

re you an environmentally-conscience homeowner? When the rains fall, where does the water go? Does the surface water find its way to your basement, into the low spots of your driveway, onto your neighbor's property?

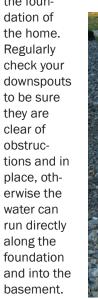
Proper design and excavation is critical to maintaining control of storm water management on your property.

Directing Storm Water Away from Foundation

To prevent water from entering a basement area, fine grad-

ing can direct the water to run away from

the foun-





Proper Retention of Storm

The proper grades and elevations can direct water into designated areas of retention. In some cases, areas that collect water can be remedied quickly by re-grading the area to direct the waters path. An excavation professional can assist in building a storm water infrastructure including swales, basins and

Preventing Erosion

Designing landscape mounds and retaining walls are an effective way to control erosion on your property. It can be as simple as incorporating a mound of dirt into your area or as extensive as building an interlocking masonry retaining wall. There are many options of retaining walls to fit the homeowner's preference for functionality, as well as curb appeal.

A retaining wall is a structure that holds back soil or rock from a building, structure or area. Retaining walls prevent

downslope movement or erosion and provide support for vertical or near-vertical grade changes. Aesthetic retaining walls are generally made of masonry, stone, brick or timber.



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Once popular as an inexpensive retaining material, railroad ties have fallen out of favor due to environmental concerns. Segmental retaining walls have gained popularity over poured in place concrete walls or treated timber walls.

Walls that support heavy loads or exceed four feet in height require special soil reinforcement and should











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be professionally designed and installed. Some municipalities may require engineering and special installation techniques for walls shorter than four feet. You should check with your local municipality before designing or constructing your new retaining wall.

Establishing a pond or restoring a streambed can improve the environment for the future. Again, proper design and construction is most important. Pond construction should start with a meeting with your local Conservation Agency. The second step is approval from your local municipality. Once a design is approved, an experienced excavator can be contracted to bring your imagination to life.

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