develop land for human use.

Key features and functions in preserving natural areas:



As you think about your capstone project, look for the natural features and functions that remain on your site, and how you can restore the features and functions that have been lost or damaged. Begin thinking about the options you have for building a treatment train on your site.

A rainbarrel can harvest water from a roof. The overflow can be directed to a raingarden. The overflow from the raingarden can be directed to another BMP. On a residential site, it is entirely possible to harvest or infiltrate every drop that fall on the site. And every drop matters.