

wastewater treatment & constructed wetlands

Basic treatment of sewage includes three stages, known as Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Treatment.

Primary treatment involves separating out sludge and sediments from liquid. Generally, this process removes only 1/3 of the biological oxygen demand (BOD) from the effluent.

Secondary treatment involves aeration/oxidation of the effluent and contact between the water and aerobic microorganisms. After secondary treatment, approximately 90% of the BOD is removed. Conventional wastewater treatment plants then send the effluent through a stage of chlorination and return it to local surface water. Using this treatment sequence, BOD is lowered, but nitrogen and phosphorus still remain. These inorganic nutrients can lead to algal blooms in surface water. To address this problem, some wastewater treatment plants direct secondary effluent into as tertiary treatment systems.

Tertiary treatment systems are also known as "advanced treatment" or "polishing."

Constructed wetlands have become popular for accomplishing tertiary treatment. The anoxic soil conditions associated with wetland plants allow for nitrogen and phosphorus to be bio-chemically transformed and removed from the water.

Wetlands are landscapes where land and water meet. Natural wetlands are amongst the most biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet. The combination of vegetation and soils in wetland systems make them well-suited for trapping and filtering water-borne pollutants.

Numerous precedents exist for constructed wetlands that successfully remove contaminants and decrease BOD, based on the same processes that occur in natural wetlands. In addition to wastewater treatment wetlands, some constructed wetland systems target pollutants in stormwater runoff (heavy metals, nutrients, and suspended solids).

Water depths in wetlands can fluctuate from 0-100 cm of standing water, depending on the season. The plants selected for constructed wetlands should be tolerant of fluctuating water levels and to adapted to the local climate.



possible locations for new sewage treatment plant



visit to existing sewage treatment plant



primary treatment



secondary treatment

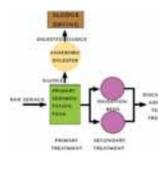


diagram of basic process



secondary treatment



advanced treatment



mechanical tertiary treatment



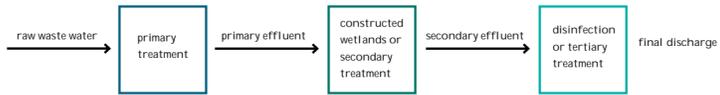
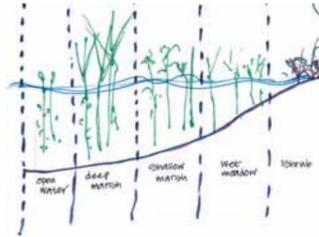
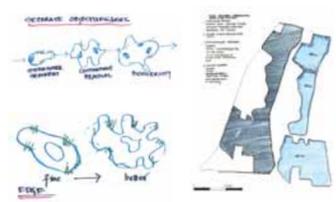
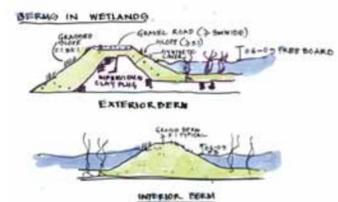
n. river wastewater treatment plant, ny



exeter wastewater treatment plant, uk



west point wastewater treatment plant, seattle, wa



Lake construction

When creating a lake, its intended use should guide its design -- including depth, slopes, character of shoreline, and water quality.

The lake bed must be impermeable in order to maintain the desired water level; this can be achieved with a lining of either dense clay or an impermeable membrane. This is an especially important construction consideration for us, because much of the soil in the Parco Roncagette is contaminated, particularly the sediments in the river channel.

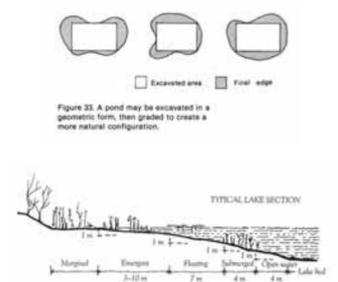


Figure 33. A pond may be excavated in a geometric form, then graded to create a more natural configuration.

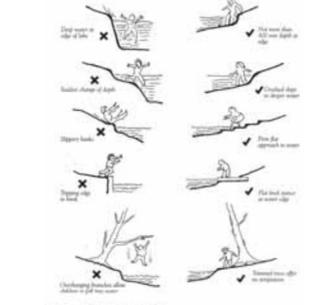


Figure 3.1. Lake and pond banks.

