

Runoff Calculations

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Time of Concentration (T_c or t_d)

Time of Concentration and Travel Time (based on Chapter 3 of TR-55)

- **Time of Concentration (T_c):** time required for runoff to travel from the most hydraulically distant point in the watershed to a point of interest (drainage point) within the watershed.
- **Travel Time (T_t):** time required for water to travel from one location to another within a watershed. Travel time is summed within a watershed (to the hydraulically most distant point) to determine the watershed's time of concentration.

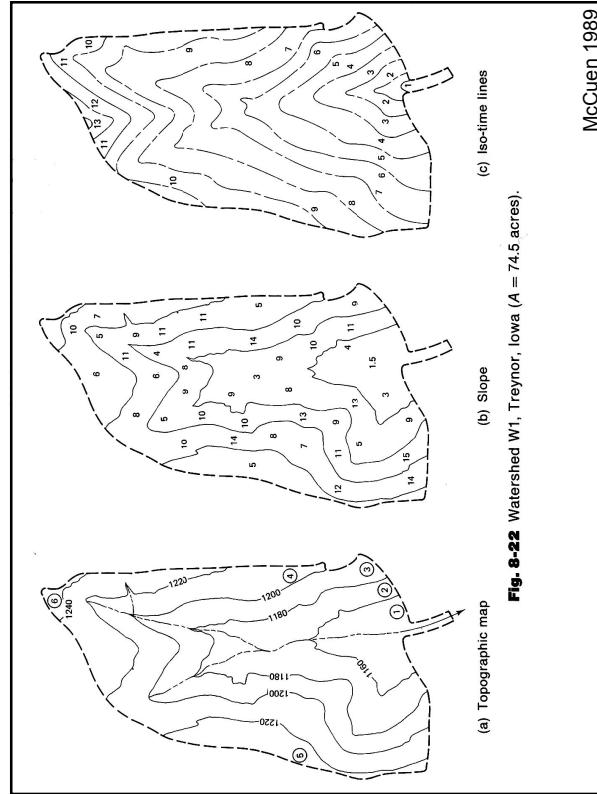
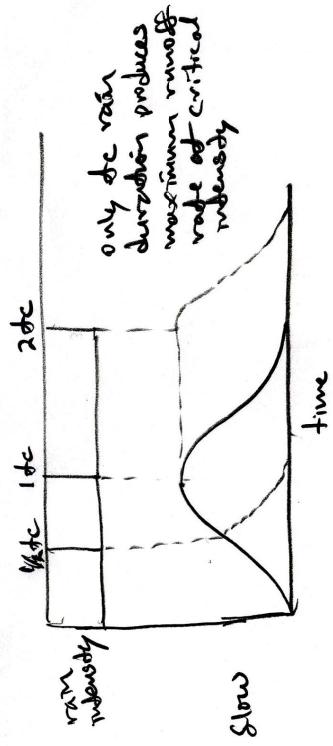


Fig. 8-22 Watershed W1, Treynor, Iowa ($A = 74.5$ acres).

McCuen 1989

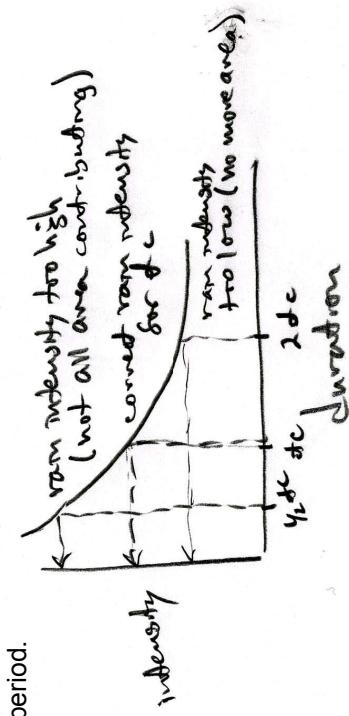
Only a rain duration equal to the T_c produces the maximum peak runoff rate at the critical rain intensity. Shorter duration rains do not produce runoff from the complete area, while longer duration rains do not have any additional contributing areas.



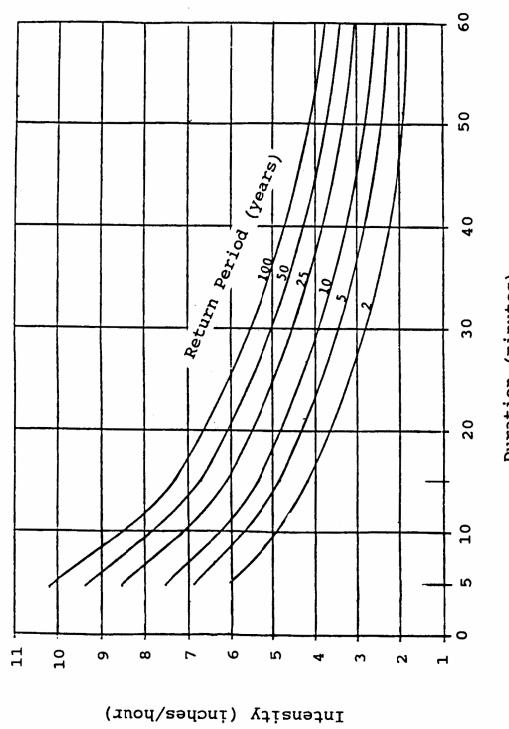
In this example, 13 minutes is the watershed time of concentration, but almost all of the watershed area is contributing runoff at 9 or 10 minutes.

Fig. 8-23 Time-area curve for Watershed W1, Treynor, Iowa. McCuen 1989

Rains having durations equal to the T_c must be used in drainage designs as they produce the critical intensity for the area and the level of service (likelihood of failure in any one year). Longer duration rains have lower intensities for the same service, while shorter duration rains do not have the complete drainage area contributing flows during that time period.



Example Intensity - Duration - Frequency (IDF) Curve



Time of Concentration Estimates using NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) TR-55 Methods

- TR-55 (Technical Reference #55: *Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds*, 1975 and 1986) includes procedures to estimate t_c using three flow segment types:
 - Sheetflow (maximum of 300 ft, limited to shorter lengths by many states and now limited to 150 ft. in WinTR-55)
 - Shallow concentrated flow (paved or unpaved surfaces)
 - Channel flow (using Manning's equation)
- Candidate t_c pathways are drawn on the site map and the travel times for the three flow segments are calculated and summed.
- The t_c for the watershed area is the longest travel time calculated.

Factors affecting Time of Concentration and Travel Time:

- Surface Roughness
 - Channel Shape and Flow Pattern
 - Slope

Travel time is the ratio of the flow length to the flow velocity. The general form of the travel time equation is:

$$T_t (hr) = \frac{L(ft)}{(3600 \text{ sec}/hr)(V[ft/sec])}$$

Time of Concentration is the sum of the Travel Times for the various Consecutive Flow Segments that make up the time of concentration pathway.

$$T_c (hr) = T_{t1} (hr) + T_{t2} (hr) + \dots + T_{tm} (hr)$$

Definitions of Flow Regimes Potentially Involved in Time of Concentration Calculations

- Sheet Flow:** flow over plane surfaces (generally occurs for less than 300 feet of flow). Water depth is less than 0.1 ft.
- Shallow Concentrated Flow:** flow depth is greater than 0.1 ft. Shallow concentrated flow generally occurs when water flows over land (no definable channel), but after sheetflow has occurred.
- Open Channel Flow:** flow in open channels (exposed to the atmosphere). It is assumed to begin where survey information is available or where channels are visible on an aerial photograph.
- Reservoirs or Lakes:** travel time in reservoirs or lakes is assumed to be very small comparatively and therefore is assumed to be zero.

