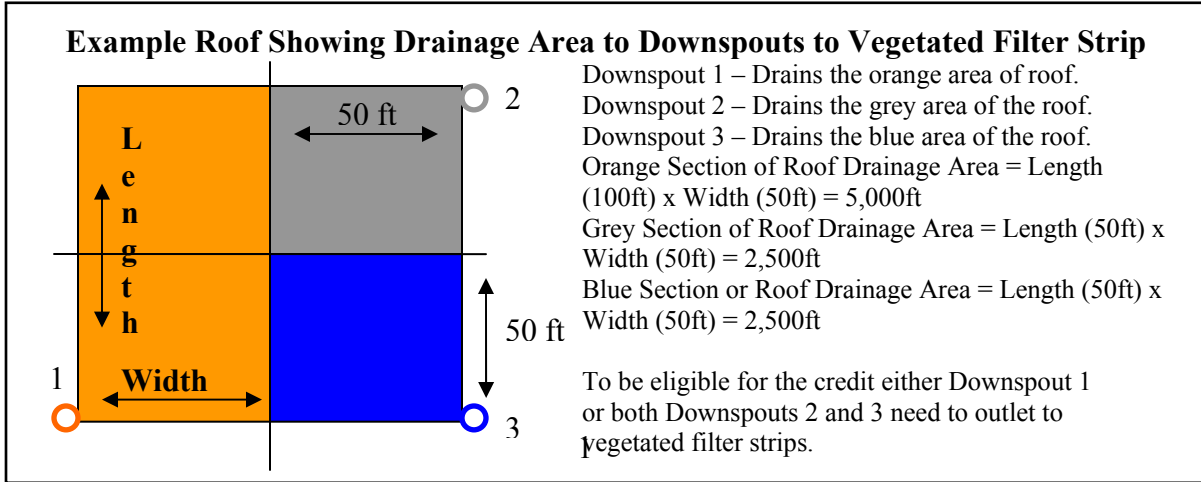


*Fact Sheet on Residential Vegetated Filter Strips*

Vegetated filter strips are uniform strips of dense turf, meadow grasses, trees or other vegetation with a minimum slope to treat the water flowing from impervious surfaces. In certain circumstances a large lawn that receives runoff from impervious areas of a property may meet the criteria for a grass filter strip. To obtain an individual residential property credit for vegetated filter strips the following criteria must be met.

- a. 50% of the property’s roof area must drain to the vegetated filter strip.



- b. Runoff from downspouts must be spread out using splash block prior to reaching filter strip.
- c. The slope of a vegetated filter strip must be greater than 1% and less than 5%.
- d. Filter strips must be fully vegetated, and vegetation must be kept healthy.
- e. Vegetated filter strips must have a minimum slope length of 50 feet, but should be designed to provide a length based on their slope within the ranges noted in Table 1.

**Table 1: Minimum length of vegetated filter strips**

Slope of Filter Strip	Minimum Length of Filter Strip
1 %	50 feet
2 %	120 feet
3 %	135 feet
4 %	170 feet
5%	210 feet

**Maintenance Guidelines:** Only a minimum amount of maintenance is necessary to ensure continued functioning of vegetated filter strips.

1. Maintain healthy vegetation along the filter strip. If planted with grass, the height should be 3-4 inches.
2. If erosion occurs causing rills and gullies, repair and stabilize with seed or sod.
3. Check splash blocks twice a year to make sure they are not broken or deteriorating. Replace as needed.