

# Tree Canopy and Water Export from Pervious and Impervious Land Uses

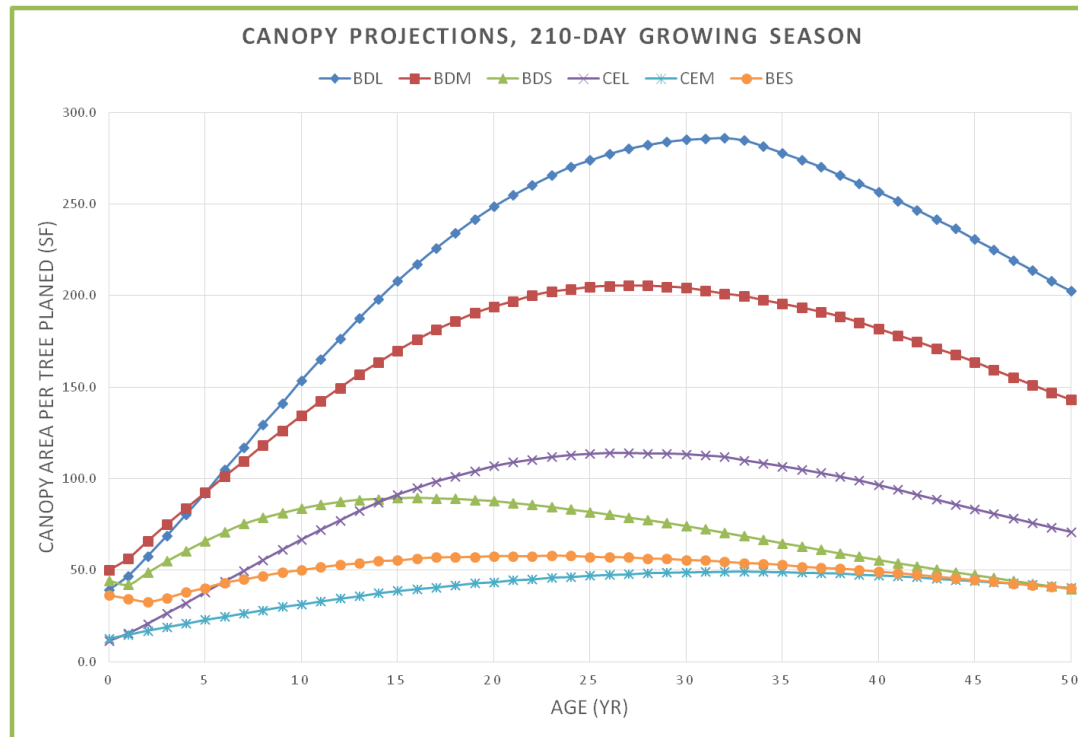


**Justin Hynicka**  
**Chesapeake Watershed Forester**  
**MD Dept. of Natural Resources - Forest Service**



# This project builds on work by the Tree Canopy EP

- Use existing literature review on urban tree planting and canopy (Karen Cappiella, Center for Watershed Protection)



(Ari Daniels and  
Neely Law)

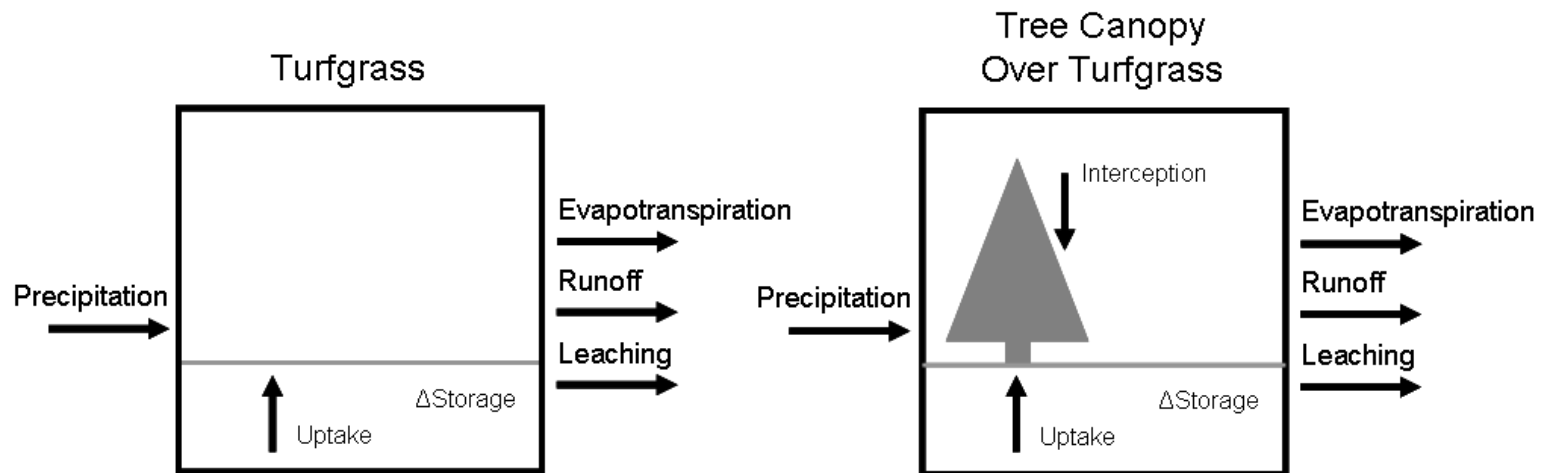
## This project builds on work by the Tree Canopy EP