Equations used for calculation of time of concentration (T_c or t_v)

Sheet flow:

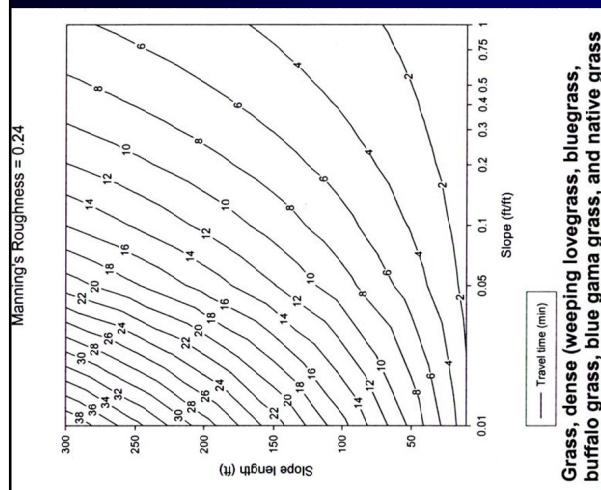
$$T_t = \frac{0.007(nL)^{0.8}}{(P_2)^{0.5} S^{0.4}}$$

- where
 T_t = travel time (hr)
 n = Manning's roughness coefficient (for sheet flow)
 L = flow length (ft)
 P_2 = 2-year, 24-hour rainfall (in) [4.2 inches for central AL area]
 S = slope of hydraulic grade line (approximated by land slope)

Equations used for calculation of time of concentration (T_c or t_v)

- Assumptions for sheet flow equation:
 - Shallow steady uniform flow
 - Constant intensity of rainfall excess
 - Rainfall duration of 24 hours
 - Minor effect of infiltration on travel time

Figure illustrating sheetflow travel time for dense grass surfaces, for varying slopes and flow lengths.



Grass, dense (weeping lovegrass, bluegrass, buffalo grass, blue gamma grass, and native grass

Table 3-1 (from TR55) – Roughness coefficients (Manning's n) for sheet flow

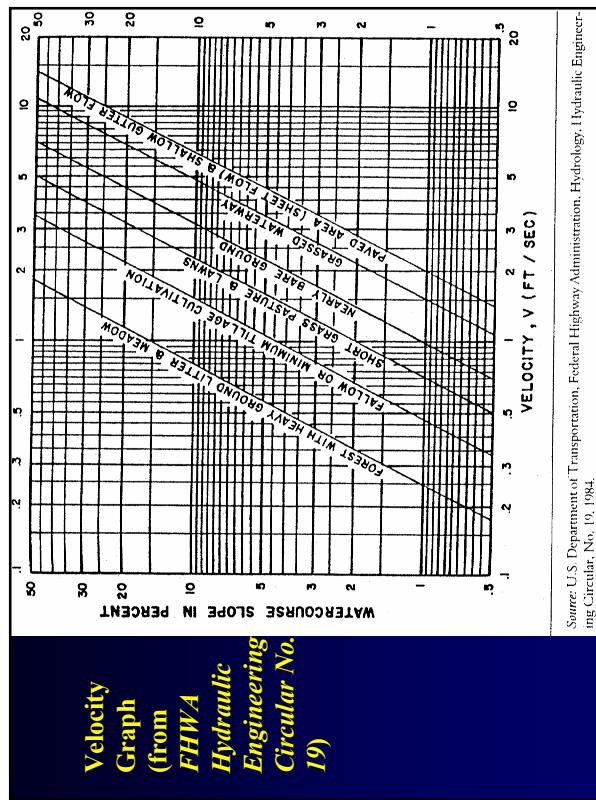
| Surface description | Manning's n |
|---|-------------|
| Smooth surfaces (concrete, asphalt, gravel, or bare soil) | 0.011 |
| Fallow (no residue) | 0.05 |
| Cultivated soils: | |
| Residue cover <= 20% | 0.06 |
| Residue cover > 20% | 0.17 |
| Grass: | |
| Short grass prairie | 0.15 |
| Dense grasses | 0.24 |
| Bermudagrass | 0.41 |
| Range (natural) | 0.13 |
| Woods: | |
| Light underbrush | 0.40 |
| Dense underbrush | 0.80 |

Equations used for calculation of time of concentration (T_c or t_c)

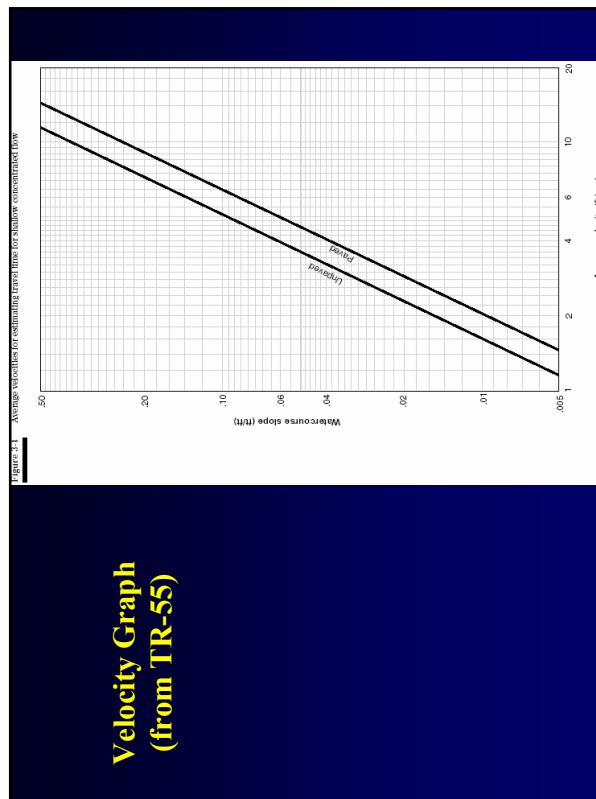
Shallow Concentrated Flow:

$$T_t(hr) = \frac{L(ft)}{(3600\sec/hr)V[ft/\sec]}$$

where: T_t = travel time (hr)
 L = flow length of shallow concentrated flow (ft)
 V = average velocity of flow (ft/sec)



Velocity Graph (from TR-55)



Equations used for calculation of time of concentration (T_c or t_c)

Open Channel Flow (Manning's Equation)

- Calculations based on bank full conditions

$$V = \frac{1.49 r^{2/3} S^{1/2}}{n}$$

where

V = average velocity (ft/sec)

r = hydraulic radius = A/P

P = wetted perimeter (ft)

s = slope of the hydraulic grade line (ft/ft)

n = Manning's roughness coefficient

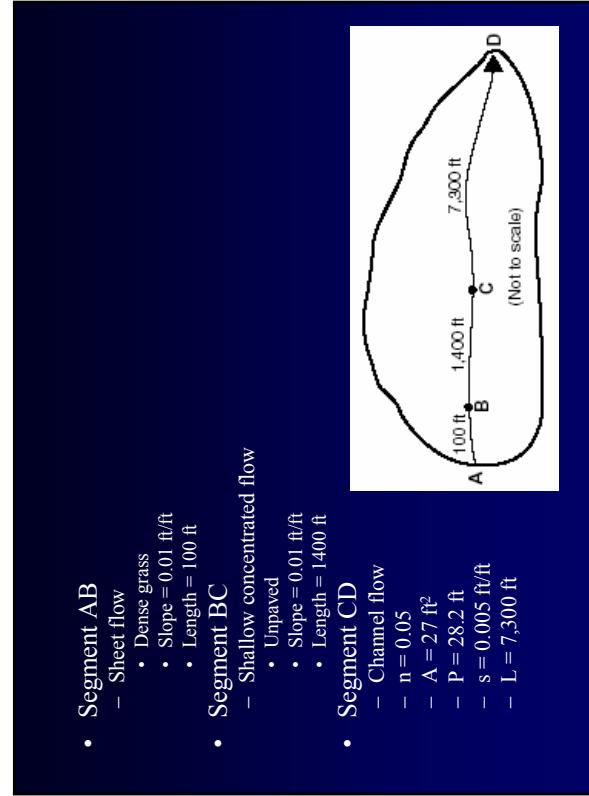
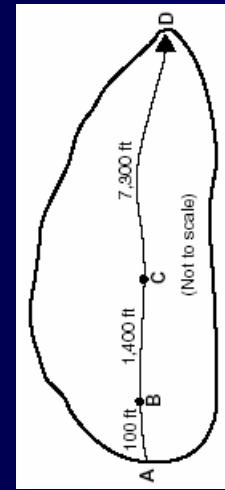
Manning's Roughness Coefficient Table (from Viessman and Hammer, Fifth Edition, 1993)

| Material description | Manning's n |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Concrete | 0.013 |
| Cast-Iron Pipe | 0.015 |
| Vitrified Clay | 0.014 |
| Brick | 0.016 |
| Corrugated Metal Pipe | 0.022 |
| Bituminous Concrete | 0.015 |
| Uniform, Sodded Earth | 0.025 |

NOTE: These Manning's n values cannot be used for sheet flow; they are only used for deep channel flow

Example 3-1 from TR-55

- The sketch below shows a watershed in Dyer County, Tennessee. The problem is to compute T_c at the outlet of the watershed (point D). The 2-year, 24-hour rainfall depth is 3.6 inches. All three types of flow occur from the hydraulically most distant point (A) to the point of interest (D). To compute T_c , first determine T_i for each segment from the following information.



