

Surface Water – Peaks and Surges

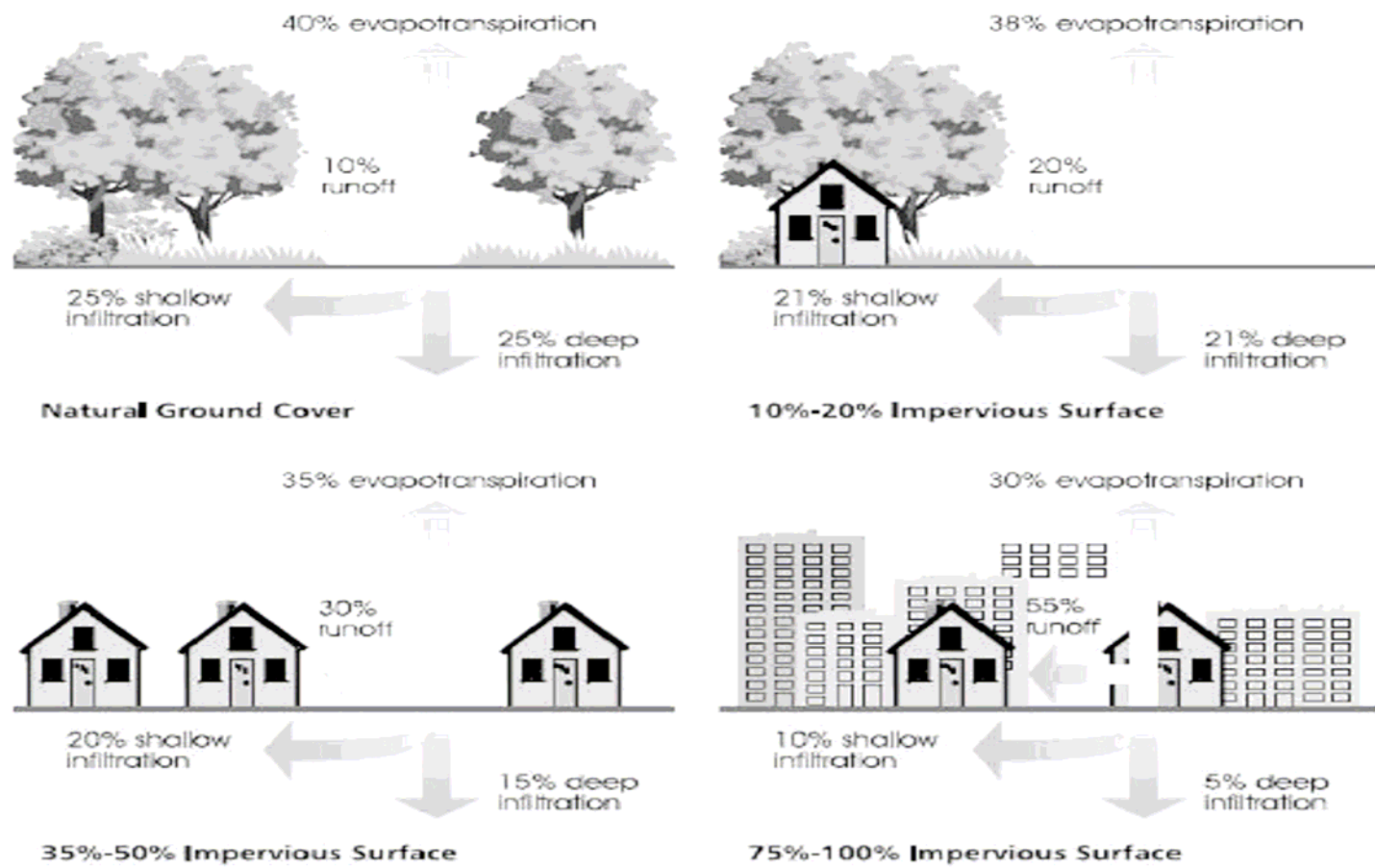
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Surface Water – Peaks and Surges

- Flooding and drainage are high profile issues
- While flooding is a natural process, human actions have a significant impact on it.
- Building in Floodplains
- Increased urbanisation
- Improved drainage

- Often seen as an urban problem
- How can rural areas influence the problem of flooding?

