# CONTACT US

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## Who can use these tools?

- Local government officials, planners, engineers, and land managers
- Private landowners, developers, architects, planners, and builders
- Federal and state agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Utility and canal companies and storm/waste water managers
- Any interested resident or member of the Jordan River community

## What makes this toolbox different?

It is specifically for the challenges of the Jordan River. It is meant to be a resource to all those who have a role or a desire to protect the river. The intent is to demonstrate how an integrated approach that crosses boundaries and disciplines is what we need to address the issues of the Jordan River.

## How can communities use the best practices?

The toolbox will include a set of best practices that address: land use, environment, recreation, stormwater, and utilities within the ½-mile corridor. Included in the best practice document are implementation tools such as an outline of an annotated riparian corridor ordinance (that communities can easily adapt), guidelines on how to include the best practices in short- and long-term planning mechanisms, and checklists for community self-evaluation and development review.

# BEST PRACTICES
## FOR RIVERFRONT COMMUNITIES

## We all have a stake in the Jordan River

The Jordan River is a lifeline through our communities that provides many critical services, such as mitigating floods, recharging groundwater, filtering pollution, providing critical wildlife habitat, offering recreational opportunities, and being an economic driver. Some of the challenges that exist because everyone is connected are water quality issues, noxious weeds traveling downstream, and downstream flooding. Because of how the river intricately connects us, there is a need to encourage looking at the whole-system, using long-term thinking, and developing best practices that are supported and can assist the communities along the river.

## A new tool for communities

The Jordan River Commission, a partnership of local government officials and community leaders, is working with stakeholders along the river corridor to identify effective strategies and tools for caring for the river and increasing its value—environmentally, recreationally, economically and culturally—for all of us. The collaboration has produced a new resource for anyone interested in conservation and protection of the Jordan River corridor. The draft set of tools, Best Practices for Riverfront Communities, contains recommendations that anyone working or living along the Jordan River can use to maximize river corridor conservation and minimize adverse impacts.

## Community benefits of an improved Jordan River

The Jordan River corridor has tremendous value as a recreational, economic, and cultural resource to Wasatch Front communities, as well as being an important habitat for native wildlife. The best practices offer ways to enhance and maximize the River environment. The natural corridor provides relief from the urban environment and offers recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities. Improving the natural river function through protection and enhancement of the river will create a system more resilient to occasional flooding. Quality open space enhances neighborhood and community economic value.

JORDAN RIVER COMMISSION

JORDANRIVER
OUR RIVER ~ OUR FUTURE

# JORDAN RIVER GRAPH and Best Practices

## HOW IT WORKS
### The Jordan River Graph

*The graph is a map to show the relationship of site context and management strategy.*

### LAND USE

Land use and zoning tools play a critical role in shaping the character and physical development of local communities. Zoning codes, supported by the policies of a general plan, not only set the rules for the development of land but also for the protection of important local resources, such as wildlife habitat, scenic areas, and historic resources.