Runoff Calculations

| Worksheet 3: Time of Concentration (T _c) or travel time (T _t) | | | |
|---|---|---------------|---------|
| Tread Flow Area Acres | By DW | Date | 10/6/85 |
| Location | DW | Entered | AM |
| | | | 10/6/85 |
| Check one: | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Present | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Developed | | |
| Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> T-relationship | | | |
| Notes: If a segment has two segments, the top one can be used for each watershed. | | | |
| Inputs: To enter all the segments, or a segment of four segments. | | | |
| Runoff: Average of 0.7, or 0.9 | | | |
| Segment ID AB | | | |
| 1. Surface description (tab 3-1) ... | Desert Grass | | |
| 2. Manning's roughness coefficient, n (tab 3-1) ... | 0.05 | | |
| 3. Flow depth, L (total > 300 ft) ... | 100 | | |
| 4. Topographic slope, S ... | 1 | | |
| 5. Land cover, S ... | 0.01 | | |
| 6. $T_c = \frac{0.027}{S^2} \cdot \frac{L}{n^2} \cdot S^4$... | 0.30 | + 0.30 = 0.60 | |
| Compute $T_c = 0.60$ | | | |
| Shallow concentrated flow | | | |
| 7. Surface description (gated or ungated) ... | BC | | |
| 8. Elevation, L ... | Unknown | | |
| 9. Watercourse slope, S ... | n | | |
| 10. Average velocity, V (tab 3-1) ... | 0.01 | | |
| 11. $T_t = \frac{L}{V}$... | 3600 | + 0.24 = 0.24 | |
| Compute $T_t = 0.24$ | | | |
| Channel flow | | | |
| 12. Cross sectional flow area, A ... | CD | | |
| 13. Water perimeter, Dx ... | 27 | | |
| 14. Hydraulic radius, R = $\frac{A}{Dx}$... | 1 | | |
| 15. Channel slope, S ... | 0.0357 | | |
| 16. Manning's roughness coefficient, n ... | n/a | | |
| 17. V = $4R^{2/3} S^{1/2}$... | 2.05 | | |
| 18. Flow length, L ... | 7330 | + 0.59 = 0.59 | |
| 19. $T_t = \frac{L}{V}$... | 0.59 | + 0.59 = 0.59 | |
| 20. Waterdepth of storage, E, or T_c (add 1 in steps 6, 11, and 19) | | | |

Assumptions for all runoff calculation methods:

- Actual stream gage information that can be related to individual precipitation events is always preferred for calibration of rainfall-runoff model, but is rarely available.
- Only a portion of the rainfall that lands on a watershed will appear as runoff, due to:
 - Vegetative interception
 - Depression storage
 - Infiltration

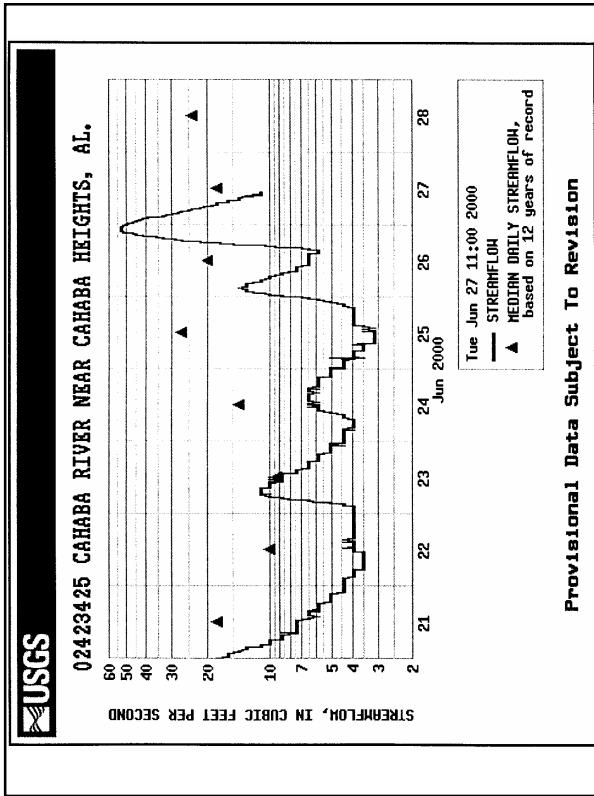
Runoff can be related to Rainfall through the following relationship:

$$\text{Runoff} = (\text{Proportionality Constant})(\text{Rainfall})$$

Two major factors that will affect the amount of surface runoff that occurs are slope and infiltration. Infiltration will be based upon the soil type. Soil types can be determined from Soil Surveys of the appropriate area.

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| Runoff: Average of 0.7, or 0.9 | | | |
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| 4. Topographic slope, S ... | 1 | | |
| 5. Land cover, S ... | 0.01 | | |
| 6. $T_c = \frac{0.027}{S^2} \cdot \frac{L}{n^2} \cdot S^4$... | 0.30 | + 0.30 = 0.60 | |
| Compute $T_c = 0.60$ | | | |
| Shallow concentrated flow | | | |
| 7. Surface description (gated or ungated) ... | BC | | |
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- **Yield:** Portion of precipitation on a watershed that can be collected for use
- **Safe yield:** The minimum recorded yield in the past
- **Hydrograph:** Graphical record of flow at a point versus time



Developing Design Storms for Drainage Design

- Constant Intensity Design Storms
- Unit Hyetograph Storms (such as the 24-hour NRCS Storm Design Distribution)

Design Storm Selection Guidelines

(Source: *Model Drainage Manual*, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Washington, D.C., 1991 as given in Garber and Hiel, *Traffic and Highway Engineering, Second Edition*, PWS Publishing Company, 1997).

| Roadway Classification | Exceedence Probability | Return Period |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Rural principal arterial system | 2% | 50 year |
| Rural minor arterial system | 2 – 4% | 25 – 50 year |
| Rural collector system, major | 4% | 25 year |
| Rural collector system, minor | 10% | 10 year |
| Rural local road system | 10 – 20% | 5 – 10 year |
| Urban principal arterial system | 2 – 4% | 25 – 50 year |
| Urban minor arterial street system | 4% | 25 year |
| Urban collector street system | 10% | 10 year |
| Urban local street system | 10 – 20% | 5 – 10 year |

NOTE: Federal law requires interstate highways to be provided with protection from the 2% flood event, and facilities such as underpasses, depressed roadways, etc. where no overflow relief is available should be designed for the 2% event.

Methods Used to Calculate Runoff in Urban Areas for Drainage Design

- Rational Method (Mulvaney, 1851, in Ireland; Kuichling, 1889, in the US)
- NRCS TR-20 and TR-55 (SCS 1975; 1982; 1986)
- US EPA SWMM (Stormwater Management Model) (Metcalf & Eddy, *et al.*, 1971; CDM 2003)
- Many currently available proprietary models use these methods.

