

# Pervious Pavement *Maintenance*



## *What is pervious pavement?*

Pervious pavement allows water to soak through to the underlying uncompacted soil, which helps improve water quality and minimize flooding in our local streams.

Pervious pavement is most commonly used in parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, and patios.

There are three common types of pervious pavement:

- Pervious asphalt
- Pervious concrete
- Permeable interlocking pavers

Pervious pavement needs regular maintenance including:

- Removing leaves and tree debris
- Sweeping

## *Maintenance you can perform:*

### *Seasonally:*

- ✓ Remove leaves from surfaces during the fall.
- ✓ Remove snow with a plastic or rubber-tipped shovel or keep plow tip 1 inch above the surface. The remaining snow will melt and drain through the surface.

### *As needed:*

- ✓ Inspect your pervious pavement after storms to make sure that stormwater drains properly.
- ✓ For permeable interlocking pavers, replace/replenish the top layer of stone between joints with new clean stone after sweeping or vacuuming.
- ✓ For large parking lots, use a vacuum sweeper at least twice per year to remove sediment and debris.

### *Avoid:*

- ✗ Don't apply sand or cinders for winter snow removal on pervious pavement or on adjacent areas that may drain onto the pervious pavement.
- ✗ Don't stockpile mulch, sand, salt, cinders, snow, soil, or yard waste on pervious pavement.
- ✗ Don't replace vehicle fluids or wash your car over pervious pavement.
- ✗ Don't apply sealants over pervious pavement or repave the area with impervious materials.
- ✗ Don't let large vehicles regularly drive on or turn around on pervious surfaces.



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION  
*Saving a National Treasure*

URS

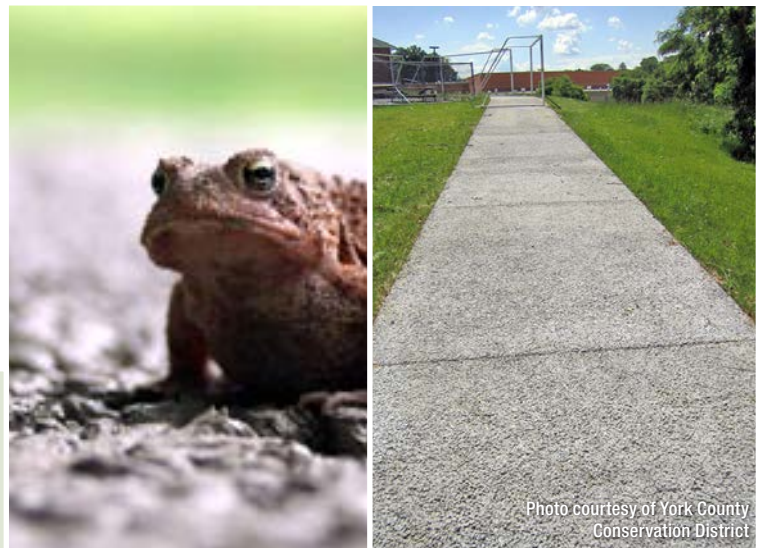
WILLIAM PENN  
FOUNDATION

## Why is it important to maintain your pervious pavement?

An unmaintained pervious pavement may:

- Become clogged and not allow stormwater to drain through it
- Require complete replacement of the materials, which can be very expensive

**By maintaining your pervious pavement, you are doing your part to protect your local streams and the Chesapeake Bay.**



Pervious pavement

Porous concrete sidewalk

## Recommended maintenance checklist

### Debris Removal

January through December

### Sweep or Vacuum to Remove Leaves and Debris

May and November

## Problem solving . . .

### Water ponding or flowing

**POSSIBLE CAUSE:** Leaves or sediment have clogged the surface.

**SOLUTION:** Sweep and vacuum. Make sure area draining to pervious pavement is not a source of sediment, such as exposed soil or nearby trees.

### Vegetation growing in the pervious surface

**POSSIBLE CAUSE:** Too much time between maintenance activities.

**SOLUTION:** Manually remove weeds and vegetation. Increase frequency.

### Pervious surface still not draining water after maintenance

**POSSIBLE CAUSE:** Surface is still clogged by sediment.

**SOLUTION:** Try a more powerful vacuum or pressure washing.



Photo courtesy of York County Conservation District

Golf course parking lot with porous pavement

**You can prolong the life of your pervious pavement and save on maintenance costs by regularly removing any debris from the surface.**

**If you have questions or need more information, please visit [cbf.org](http://cbf.org).**