SOP 5: CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTION

Construction sites that lack adequate stormwater controls can contribute a significant amount of sediment to nearby bodies of water. This Standard Operating Procedure describes the major components of a municipal Stormwater Construction Inspection Plan, as well as procedures for evaluating compliance of stormwater controls at construction sites.

Stormwater Construction Inspection Plan

A stormwater Construction Site Inspection program is a program developed by municipalities to track, inspect, and enforce local stormwater requirements at construction sites.

This SOP assumes that the municipality has legal authority (i.e., a bylaw or ordinance) in place, per the requirements of the 2003 Massachusetts MS4 Permit, to require sediment and erosion control at construction sites. This legal authority must require construction site operators "to implement a sediment and erosion control program which includes [Best Management Practices] that are appropriate for the conditions at the construction site, including efforts to minimize the area of the land disturbance." The legal authority must also give inspectors the authority to enter the site.

A municipal stormwater Construction Site Inspection program should include or address the following:

- 1. Construction Site Inventory
 - A tracking system to inventory projects and identify sites for inspection.
 - Track the results of inspection and prioritize sites based on factors such as proximity to waterways, size, slope, and history of past violations.
- 2. Construction Requirements and BMPs
 - Municipalities provide contractors with guidance on the appropriate selection and design of stormwater BMPs.
- 3. Plan Review Procedures
 - Submitted plans must be reviewed to ensure they address local requirements and protect water quality.
- 4. Public Input
 - Per the 2003 Massachusetts MS4 Permit, a program must allow the public to provide comment on inspection procedures, and must consider information provided by the public.
- 5. Construction Site Inspections
 - Identify an inspection frequency for each site.
 - See more detailed information below.
- 6. Enforcement Procedures
 - A written progressive enforcement policy for the inspection program.
 - Sanctions, both monetary and non-monetary, shall be utilized to ensure compliance with the program

7. Training and Education

• Municipal staff conducting inspections should receive training on regulatory requirements, BMPs, inspections, and enforcement.

Conducting Stormwater Inspections at Construction Sites

The role of the construction inspector is to ensure that site operations match the approved site plans and the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the project, and that all precautions are taken to prevent pollutants and sediment from the construction site from impacting local waterways. The inspector is also expected to determine the adequacy of construction site stormwater quality control measures.

The attached Construction Site Stormwater Inspection Report shall be used by the inspector during site visits. Construction site inspectors should abide by the following guidelines:

- 1. Inspections to monitor stormwater compliance should be performed at least once per month at each active construction site, with priority placed on sites that require coverage under the USEPA 2012 Construction General Permit (i.e., that disturb one or more acres), and sites that are located in the watershed of any 303(d) water bodies.
- 2. The inspection shall begin at a low point and work uphill, observing all discharge points and any off-site support activities.
- 3. Written and photographic records shall be maintained for each site visit.
- 4. During the inspection, the inspector should ask questions of the contractor. Understanding the selection, implementation, and maintenance of BMPs is an important goal of the inspection process, and requires site-specific input.
- 5. The inspector should not recommend or endorse solutions or products. The inspector may offer appropriate advice, but all decisions must be made by the contractor.
- 6. The inspector shall always wear personal protective equipment appropriate for the site.
- 7. The inspector shall abide by the contractor's site-specific safety requirements.
- 8. The inspector has legal authority to enter the site. However, if denied permission to enter the site, the inspector should never force entry.

Prior to planning a site visit, the inspector shall determine if the project is subject to USEPA's 2012 Construction General Permit, which is true if the the project disturbs one or more acres, total. The 2012 Construction General Permit replaces the 2008 Construction General Permit, which expired on February 15, 2012. Operators of sites that required coverage under the USEPA's 2008 Construction General Permit but continue to be active should have submitted a new Notice of Intent (NOI) under the 2012 Permit.

If the site requires this coverage, the inspector shall visit the USEPA Region 1 eNOI website (http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgpenoi.cfm or http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/

<u>noi/noisearch.cfm</u>) to determine if the contractor filed for coverage under the 2012 and/or 2008 Construction General Permits, respectively. Print a copy of the project's NOI.