### ENVIRONMENT

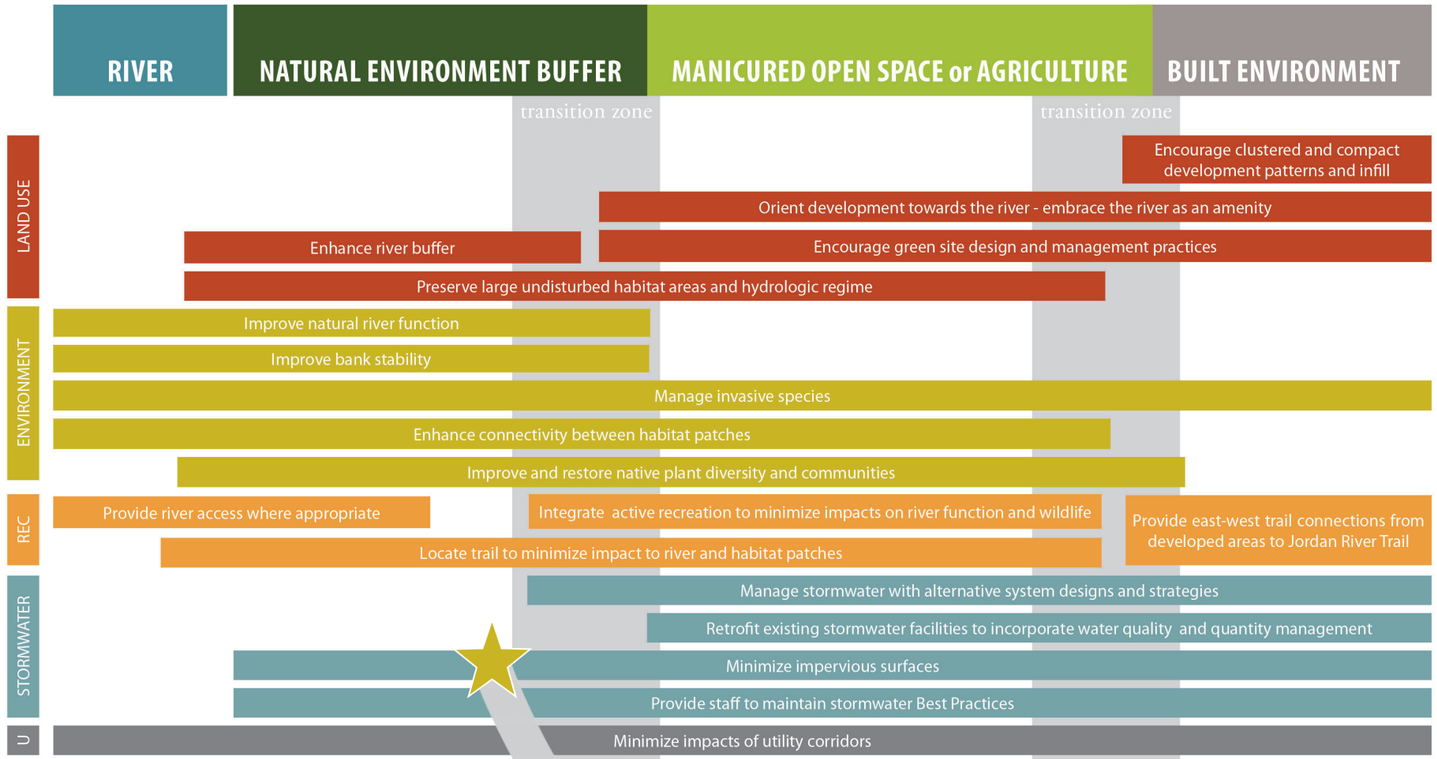
The Jordan River provides important habitat for many native wildlife species. Implementing restoration projects that improve habitat quality also provide social, economic, and safety benefits by reducing impacts of storm events and enhancing a healthy ecosystem.

### RECREATION

The Jordan River corridor is a regional recreation resource that provides all ages and abilities an opportunity to experience nature in the city.