Rational Method for Calculating Runoff

- Equation:

$$Q_p = CiA$$

Where Q_p = peak discharge (ft^3/sec , cfs)
 i = rainfall intensity (in/hr) – selected for storm duration equal to T_c [common error to incorrectly select i simply based on 24 hour period]

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \text{drainage area (acres)} \\ C &= \text{runoff coefficient} \end{aligned}$$

Rational Method best used for:

- Small urban watersheds for sizing inlets and culverts
- Small drainage areas with short times of concentration and homogeneous surfaces with simple drainage networks (not extensive branching of lines)

"It is often desirable to develop a composite runoff coefficient based on the percentage of different types of surface in the drainage area. This procedure is often applied to typical 'sample' blocks as a guide to selection of reasonable values of the coefficient for an entire area. Coefficients with respect to surface type currently in use are listed below."

| Description of Area | Range of Runoff Coefficients | Recommended Value |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Business | | |
| Downtown | 0.70 – 0.95 | 0.85 |
| Neighborhood | 0.50 – 0.70 | 0.60 |
| Residential | | |
| Single-family | 0.30 – 0.50 | 0.40 |
| Multifamily, detached | 0.40 – 0.60 | 0.50 |
| Multifamily, attached | 0.60 – 0.75 | 0.70 |
| Residential (suburban) | 0.25 – 0.40 | 0.35 |
| Apartment | 0.50 – 0.70 | 0.60 |
| Industrial | | |
| Light | 0.50 – 0.80 | 0.65 |
| Heavy | 0.60 – 0.90 | 0.75 |
| Parks, cemeteries | 0.10 – 0.25 | 0.20 |
| Playgrounds | 0.20 – 0.35 | 0.30 |
| Railroad yard | 0.20 – 0.35 | 0.30 |
| Unimproved | 0.10 – 0.30 | 0.20 |

The coefficients in these two tabulations are applicable for storms of 5- to 10-year frequencies. Less frequent, higher intensity storms will require the use of higher coefficients because infiltration and other losses have a proportionally smaller effect on runoff. The coefficients are based on the assumption that the design storm does not occur when the ground surface is frozen.

Runoff Coefficients for the Rational Formula versus Hydrologic Soil Group (A, B, C, D) and Slope Range (from McCuen, Hydrologic Analysis and Design. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1998)

| Land Use | A | B | C | D |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------|------|------|
| | 0-2% | 2-6% | 6%+ | 6%+ |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{3}$ acre | 0.25 ^a | 0.28 | 0.31 | 0.27 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{3}$ acre | 0.33 ^b | 0.37 | 0.40 | 0.35 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre | 0.22 | 0.26 | 0.29 | 0.24 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{3}$ acre | 0.30 | 0.34 | 0.37 | 0.33 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{3}$ acre | 0.19 | 0.23 | 0.26 | 0.22 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{3}$ acre | 0.28 | 0.32 | 0.35 | 0.30 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre | 0.16 | 0.20 | 0.24 | 0.19 |
| Residential Lot, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre | 0.25 | 0.29 | 0.32 | 0.28 |
| Residential Lot, 1 acre | 0.14 | 0.19 | 0.22 | 0.17 |
| Commercial | 0.22 | 0.26 | 0.29 | 0.2 |
| Commercial | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.72 | 0.71 |
| Commercial | 0.88 | 0.88 | 0.89 | 0.89 |

^a Runoff coefficients for storm recurrence intervals less than 25 years.

^b Runoff coefficients for storm recurrence intervals of 25 years or longer.

Example of Rational Method Calculation of Peak Discharge from a Watershed

- Drainage Area (25-year storm)
 - Drainage Area: 1.14 mi²
 - Watershed Slope: 0.021
 - Hydrologic Soil Group C
 - Land Use Description: $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lots
 - Time of Concentration: calculated previously
- Using $T_c = ?$ hours, $i = ? \text{ in/hr}$ for 25-year storm
 - Using $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre lot size, 2 – 6% slope, C soil, $C = ?$
 - Peak Discharge = $Q_p = CiA$
 - $Q_p = (?)? \text{ in/hr})(1.14 \text{ mi}^2)(640 \text{ acres/mi}^2) = ? \text{ cfs}$

Methods Used to Calculate Runoff in Urban Areas for Drainage Design

- NRCS TR-20 and TR-55 (SCS 1975; 1982, 1986)
 - Graphical Peak Discharge Method (Chapter 4 of TR-55 Manual)

- Uses a term called “Curve Number” or “CN” as a measure of proportionality to determine the fraction of the rainfall that becomes runoff

**Runoff Curve Numbers for Urban Areas
(Average runoff conditions, $I_a = 0.2S$)**

| Cover Description | Cover Type | Average Percent Impervious Area | CNs for Hydrologic Soil Group | | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|----|--|--|
| | | | A | B | C | | |
| <i>Urban districts</i> | | | | | | | |
| Commercial and business | | | | | | | |
| Industrial | | | 89 | 92 | 94 | | |
| <i>Residential district by average lot size</i> | | | | | | | |
| $\frac{1}{8}$ acre or less (town houses) | | | | | | | |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ acre | | | 98 | 77 | 85 | | |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ acre | | | 38 | 61 | 83 | | |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ acre | | | 30 | 57 | 72 | | |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ acre | | | 25 | 54 | 70 | | |
| 1 acre | | | 20 | 51 | 68 | | |
| 2 acres | | | 12 | 46 | 65 | | |
| | | | 77 | 77 | 82 | | |

Runoff Curve Numbers for Urban Areas (Average runoff conditions, $I_a = 0.25$)

| Cover Description | Average Percent Impervious Area | CNs for Hydrologic Soil Group | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|----|
| Cover Type | | A | B | C |
| | | D | | D |
| <i>Fully developed urban areas (vegetation established)</i> | | | | |
| Open space lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, etc.) | | | | |
| Poor condition (grass < 50%) | | 68 | 79 | 86 |
| Fair condition (grass 50% to 75%) | | 49 | 69 | 79 |
| Good condition (grass > 75%) | | 39 | 61 | 74 |
| <i>Impervious areas</i> | | | | |
| Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc. (exc. right-of-way) | | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Streets and roads | | | | |
| Paved, curbs and storm sewers (exc. right-of-way) | | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Paved, open ditches (inc. right-of-way) | | 83 | 89 | 92 |
| Gravel (including right-of-way) | | 76 | 85 | 89 |
| Dirt (including right-of-way) | | 72 | 82 | 87 |

Farmsteads—buildings, lawns, driveways, and surrounding lots.

1 Average muoff condition, and $I_a = 0.25$.

2 Poor: <50% ground cover or heavily grazed with no mulch.

Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover and not heavily grazed.

Good: >75% ground cover.

3 Poor:

Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover.

Good: >75% ground cover.

4 Actual curve number is less than 30; use $CN = 30$ for runoff computations.

5 CN's shown were computed for areas with 50% woods and 50% grass (pasture) cover. Other combinations of conditions may be computed from the CNs for woods and pasture.

6 Forest litter, stumps, and brush are destroyed by heavy grading or regular burning.

Fair: Woods are grazed but burned, and some forest litter covers the soil.

Good: Woods are protected from grazing, and litter and brush adequately cover the soil.