---

- Use existing literature review on urban tree planting and canopy (Karen Cappiella, Center for Watershed Protection)
- **For a long-term practice in complex watersheds modeling is the best approach to estimate relative loading rates among land classes**
- Combine lit review with other data on plant physiology into a generalizable water balance model (and ultimately TN, TP, and sediments)

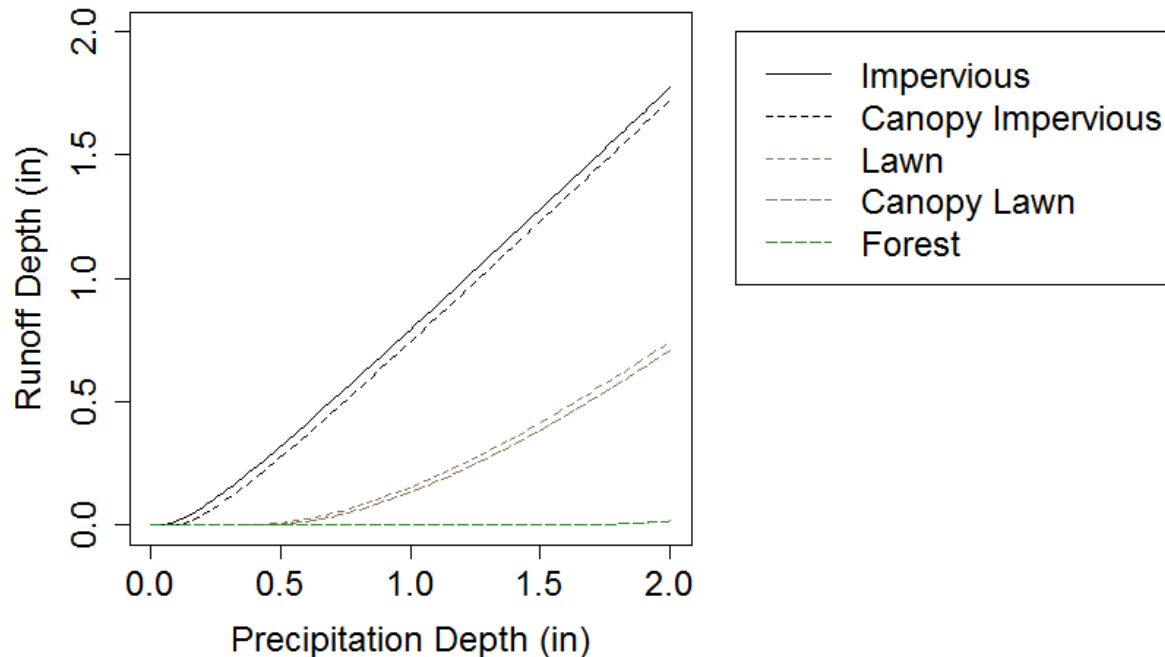
# Why water balance, and what does it look like?