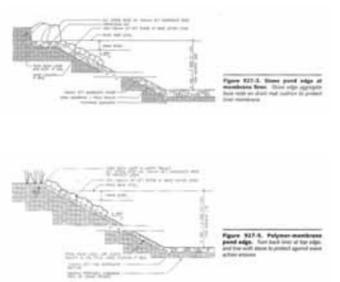


Figure 3.2. Embankment and berm types.



lake edge and type examples

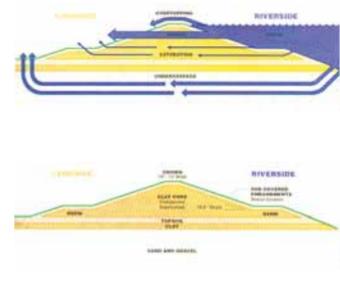
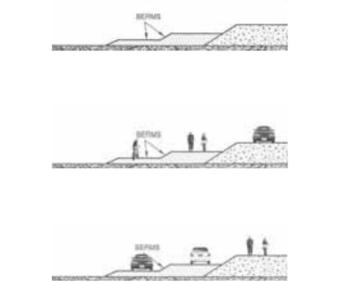
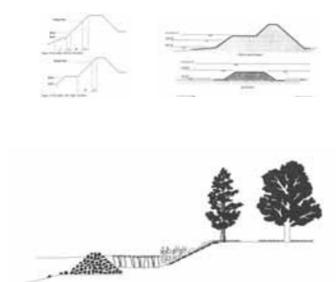
Levees & berms

Levees are an important part of the flood control program within and around Padova. These landforms enable water to flow through the landscape at an elevation below sea level, containing the flood water from adjacent land. It is estimated that the maximum flood water storage capacity of the portion of the Roncagette Canal that lies within the core park area is approximately 740,000 cubic meters.

Berms are added to the levees for stability and as counterweight. They can be used for roads. Berms also have added value of being available for recreational spaces, such as bicycle paths and sports fields.



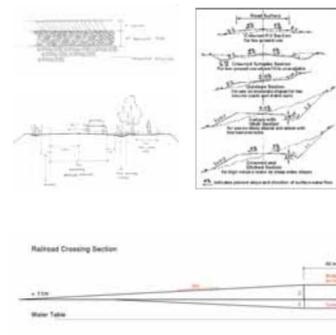
precedent: sonoma park - peter walker & partners



roads, tunnels & bridges

This research includes an analysis of potential new roads and key access points to and within Roncagette park. Possible ways to help automobile traffic cross the railroad include at-grade crossings, bridges and tunnels. At-grade crossings are potentially hazardous. Though tunnels and bridges may be more expensive than at-grade crossings, they offer valuable safety benefits.

Generally, tunnels require less maintenance than bridges and overpasses. Another advantage of building tunnels versus overpasses is that tunnels require less land. Grade-separated crossings need high vertical clearances for the vehicle bridges and long, steep ramps up to the overpasses. Building tunnels conserves land that would otherwise be used for the ramps.



tunnel precedents



la barqueta bridge, seville

transit station research

Good public transportation is a crucial element of regional planning. By offering a variety of ways to move through and around a city, reliance on automobiles for transportation is decreased.

The key components of a transit station are accessibility, mobility and safety. There are numerous design and aesthetic choices that can influence both the transportation functions and public perception of a station. Precedent examples are shown in the images at left.

Sufficient natural lighting makes for a pleasant and safe experience. Clear signage and convenient access to adjacent commercial development are also important.

Transit stations may be built above, below, or adjacent to transportation main lines. Transit hubs that service multiple modes of transportation-- such as bus, tram and train lines-- are more likely to be successful.



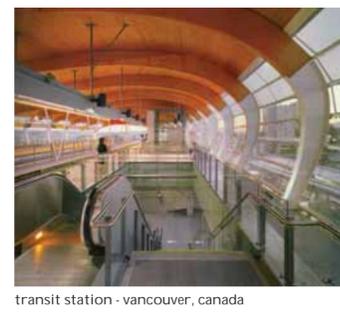
railway station liljestrom, norway



railway station st. denis, france



stazioni del tgv model



transit station - vancouver, canada

planting palette

These images show some of the types of vegetation we imagine for Padova. Many of these species will appear in our suggested alternatives for Roncagette Park and ZIP.

The vegetation is categorized according to the uses where they are most appropriate.



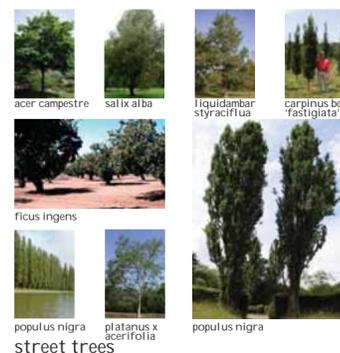
green roof plants



wetland plants



phytoremediation



riparian street trees