Typical CN Values for Pastures, Grasslands, and Woods

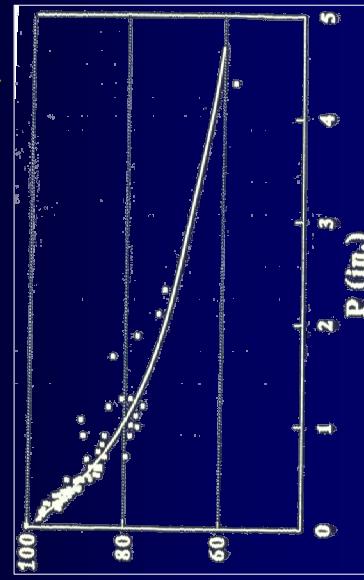
| Cover type | Cover description | Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|----|----|----|
| | | A | B | C | D |
| Pasture, grassland, or range—continuous forage for grazing. ² | Poor: Fair: Good: | 68 | 70 | 86 | 80 |
| Meadow—continuous grass protected from grazing and generally mowed for hay. | Poor: Fair: Good: | 69 | 70 | 84 | 84 |
| Brush—brush-weed-grass mixture with brush the major element. ³ | — | 30 | 58 | 71 | 78 |
| Woods—grass combination (orchard or tree farm). ⁴ | Poor: Fair: Good: | 48 | 67 | 77 | 83 |
| Woods. ⁵ | Poor: Fair: Good: | 35 | 56 | 65 | 73 |
| Farmsteads—buildings, lawns, driveways, and surrounding lots. | — | 57 | 73 | 82 | 86 |

- 1 Average muoff condition, and $I_a = 0.25$.
- 2 Poor: <50% ground cover or heavily grazed with no mulch.
- 3 Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover and not heavily grazed.
- 4 Good: >75% ground cover.
- 5 Poor:
- 6 Fair: 50 to 75% ground cover.
- 7 Good: >75% ground cover.

Observed Curve Numbers for Residential Area (39% Imperviousness)

The following equation can be used to calculate the actual NRCs curve number (CN) from observed rainfall depth (P) and runoff depth (Q), both expressed in inches:

$$CN = \left[\frac{1000}{10 + 5P + 10Q - 10(Q^2 + 1.25QP)^{1/2}} \right]$$

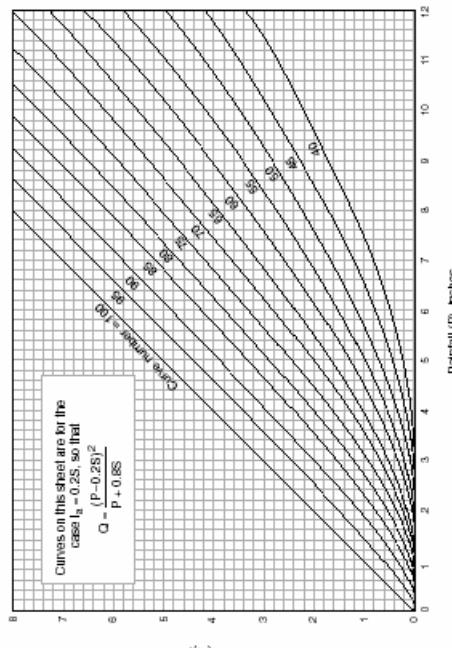


Limitations of Curve Numbers

- Curve numbers describe average conditions that are useful for design purposes. If the rainfall event used is a historical storm, the modeling accuracy decreases.
- Use the runoff curve number equation with caution when re-creating specific features of an actual storm. The equation does not contain an expression for time and, therefore, does not account for rainfall duration and intensity.
- The user should understand the assumption reflected in the initial abstraction term (Ia) and should ascertain that the assumption applies to the situation.
- Runoff from snowmelt or rain on frozen ground cannot be estimated using these procedures.
- The CN procedure is less accurate when runoff is less than 0.5 inch. As a check, use another procedure to determine runoff.
- The SCS runoff procedures apply only to direct surface runoff.
- When the weighted CN is less than 40, use another procedure.

Solution of the SCS Runoff Equation (from TR-55, *Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds*, Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture):

Figure 2-1 Solution of runoff equation.