If the project disturbs one or more acres and is under construction, but does not show up in either database, the project is in violation of the Construction General Permit. Call the contractor to determine if the NOI process has been started. If not, notify the contractor verbally of this requirement and the violation. Work cannot proceed on the site until a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the 2012 Construction General Permit has been approved by USEPA. The inspector may choose to print instructions on how to file an NOI and meet with the contractor to review these. Issue a written Stop Work Order until the NOI has been approved by USEPA.

Once it has been determined that the site is in compliance with the 2012 Construction General Permit, the site inspection process can continue. The Construction Site Inspection process shall include the following:

- 1. Plan the inspection before visiting the construction site
 - a. Obtain and review permits, site plans, previous inspection reports, and any other applicable information.
 - b. Print the approved NOI from the USEPA 2012 Construction General Permit NOI website, listed previously.
 - c. Inform the contractor of the planned site visit.

2. Meet with the contractor

- a. Review the Construction SWPPP (if the site includes over one acre of disturbance) or other document, as required by the municipality's legal authority. Compare BMPs in the approved site plans with those shown in the SWPPP.
- b. Review the project's approved NOI and confirm that information shown continues to be accurate.
- c. Get a general overview of the project from the contractor.
- d. Review inspections done by the contractor.
- e. Review the status of any issues or corrective actions noted in previous inspection reports.
- f. Discuss any complaints or incidents since the last meeting.

3. Inspect perimeter controls

- a. Examine perimeter controls to determine if they are adequate, properly installed, and properly maintained.
- b. For each structural BMP, check structural integrity to determine if any portion of the BMP needs to be replaced or requires maintenance.
- 4. Inspect slopes and temporary stockpiles
 - a. Determine if sediment and erosion controls are effective.
 - b. Look for slumps, rills, and tracking of stockpiled materials around the site.
- 5. Compare BMPs in the site plan with the construction site conditions
 - a. Determine whether BMPs are in place as specified in the site plan, and if the BMPs have been adequately installed and maintained.

- b. Note any areas where additional BMPs may be needed which are not specified in the site plans.
- 6. Inspect site entrances/exits
 - a. Determine if there has been excessive tracking of sediment from the site.
 - b. Look for evidence of additional entrances/exits which are not on the site plan and are not properly stabilized.
- 7. Inspect sediment basins
 - a. Look for signs that sediment has accumulated beyond 50% of the original capacity of the basin.
- 8. Inspect pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices
 - a. Inspect trash areas and material storage/staging areas to ensure that materials are properly maintained and that pollutant sources are not exposed to rainfall or runoff.
 - b. Inspect vehicle/equipment fueling and maintenance areas for the presence of spill control measures and for evidence of leaks or spills.
- 9. Inspect discharge points and downstream, off-site areas
 - a. Walk down the street and/or in other directions off-site to determine if erosion and sedimentation control measures are effective in preventing off-site impacts.
 - b. Inspect down-slope catch basins to determine if they are protected, and identify whether sediment buildup has occurred.
- 10. Meet with the contactor again prior to leaving
 - a. Discuss the effectiveness of current controls and whether modifications are needed.
 - b. Discuss possible violations or concerns noted during the site inspection, including discrepancies between approved site plans, the SWPPP, and/or the implementation of stormwater controls.
 - c. Agree on a schedule for addressing all discrepancies, and schedule a follow-up inspection.
- 11. Provide a written copy of the inspection report to the contractor.
- 12. Follow up, as determined, and provide copy of subsequent inspection to the contractor.
- 13. Use Stop Work orders, as needed, until compliance with the 2012 Construction General Permit and/or other document, as required by the municipality's legal authority, can be achieved.

