

HOW THE RAIN FLOWS

Urban



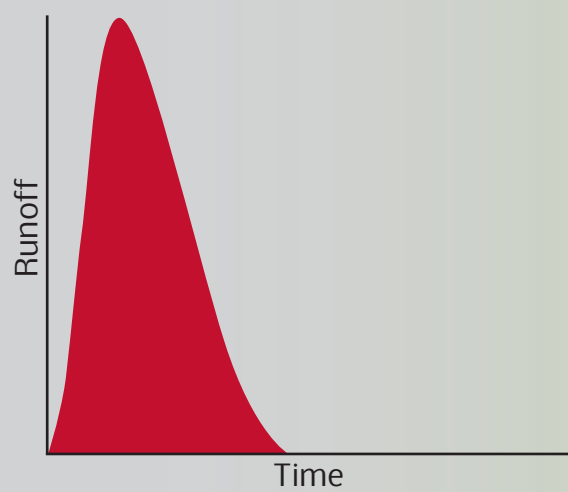
Rain has no place to go except the storm drain and immediately flows through an underground culvert.



A sunless culvert is home to bacteria, sending more polluted water downstream in a rush.



A monitor located in this dry river bed logs a steep spike on the hydrograph below as a deluge of turbulent water flows into the dry river bed.



Suburban



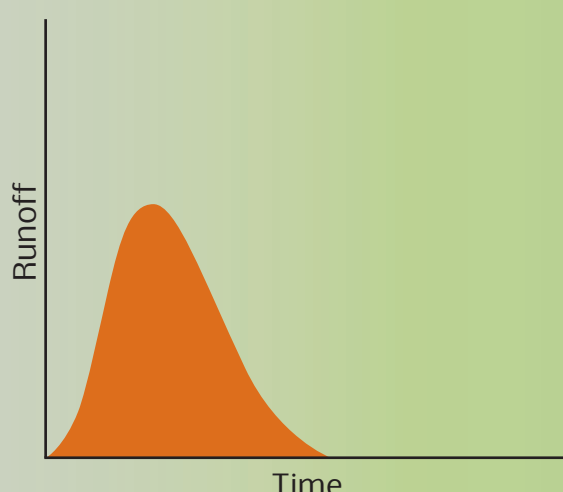
Rain runs down hill off the streets and roofs into a drainage ditch.



A drainage ditch is home to algae, midge and fly larvae when wet, sending unimproved water downstream in a surge.



A monitor located in this river logs a flash flood with a moderate peak on the hydrograph below as the drainage ditches pour into the river.



Rural



Rain slowly infiltrates the ground, soaks into the water table and eventually runs through a perennial stream.



A meandering perennial stream is home to a diverse food web of plants, animals and decomposers that pull nutrients and pollutants up and out of the water, sending clean water down stream at a steady pace.



A monitor located in this river logs a small rise on the hydrograph below as the water creeps and seeps its way to the river.