- Regardless of the source, it is how nutrients and sediment are transported by water that determines the impacts to the quality of streams, rivers, and estuaries

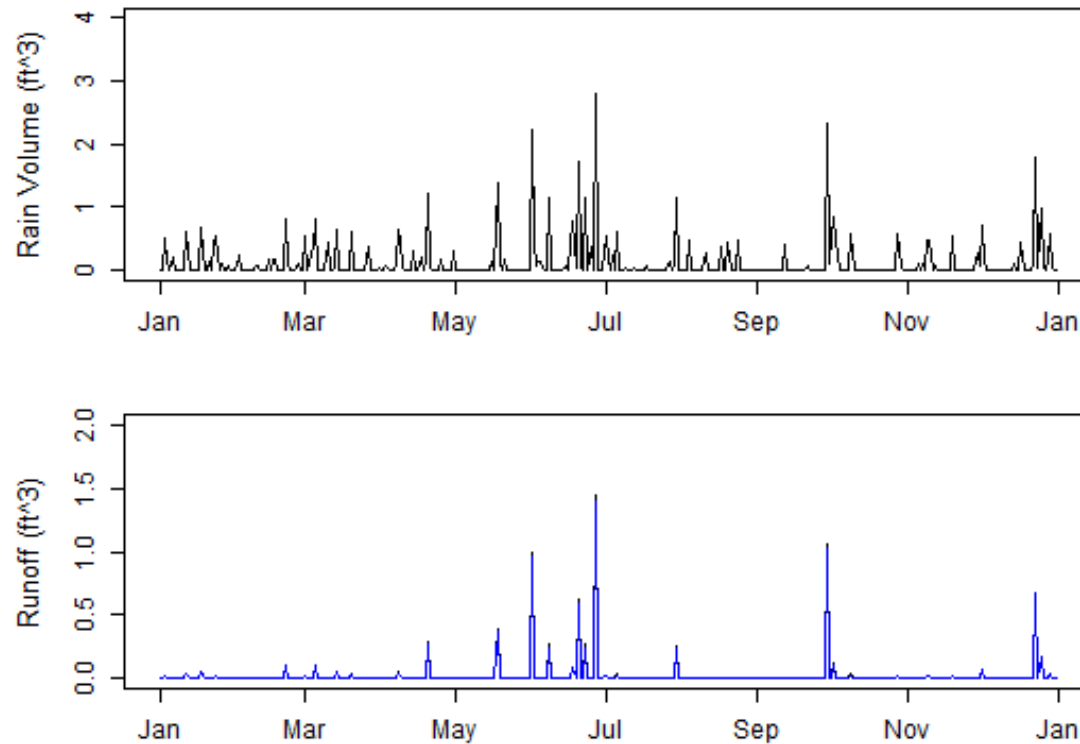


# SCS Curve Number Method used to estimate runoff

- Widely used method that can be applied to multiple land cover types
- Runoff estimated from local weather data