Attachments

1. Construction Site Stormwater Inspection Report

Related Standard Operating Procedures

1. SOP 9, Inspecting Constructed Best Management Practices

CONSTRUCTION SITE STORMWATER INSPECTION REPORT

General Information

Project Name			
Project Location			
Site Operator			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Subject to USEPA Const	ruction General Permit?	Yes No	
If yes, has NOI been appr	roved?	Yes No No	
If yes, attach approved N	OI to this report.		
If no, con	ntact site operator imme	ediately to determine status	of NOI.
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🔲 💢 🖸	Ouring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			
Describe the current phase of construction			

Site-Specific BMPs

Customize the following BMPs to be consistent with the SWPPP for the site being inspected.

	BMP Description	Installed and Operating Properly?	Corrective Action Needed
1		Yes No	
2		Yes No	

(continued)

	BMP Description	Installed and Operating Properly?	Corrective Action Needed
3		Yes No	
4		Yes No	
5		Yes No	
6		Yes No No	
7		Yes No	
8		Yes No	
9		Yes No	
10		Yes No	
11		Yes No	
12		Yes No	
13		Yes No	
14		Yes No	
15		Yes No	
16		Yes No	
17		Yes No	
18		Yes No	
19		Yes No	
20		Yes No	

Erosion and Sedimentation Control

Document any of the following issues found on the construction site, and the corrective action(s) required for each.

Issue	Stat	tus	Corrective Action Needed
Have all ESC features been constructed before initiating other construction activities?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is the contractor inspecting and maintaining ESC devices regularly?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Is existing vegetation maintained on the site as long as possible?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Is construction staged so as to minimize exposed soil and disturbed areas?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are disturbed areas restored as soon as possible after work is completed?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is clean water being diverted away from the construction site?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are sediment traps and sediment barriers cleaned regularly?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Are vegetated and wooded buffers protected and left undisturbed?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Are soils stabilized by mulching and/or seeding when they are exposed for a long time?	Yes	No 🗌	
Has vegetation been allowed to establish itself before flows are introduced to channels?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is regular, light watering used for dust control?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is excessive soil compaction with heavy machinery avoided, to the extent possible?	Yes	No 🗌	

(continued)

Issue	Stat	us	Corrective Action Needed
Are erosion control blankets used when seeding slopes?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are trees and vegetation that are to be retained during construction adequately protected?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are areas designated as off-limits to construction equipment flagged or easily distinguishable?	Yes	No 🗌	
If excavated topsoil has been salvaged and stockpiled for later use on the project, are stockpiles adequately protected?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Are temporary slope drains or chutes used to transport water down steep slopes?	Yes	No 🗌	
Do all entrances to the storm sewer system have adequate protection?	Yes	No 🗌	

Overall Site Conditions

Document any of the following issues found on the construction site, and the corrective action(s) required for each.

Issue	Status	Corrective Action Needed
Are slopes and disturbed areas not being actively worked properly stabilized?	Yes No	
Are material stockpiles covered or protected when not in use?	Yes No No	
Are natural resource areas protected with sediment barriers or other BMPs?	Yes No	

Are perimeter controls and sediment barriers installed and maintained?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
(continued)			

Issue	Status	Corrective Action Needed
Are discharge points and receiving waters free of sediment deposits and turbidity?	Yes No	
Are storm drain inlets properly protected?	Yes No No	
Is there evidence of sediment being tracked into streets?	Yes No No	
Is trash/litter from the construction site collected and placed in dumpsters?	Yes No	
Are vehicle/equipment fueling and maintenance areas free of spills and leaks?	Yes No	
Are potential stormwater contaminants protected inside or under cover?	Yes No	
Is dewatering from site properly controlled?	Yes No	
Are portable restroom facilities properly sited and maintained?	Yes No No	
Are all hazardous materials and wastes stored in accordance with local regulations?	Yes No	

Non-Compliance Actions

The municipality shall provide the site operator with a copy of this report, and notice of the corrective action(s) to be taken. The site operator shall have thirty days from the receipt of the notice to commence curative action of the violation.

SOP 6: EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL

Erosion and sedimentation from land-disturbing human activities can be a significant source of stormwater pollution. This Standard Operating Procedure describes methods for reducing or eliminating pollutant loading from such activities.