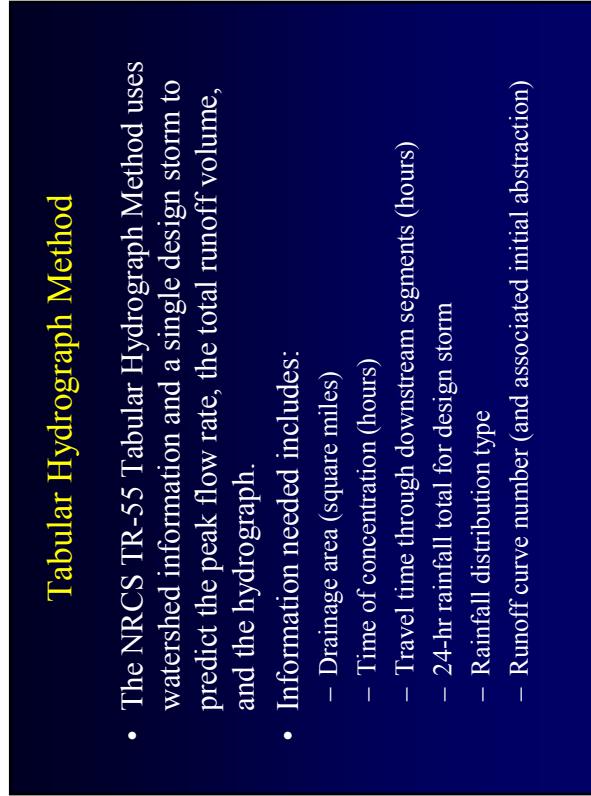


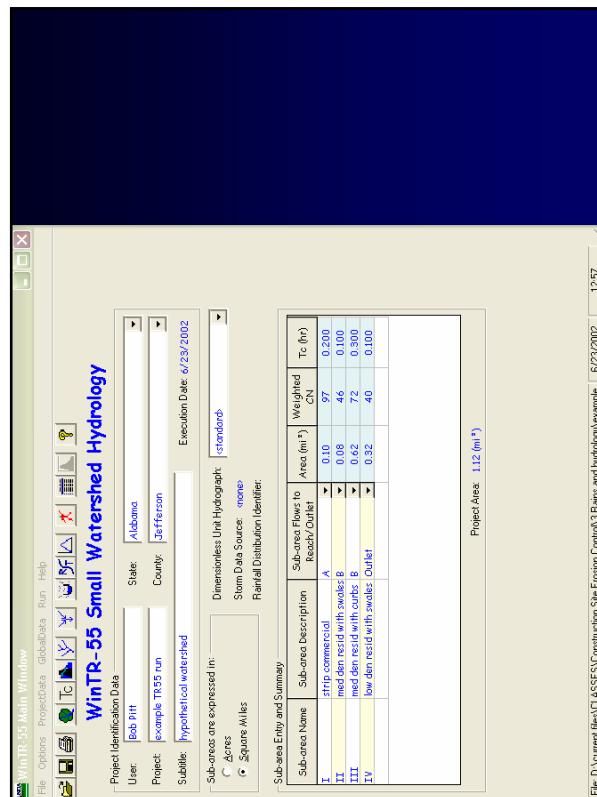
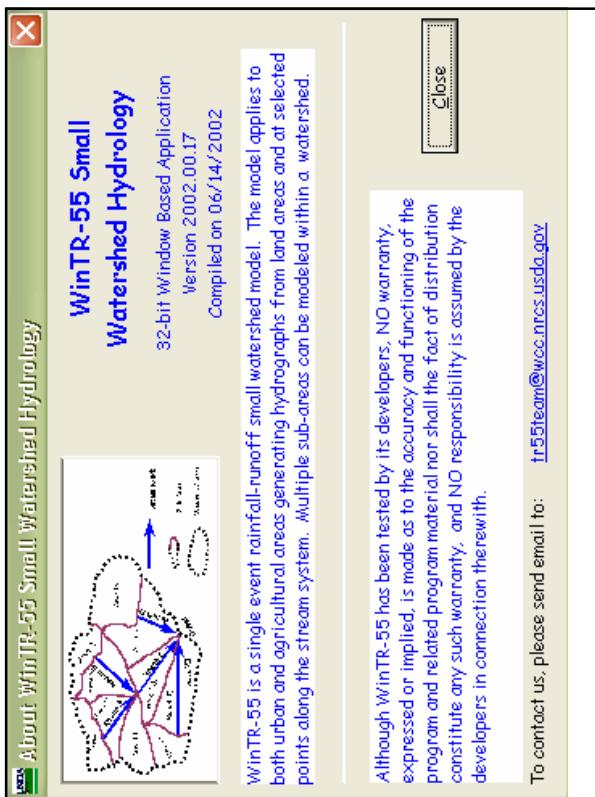
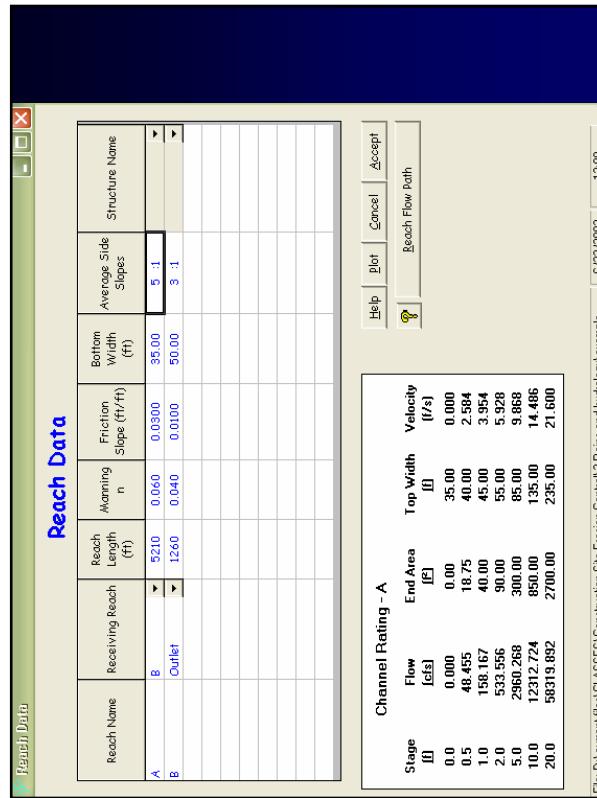
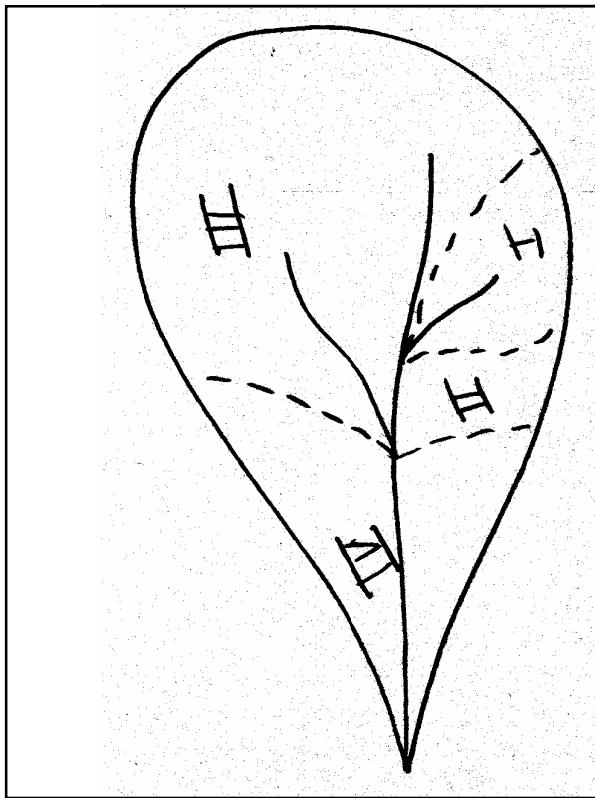
The initial abstraction values (mostly detention storage) are a direct function of the curve number.

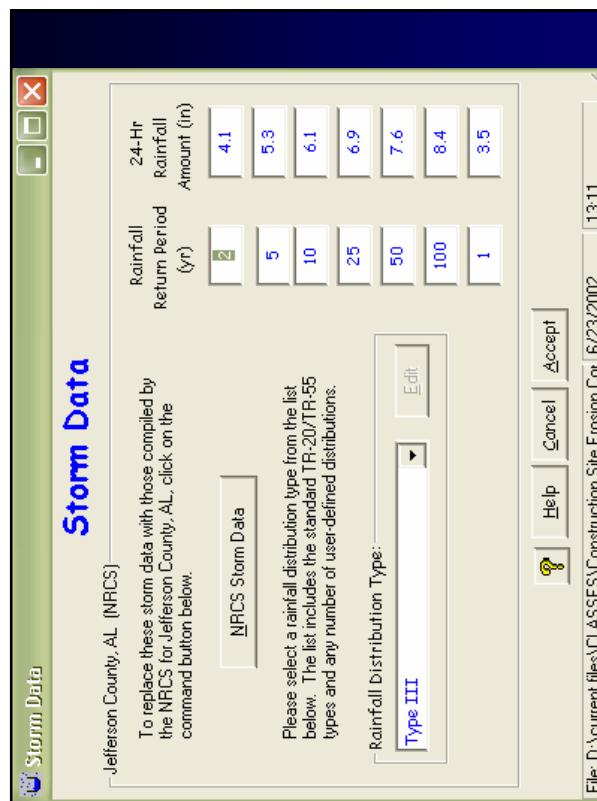
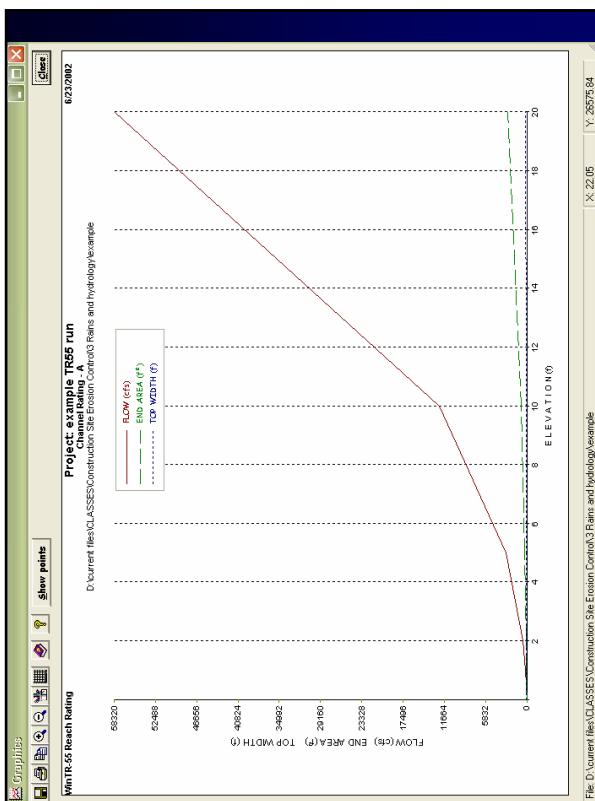
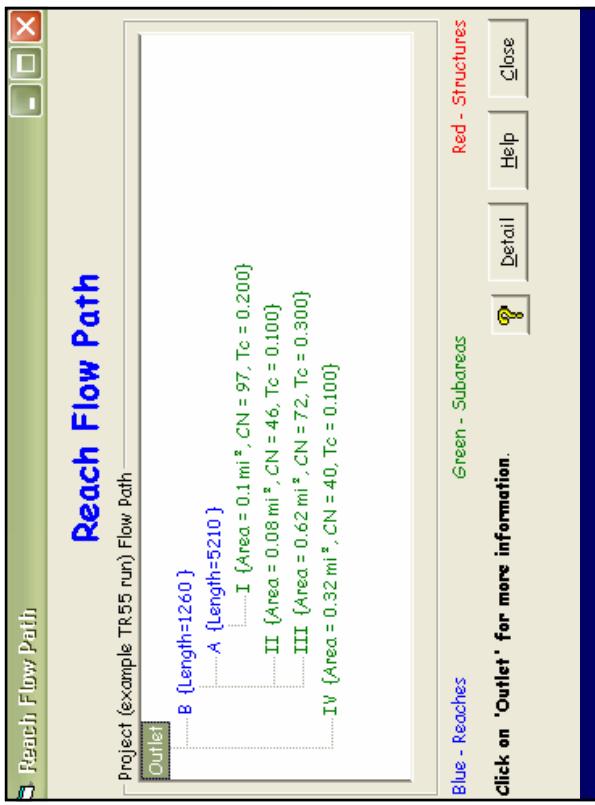
| Curve number | I _a (in) | Curve number | I _a (in) |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 40 | 3.000 | 70 | 0.857 |
| 41 | 2.878 | 71 | 0.817 |
| 42 | 2.762 | 72 | 0.778 |
| 43 | 2.651 | 73 | 0.740 |
| 44 | 2.546 | 74 | 0.703 |
| 45 | 2.444 | 75 | 0.667 |
| 46 | 2.348 | 76 | 0.632 |
| 47 | 2.256 | 77 | 0.597 |
| 48 | 2.167 | 78 | 0.564 |
| 49 | 2.082 | 79 | 0.532 |
| 50 | 2.000 | 80 | 0.500 |
| 51 | 1.922 | 81 | 0.469 |
| 52 | 1.846 | 82 | 0.439 |
| 53 | 1.774 | 83 | 0.410 |
| 54 | 1.704 | 84 | 0.381 |
| 55 | 1.636 | 85 | 0.353 |
| 56 | 1.571 | 86 | 0.326 |
| 57 | 1.509 | 87 | 0.299 |
| 58 | 1.448 | 88 | 0.273 |
| 59 | 1.390 | 89 | 0.247 |
| 60 | 1.333 | 90 | 0.222 |
| 61 | 1.279 | 91 | 0.198 |
| 62 | 1.226 | 92 | 0.174 |
| 63 | 1.175 | 93 | 0.151 |
| 64 | 1.125 | 94 | 0.128 |
| 65 | 1.077 | 95 | 0.105 |
| 66 | 1.030 | 96 | 0.083 |
| 67 | 0.985 | 97 | 0.062 |
| 68 | 0.941 | 98 | 0.041 |
| 69 | 0.899 | | |