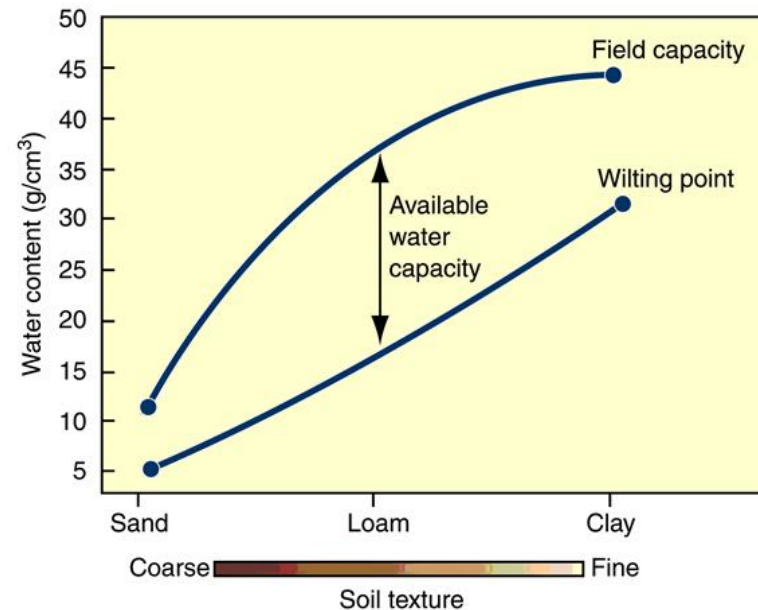


# Rainfall and runoff for pervious land in Baltimore (2015)



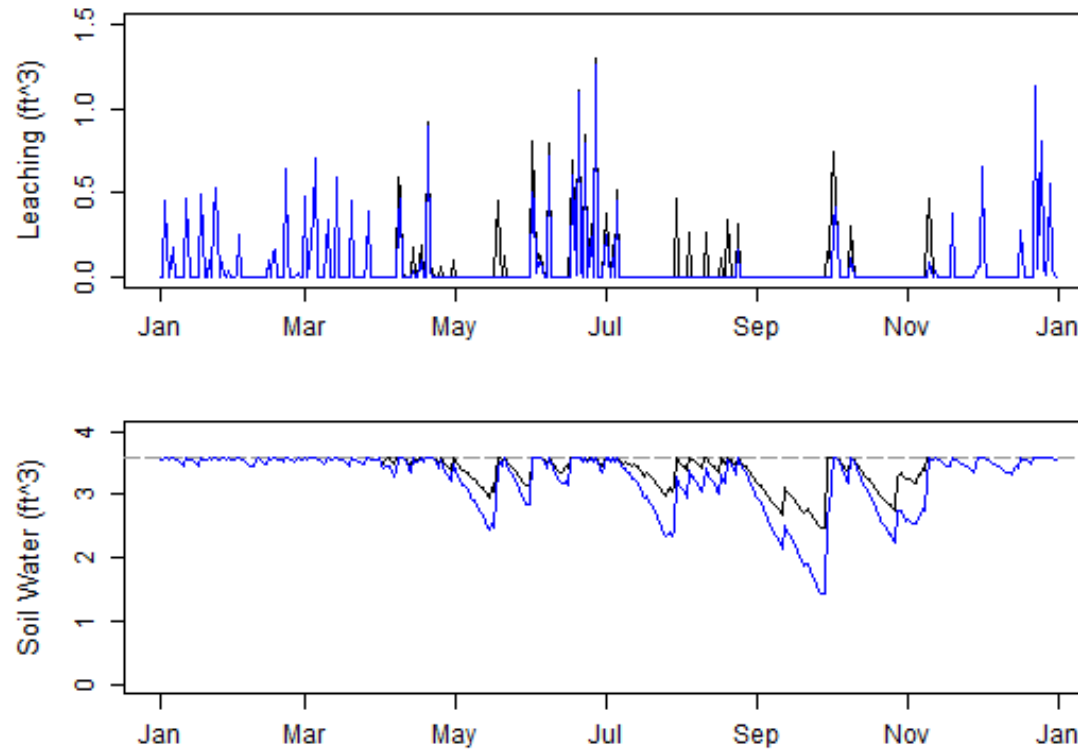
# Plants transpire water from the soil

- Average daily evapotranspiration (ET) rates for trees and turfgrass from the literature
- Limit ET based on the volume of soil water available to plants (silt clay loam)



Copyright © Benjamin Cummings, an imprint of Addison Wesley Longman

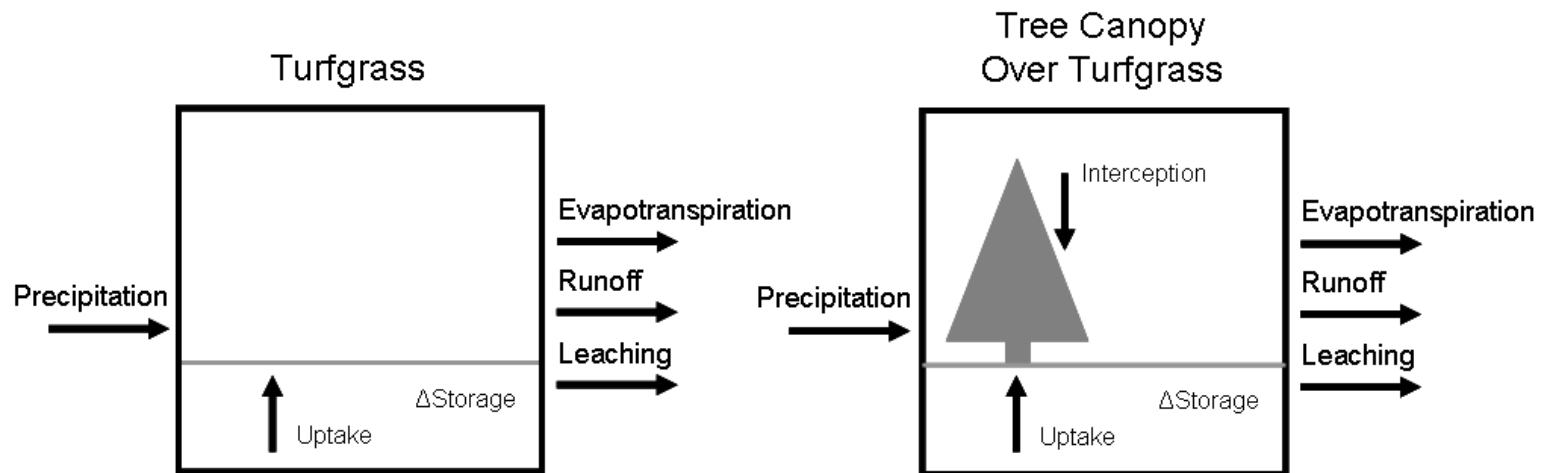
# Plants transpire water from the soil in between rain events





