

## CASE STUDY: INFRASTRUCTURE

# Town of Morris Low Impact Development Design Manual

**Lead Agency:** Northwest Conservation District and Northwest Hills Council of Governments  
**Consultant:** Steven Trinkaus, P.E., Northwest Conservation District, and Tom McGown  
**Funding:** [The Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation](#)  
**Report:** [Building Municipal Resiliency and Climate Adaptation through LID](#) and [LID Design Manual](#)

### Project Overview:

The LISD Design Manual includes specific information needed by engineers and project designers to successfully construct projects.

Trinkaus Engineering in cooperation with Morris' town planner reviewed the municipal planning and zoning regulations, town ordinances, and inland wetlands and watercourses regulations for changes needed to implement the manual. While the manual contains the majority of the LID strategy, the municipal regulations and ordinances will require changes to definitions, impervious surface coverage allowances, and approval procedures to implement the manual completely.

Additionally, Northwest Conservation District worked with several regional stakeholders including members of the 'design/build' community, land use commission members, and environmental conservation groups to increase their familiarity with LID techniques and the manual's contents.

### How Project Contributes to Rural Resiliency:

The LISD practices described in the manual serve to increase the resilience of Connecticut's small towns by protecting their drinking water supplies and other water resources, improving their water quality within watersheds, protecting agricultural resources, and protecting the built human environment from flooding. Thus, this product serves as a model for other small towns in the region and statewide looking to tackle similar strategies.

### Suggestions for towns and/or COGs to assist in this type of project:

Hiring an engineer for this process was important for many reasons: communicating pollution reduction loading, critical upland zones, and reviewing town regulations to incorporate the new requirements. Towns will likely need ongoing support during implementation of the design manual.

### Contact for Questions:

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