Impact of Development

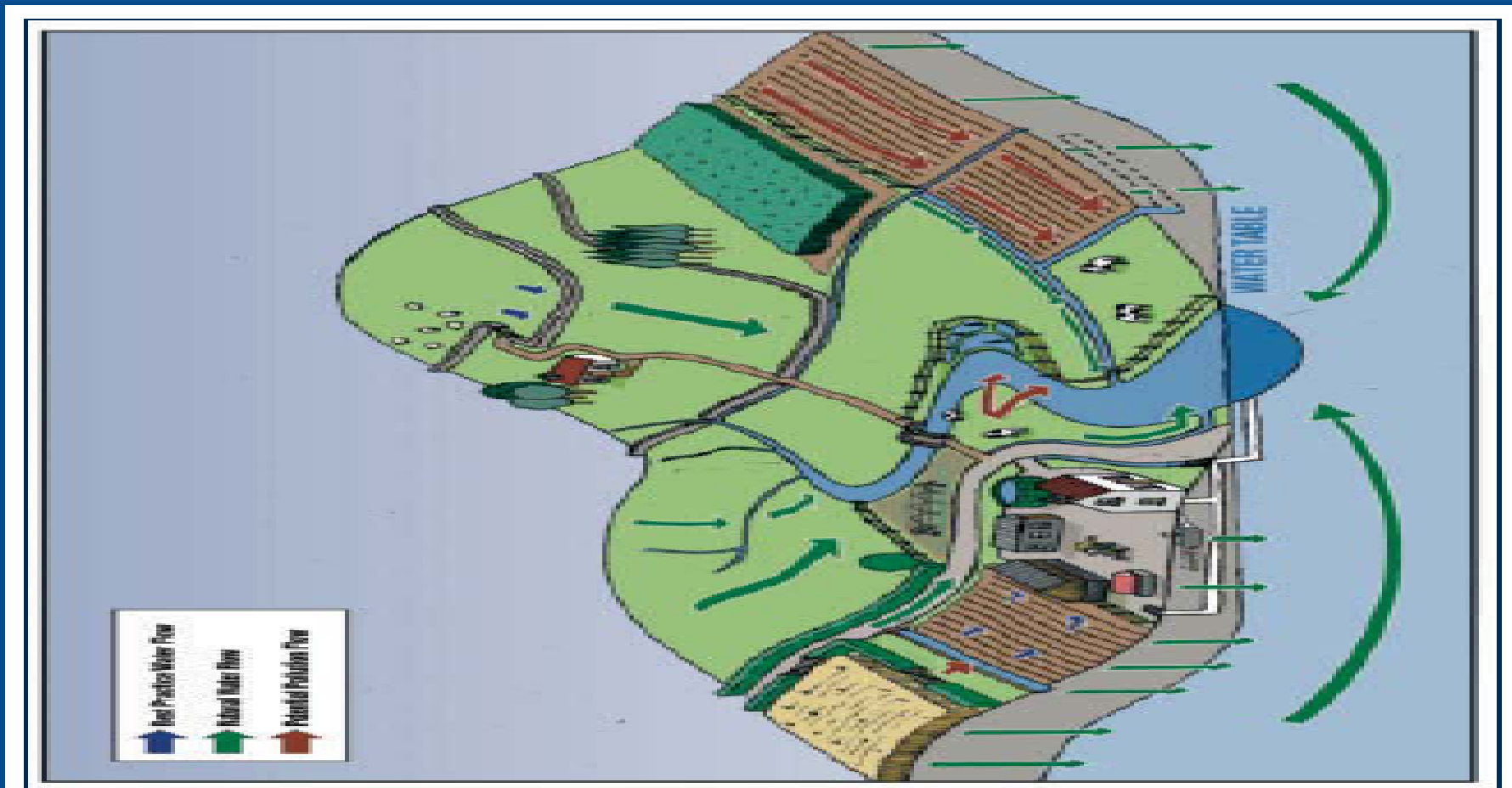


What can we do?



- Rural Areas cover majority of catchment area
- Small changes can improve flood risk, both in area and further afield
- Developed land increases volume of water and speed at which it drains away, compared to natural ground cover.
- When managing run off we should try to slow it down.
- Careful planning can reduce many of the impacts of development.
- Need to move away from the ethos that water must be drained away as quickly as possible

Surface Water Flows in Rural Areas



Individual Schemes



- Water Butts
- Drain small extensions to soakaways
- Gravel or reinforced grass drives instead of tarmac / concrete
- Careful thought on easy maintenance gardens

Larger Scale



Rainwater Harvesting
Schemes

Green Roofs

Sustainable Drainage
Systems

Planning for extreme events

Interception and Infiltration
Ponds (Sustainable
Farming Techniques)



Conclusions

- Speed of runoff from areas can cause problems
- By reducing speed of drainage we encourage infiltration and reduce impact locally and downstream
- Small changes can limit impact of actions