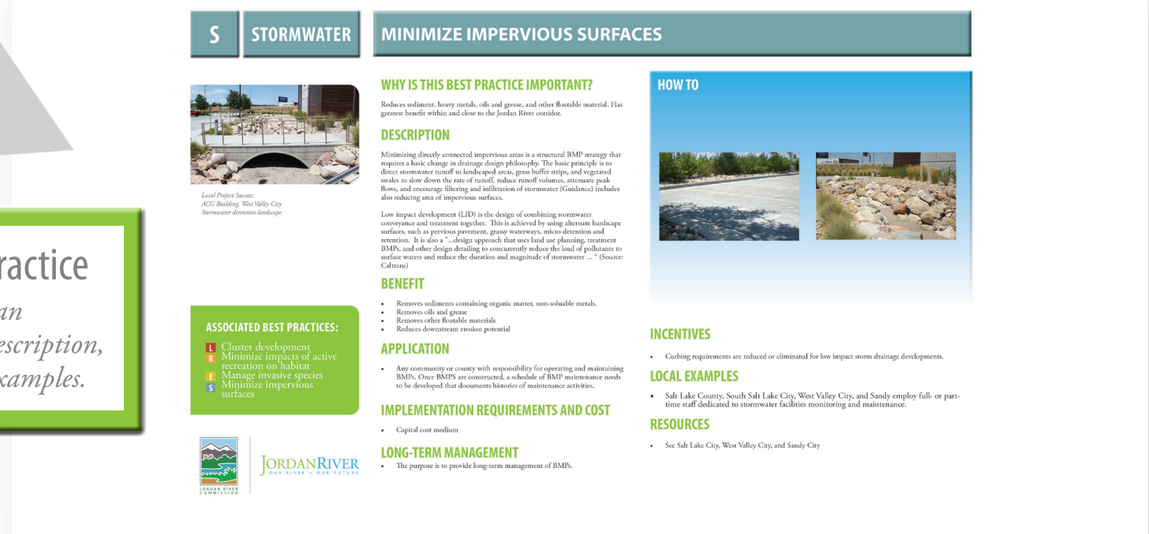
### STORMWATER

Stormwater Best Practices are typically efforts to correct a water quality or quantity problem after it has been created by human activity and is consequently a last defense against pollution of the Jordan River.




## HOW IT WORKS A Best Practice

*Each Best Practice is outlined on an individual page that provides a description, lists benefits, and gives practical examples.*



S STORMWATER

MINIMIZE IMPERVIOUS SURFACES

Local Project Success:
ACC Building, West Valley City
Stormwater detention landscape

ASSOCIATED BEST PRACTICES:
- L Cluster development
- R Minimize impacts of active recreation on habitat
- E Manage invasive species
- S Minimize impervious surfaces

WHY IS THIS BEST PRACTICE IMPORTANT?

Reduces sediment, heavy metals, oils and grease, and other floatable material. Has greatest benefit within and close to the Jordan River corridor.

DESCRIPTION

Minimizing directly connected impervious areas is a structural BMP strategy that requires a basic change in drainage design philosophy. The basic principle is to direct stormwater runoff to landscaped areas, grass buffer strips, and vegetated swales to slow down the rate of runoff, reduce runoff volumes, attenuate peak flows, and encourage filtering and infiltration of stormwater (Guidance) includes also reducing area of impervious surfaces.

Low impact development (LID) is the design of combining stormwater conveyance and treatment together. This is achieved by using alternate hardscape surfaces, such as pervious pavement, grassy waterways, micro detention and retention. It is also a "...design approach that uses land use planning, treatment BMPs, and other design detailing to concurrently reduce the load of pollutants to surface waters and reduce the duration and magnitude of stormwater ..." (Source: Caltrans)

BENEFIT
- Removes sediments containing organic matter, non-soluable metals.
- Removes oils and grease
- Removes other floatable materials
- Reduces downstream erosion potential

APPLICATION
- Any community or county with responsibility for operating and maintaining BMPs. Once BMPS are constructed, a schedule of BMP maintenance needs to be developed that documents histories of maintenance activities.

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS AND COST
- Capital cost medium

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT
- The purpose is to provide long-term management of BMPs.

HOW TO

INCENTIVES
- Curbing requirements are reduced or eliminated for low impact storm drainage developments.

LOCAL EXAMPLES
- Salt Lake County, South Salt Lake City, West Valley City, and Sandy employ full- or part-time staff dedicated to stormwater facilities monitoring and maintenance.

RESOURCES
- See Salt Lake City, West Valley City, and Sandy City

## Our goal is consistent, but flexible, management of the Jordan River environment

The Best Practices provide tangible strategies and tools that counties and cities can use to address issues and preserve and develop the river corridor. The Best Practices are categorized by what they target, such as landuse, environment, recreation, and stormwater management. Each Best Practice lists its benefit and includes implementation options and order of magnitude costs.