Controlling Erosion and Sediment through Design and Planning

Prevention of erosion and sedimentation is preferable to installing treatment devices. Consistent application and implementation of the following guidelines during the design and review phases can prevent erosion and sedimentation:

- 1. Avoid sensitive areas, steep slopes, and highly erodible soils to the maximum extent possible when developing site plans.
- 2. Identify potential problem areas before the site plan is finalized and approved.
- 3. Plan to use sediment barriers along contour lines, with a focus on areas where short-circuiting (i.e., flow around the barrier) may occur.
- 4. Use berms at the top of a steep slopes to divert runoff away from the slope's edge.
- 5. Design trapezoidal or parabolic vegetated drainage channels, not triangular.
- 6. Use vegetated channels with rip rap check dams, instead of impervious pavement or concrete, to reduce the water velocity of the conveyance system.
- 7. Design a check dam or sediment forebay with level spreader at the exit of outfalls to reduce water velocity of the discharge and collect sediment.
- 8. Use turf reinforcement matting to stabilize vegetated channels, encourage vegetation establishment, and withstand flow velocities without scouring the base of the channel.
- 9. Plan open channels to follow land contours so natural drainage is not disrupted.
- 10. Use organic matting for temporary slope stabilization and synthetic matting for permanent stabilization.
- 11. Provide a stable channel, flume, or slope drain where it is necessary to carry water down slopes.

Controlling Erosion and Sediment on Construction Sites

During the construction phase, it is important to inspect active sites regularly to ensure that practices are consistent with approved site plans and the site's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) or other document, as required by the municipality's legal authority. The following guidelines apply:

- 1. Erosion and sediment control features should be constructed before initiating activities that remove vegetated cover or otherwise disturb the site. These shall be installed consistent with the approved site plans and with manufacturer's instructions.
- 2. Erosion and sediment control devices shall be inspected by the contractor regularly, and maintained as needed to ensure function.

- 3. In the SWPPP or other document, the contractor shall clearly identify the party responsible for maintaining erosion and sediment control devices.
- 4. An inspection should be completed of active construction sites every month, at a minimum, to check the status of erosion and sedimentation controls. Refer to SOP 5, "Construction Site Inspection", for construction site stormwater inspection procedures.
- 5. Existing vegetation should be maintained on site as long as possible.
- 6. Construction should proceed progressively on the site in order to minimize exposed soil, and disturbed areas should be restored as soon as possible after work has been completed.
- 7. Stockpiles shall be stabilized by seeding or mulching if they are to remain for more than two weeks.
- 8. Disturbed areas shall be protected from stormwater runoff by using protective Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- 9. Clean water shall be diverted away from disturbed areas on construction sites to prevent erosion and sedimentation.
- 10. Sediment traps and sediment barriers should be cleaned out regularly to reduce clogging and maintain design function.
- 11. Vegetated and wooded buffers shall be protected.
- 12. Soils shall be stabilized by mulching and/or seeding when they would be exposed for more than one week during the dry season, or more than two days during the rainy season.
- 13. Vegetation shall be allowed to establish before introducing flows to channels.
- 14. Regular light watering shall be used for dust control, as this is more effective than infrequent heavy watering.
- 15. Excessive soil compaction with heavy machinery shall be avoided, to the extent possible.
- 16. Construction activities during months with higher runoff rates shall be limited, to the extent possible.

Controlling Erosion and Sediment by Proper Maintenance of Permanent BMPs

Many construction phase BMPs can be integrated into the final site design, but ongoing inspection and maintenance are required to ensure long-term function of any permanent BMP. Refer to SOP 9, "Inspection of Constructed Best Management Practices", for more information. The following guidelines summarize the requirements for long-term maintenance of permanent BMPs.