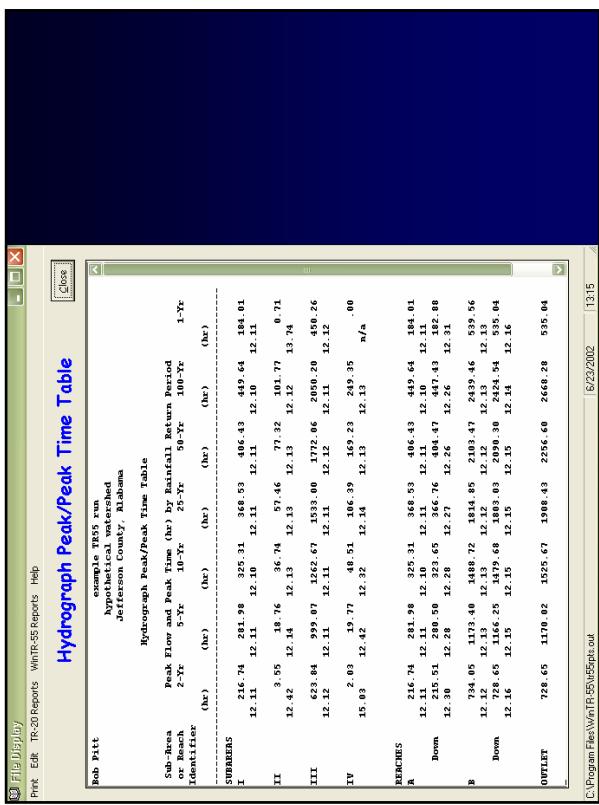
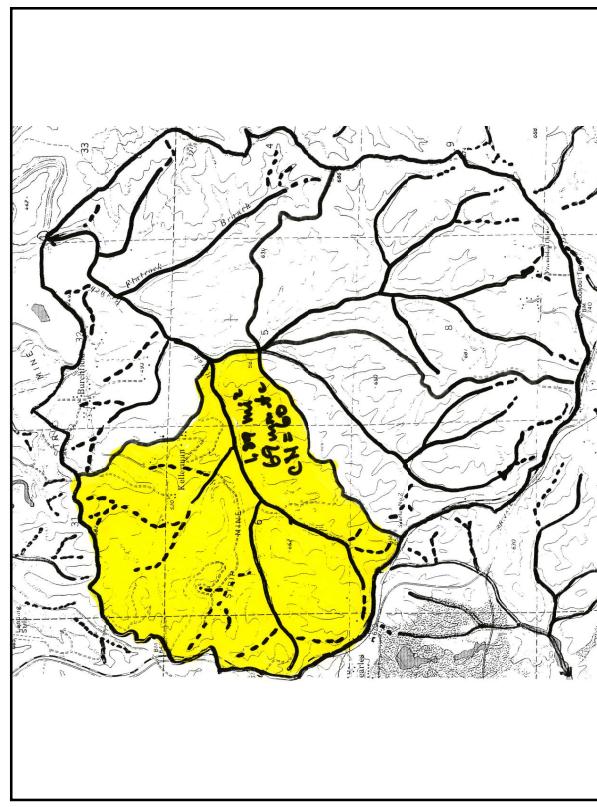
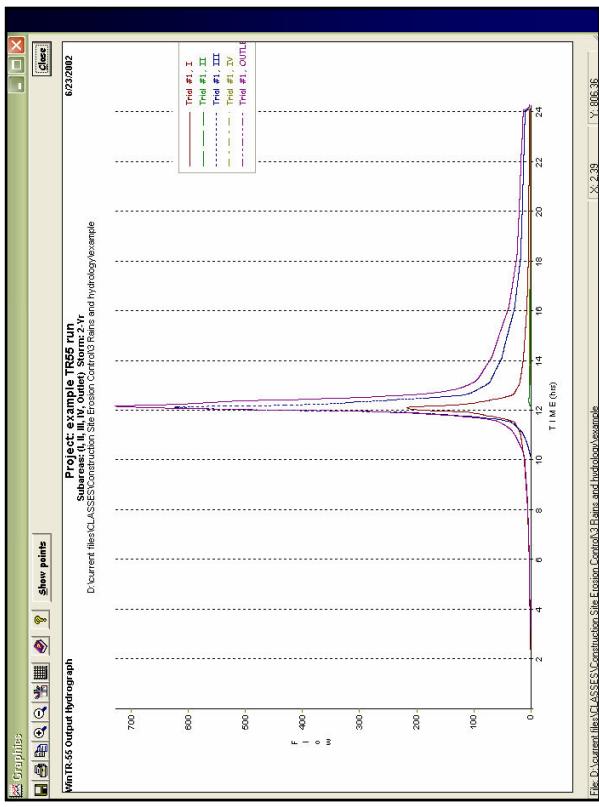
Tabular Hydrograph Method