# Why water balance, and what does it look like?

- Regardless of the source, how nutrients and sediment are transported by water impacts the quality of streams, rivers, and estuaries

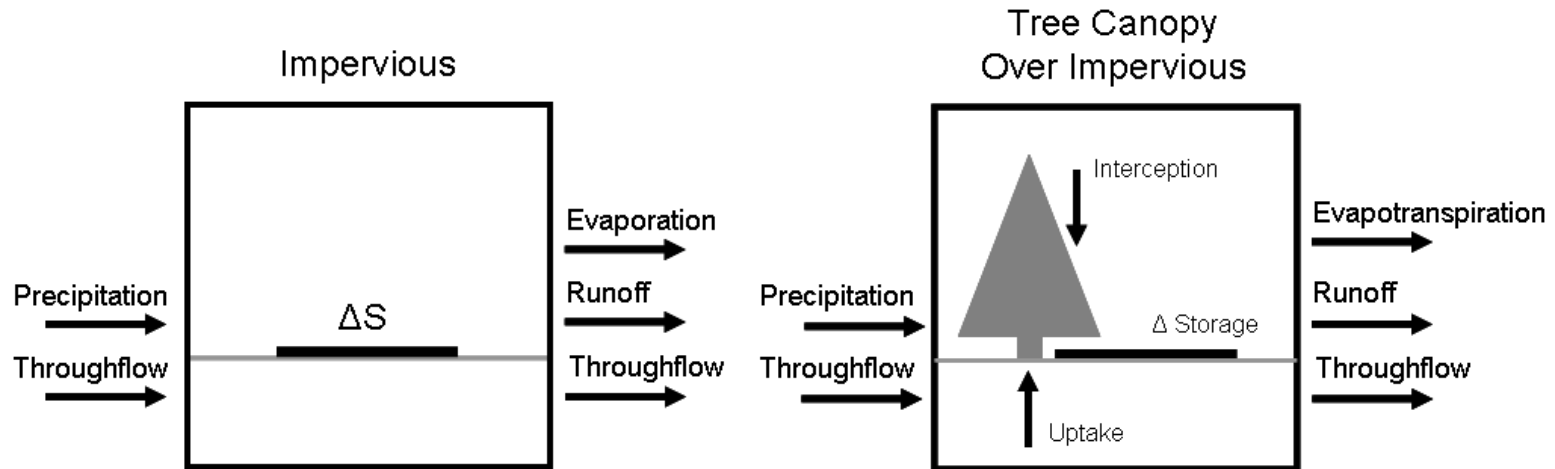


# Preliminary results for tree canopy over pervious

City	Precip. (ft <sup>3</sup> )	Runoff Red. (%)	Leaching Red. (%)	Total (%)
Baltimore, MD	45.9	5.2	23.3	19.5
Hagerstown, MD	25.4	11.3	48.0	44.2
Salisbury, MD	46.1	5.8	22.5	19.3
Binghamton, NY	38.3	8.1	26.0	23.5
Bradford, PA	35.0	10.3	28.3	26.7
Wilkes-Barre, PA	28.0	9.1	42.9	37.9
Roanoke, VA	48.9	5.9	20.7	17.5
Norfolk, VA	45.0	5.0	24.2	19.7

# Canopy over impervious surfaces has unique challenges

- Requires a source of water and nutrients to build biomass that cannot be supplied by atmospheric sources
- Nutrient cycling has a net loading rate ***less than or equal to zero***



# Preliminary results for tree canopy over impervious

City	Precip. (ft <sup>3</sup> )	Runoff Red. (%)	Throughflow Red. (%)	Total (%)
Baltimore, MD	45.9	5.2	24.3	14.5
Hagerstown, MD	25.4	9.5	23.8	19.2
Salisbury, MD	46.1	5.0	23.8	14.1
Binghamton, NY	38.3	8.2	20.2	14.9
Bradford, PA	35.0	10.0	18.3	15.1
Wilkes-Barre, PA	28.0	9.0	23.5	18.4
Roanoke, VA	48.9	5.2	22.8	13.3
Norfolk, VA	45.0	4.8	24.5	14.4

## Next Steps...

- Continue to synthesize data on nutrient concentrations and sediment loads in runoff and soil leachates