- 1. Responsibility for maintaining erosion and sediment control devices shall be clearly identified.
- 2. Erosion and sediment control devices shall be inspected following heavy rainfall events to ensure they are working properly.
- 3. Erosion control blankets shall be utilized when seeding slopes.
- 4. Vegetated and wooded buffers shall be protected, and left undisturbed to the extent possible.
- 5. Runoff shall not be diverted into a sensitive area unless this has been specifically approved.
- 6. Sedimentation basins shall be cleaned out once sediment reaches 50% of the basin's design capacity.
- 7. Snow shall not be plowed into, or stored within, retention basins, rain gardens, or other BMPs.

8. Easements and service routes shall be maintained, to enable maintenance equipment to access BMPs for regular cleaning.

Related Standard Operating Procedures

- 1. SOP 5, Construction Site Inspection
- 2. SOP 9, Inspection of Constructed Best Management Practices

EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL INSPECTION REPORT

General Information

Project Name			
Project Location			
Inspector's Name			
Site Operator			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Subject to USEPA Const	ruction General Permit?	Yes No	
If yes, has NOI been appr	roved?	Yes No No	
If yes, attach approved N	OI to this report.		
If no, co	ontact contractor immedia	ately to determine status o	f NOI.
Type of Inspection:			
Regular Pre-	-Storm Event Dun	ring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			
Describe the current phase of construction			

Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) on Construction Sites

Document any of the following issues found on the construction site, and the corrective action(s) required for each.

Issue	Stat	tus	Corrective Action Needed
Have all ESC features been constructed before initiating other construction activities?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is the contractor inspecting and maintaining ESC devices regularly?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is existing vegetation maintained on the site as long as possible?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is construction staged so as to minimize exposed soil and disturbed areas?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are disturbed areas restored as soon as possible after work is completed?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is clean water being diverted away from the construction site?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are sediment traps and sediment barriers cleaned regularly?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are vegetated and wooded buffers protected and left undisturbed?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are soils stabilized by mulching and/or seeding when they are exposed for a long time?	Yes	No 🗌	
Has vegetation been allowed to establish itself before flows are introduced to channels?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is regular, light watering used for dust control?	Yes	No 🗌	
Is excessive soil compaction with heavy machinery avoided, to the extent possible?	Yes	No 🗌	

(continued)

Issue	Statu	18	Corrective Action Needed
Are erosion control blankets used when seeding slopes?	Yes	No 🗌	
Are trees and vegetation that are to be retained during construction adequately protected?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Are areas designated as off-limits to construction equipment flagged or easily distinguishable?	Yes	No 🗌	
If excavated topsoil has been salvaged and stockpiled for later use on the project, are stockpiles adequately protected?	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
Are temporary slope drains or chutes used to transport water down steep slopes?	Yes	No 🗌	
Do all entrances to the storm sewer system have adequate protection?	Yes	No 🗌	

Non-Compliance Actions

The municipality shall provide the site operator with a copy of this report, and notice of the corrective action(s) to be taken. The site operator shall have thirty days from the receipt of the notice to commence curative action of the violation.

SOP 9: INSPECTING CONSTRUCTED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are policies, procedures and structures designed to reduce stormwater pollution, prevent contaminant discharges to natural water bodies, and reduce stormwater facility maintenance costs. Constructed BMPs are permanent site features designed to treat stormwater before infiltrating it to the subsurface or discharging it to a surface water body.

This Standard Operating Procedure provides a general summary of inspection procedures for eight common constructed BMPs, including:

- 1. Bioretention Areas and Rain Gardens
- 2. Constructed Stormwater Wetlands
- 3. Extended Dry Detention Basins
- 4. Proprietary Media Filters
- 5. Sand and Organic Filters
- 6. Wet Basins
- 7. Dry Wells
- 8. Infiltration Basins

This SOP is based on the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook and is not intended to replace that document. This SOP is also not intended to replace the Stormwater BMP Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan required by the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Order of Conditions.

Bioretention Areas and Rain Gardens

Bioretention areas and rain gardens are shallow depressions filled with sandy soil, topped with a thick layer of mulch and planted with dense native vegetation. There are two types of bioretention cells:

- 1. Filtering bioretention area: Areas that are designed solely as an organic filter; and
- 2. Exfiltration bioretention area: Areas that are configured to recharge groundwater in addition to acting as a filter.