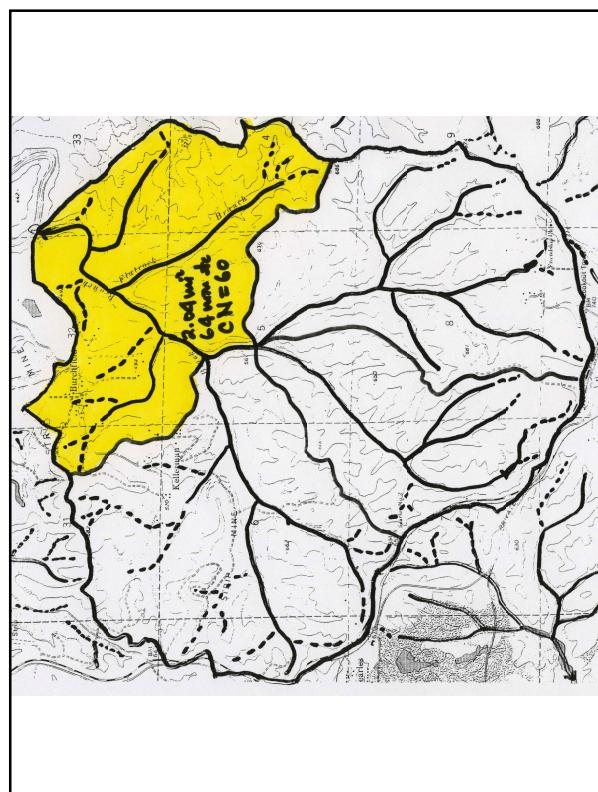
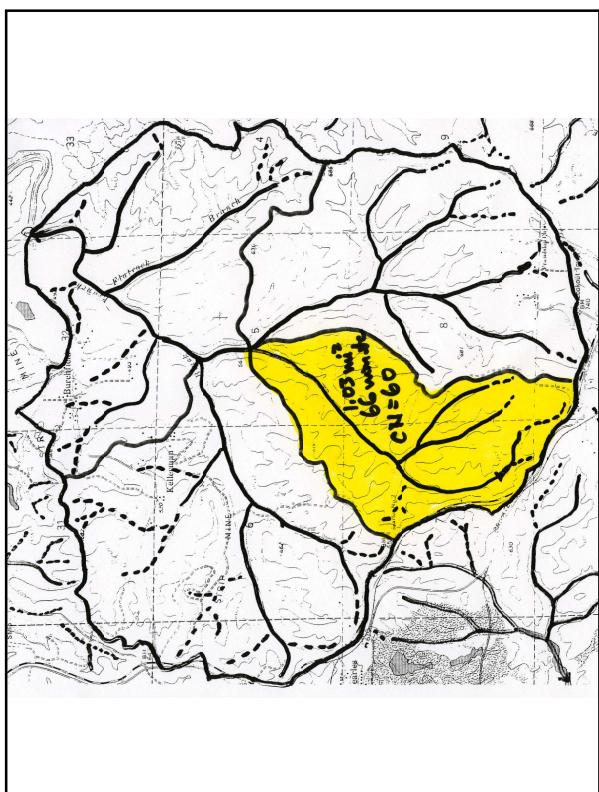
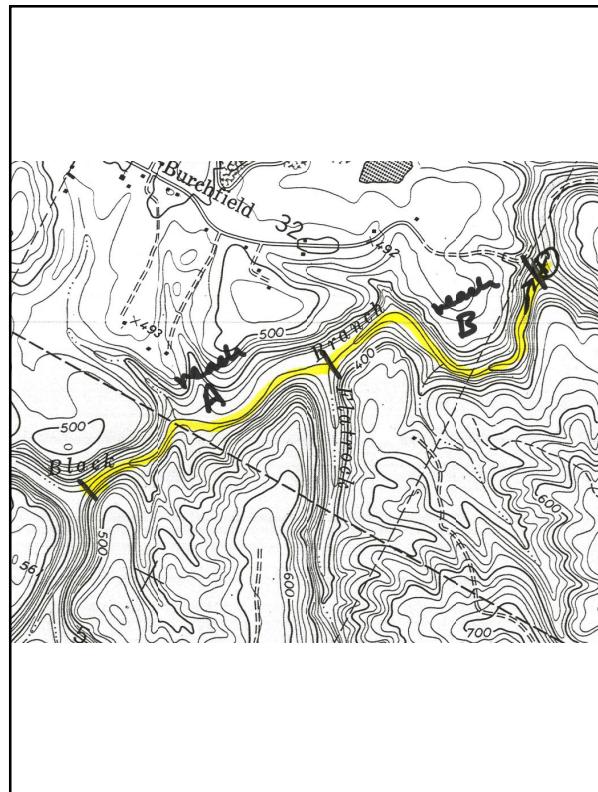
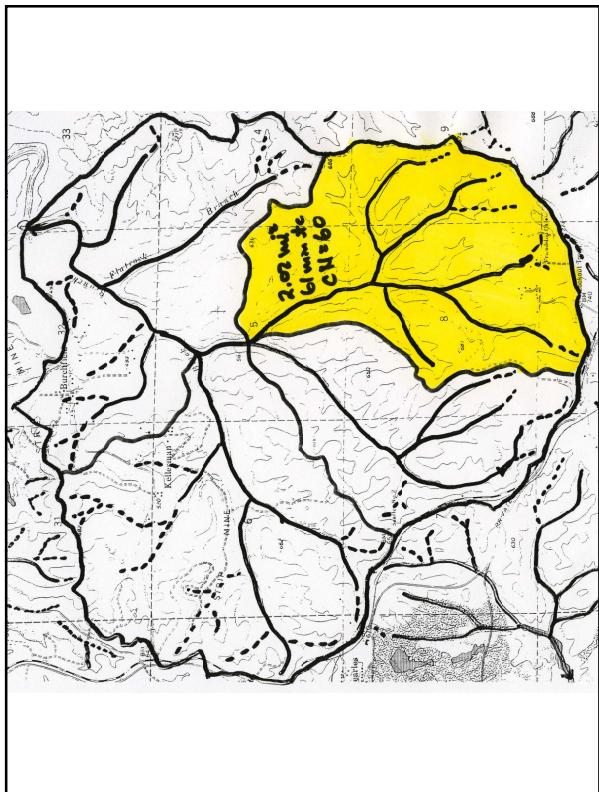
- The NRCS TR-55 Tabular Hydrograph Method uses watershed information and a single design storm to predict the peak flow rate, the total runoff volume, and the hydrograph.
- Information needed includes:
 - Drainage area (square miles)
 - Time of concentration (hours)
 - Travel time through downstream segments (hours)
 - 24-hr rainfall total for design storm
 - Rainfall distribution type
 - Runoff curve number (and associated initial abstraction)











Subwatershed Characteristics

- Common sheetflows for all areas: 15% slope, woods, dense undergrowth with n = 0.80, 35 min. for 300 ft. Common shallow concentrated flows for all areas: 5% slope unpaved, 3.5 ft/sec for 200 ft. = 9.5 min.
- Woods, B soils: CN = 60
- Subarea 1 (121.2 acres)
 - Soil 25 (B) and 40 (B)
 - Tc: 44.5 min plus 4800 ft at 6.8 ft/sec (11.8 min) and 5200 ft at 7.0 ft/sec (12.4 min) = 1.1 hour
 - Subarea 2 (661 acres)
 - Soil 22 (DB) and 40 (B)
 - Tc: 1.1 hour
 - Subarea 3 (1293 acres)
 - Soil 40 (B), 3 (B), and 6 (B)
 - Tc = 1.0 hour
 - Subarea 4 (1302 acres)
 - Soil 22 (DB), 12 (B), and 23 (B)
 - Tc = 1.1 hour

Channel Flow Travel Time

- Reach A: 3290 ft, n = 0.04, S_f = 0.008, bottom width = 20 ft, side slope = 2.1
- Reach B: 3390 ft, n = 0.02, S_f = 0.0158, bottom width = 10 ft, side slope = 2.1

$$V = (1.49 R^{2/3} S^{1/2})/n$$

| Rainfall Depth by Rainfall Return Period | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | REACHES | | | | |
| Name | Description | Reach | Area (ac) | RCN | Tc | |
| Subarea 1 | | A | 1212 | 60 | 1.100 | |
| Subarea 2 | | A | 661 | 60 | 1.100 | |
| Subarea 3 | | A | 1293 | 60 | 1.000 | |
| Subarea 4 | | Outlet | 1302 | 60 | 1.100 | |
| Total area: 4468 (ac) | | | | | | |
| Storm Data | | | | | | |
| 2-Yr (in) | 5-Yr (in) | 10-Yr (in) | 25-Yr (in) | 50-Yr (in) | 100-Yr (in) | 1-Yr (in) |
| 4.2 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 7.1 | 7.8 | 8.6 | 3.6 |

Storm Data Source: Tuscaloosa County, AL (NRCS)
 Rainfall Distribution Type: Type III
 Dimensionless Unit Hydrograph: <standard>

| Peak Flow by Rainfall Return Period | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Sub-Area or Reach Identifier | 50-Yr Peak (cfs) | |
| Subarea 1 | 1691.40 | Pitt |
| Subarea 2 | 922.45 | Brookwood |
| Subarea 3 | 1915.57 | Tuscaloosa County, Alabama |
| Subarea 4 | 1817.00 | Watershed Peak Table |