Inspection & Maintenance

Regular inspection and maintenance are important to prevent against premature failure of bioretention areas or rain gardens. Regular inspection and maintenance of pretreatment devices and bioretention cells for sediment buildup, structural damage and standing water can extend the life of the soil media.

Maintenance Schedule: Bioretention Areas and Rain Gardens

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Inspect for soil erosion and repair	Year round	Monthly
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Year round	Monthly
Remove trash	Year round	Monthly
Mulch Void Areas	Spring	Annually
Remove dead vegetation	Fall and Spring	Bi-Annually
Replace dead vegetation	Spring	Annually
Prune	Spring or Fall	Annually
Replace all media and vegetation	Late Spring/Early Summer	As Needed

When failure is discovered, excavate the bioretention area, scarify the bottom and sides, replace the filter fabric and soil, replant vegetation and mulch the surface.

Never store snow within a bioretention area or rain garden. This would prevent required water quality treatment and the recharge of groundwater.

Constructed Stormwater Wetlands

Constructed stormwater wetlands maximize the pollutant removal from stormwater through the use of wetland vegetation uptake, retention and settling. Constructed storm water wetlands must be used in conjunction with other BMPs, such as sediment forebays.

Inspection & Maintenance

Regular inspection and maintenance are important to prevent against premature failure of bioretention areas or rain gardens. Regular inspection and maintenance of pretreatment devices and bioretention cells for sediment buildup, structural damage and standing water can extend the life of the soil media.

Maintenance Schedule, Constructed Stormwater Wetlands: Years 0-3

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Year round	Monthly
Record and Map:	Year round	Annually
Types and distribution of dominant wetland plants	Year round	Bi-Annually
Presence and distribution of planted wetland species	Spring	Annually
Presence and distribution of invasive species	Fall and Spring	Bi-Annually
Indications other species are replacing planted wetland		
species	Spring	Annually
Percent of standing water that is not vegetated	Spring or Fall	Annually
	Late Spring/Early	
Replace all media and vegetation	Summer	As Needed
Stability of original depth zones and micro-topographic		
features		
Accumulation of sediment in the forebay and micropool		
and survival rate of plants		

Maintenance Schedule, Constructed Stormwater Wetlands: Years 4-Lifetime

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Year round	Monthly
Clean forebays	Year round	Annually
Clean sediment in basin/wetland system	Year round	Once every 10 years
Mulch Void Areas	Spring	Annually
Remove dead vegetation	Fall and Spring	Bi-Annually
Replace dead vegetation	Spring	Annually
Prune	Spring or Fall	Annually
Replace all media and vegetation	Late Spring/Early Summer	As Needed

When failure is discovered, excavate the bioretention area, scarify the bottom and sides, replace the filter fabric and soil, replant vegetation and mulch the surface.

Never store snow within a constructed stormwater wetland. This would prevent required water quality treatment and the recharge of groundwater.

Extended Dry Detention Basins

Extended dry detention basins are designed to control both stormwater quantity and quality. These BMPs are designed to hold stormwater for at least 24 hours, allowing solids to settle and to reduce local and downstream flooding. Pretreatment is required to reduce the potential for overflow clogging. The outflow

may be designed as either fixed or adjustable. Additional nutrient removal may be achieved by a micropool or shallow marsh.

Inspection & Maintenance

Annual inspection of extended dry detention basins is required to ensure that the basins are operating properly. Potential problems include: erosion within the basin and banks, tree growth on the embankment, damage to the emergency spillway and sediment accumulation around the outlet. Should any of these problems be encountered, necessary repairs should be made immediately.

Maintenance Schedule: Extended Dry Detention Basins

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
	Spring and	Bi-Annually, and during and after
Inspect basins	Fall	major storms
Examine outlet structure for clogging or high	Spring and	
outflow release velocities	Fall	Bi-Annually
Mow upper stage, side slopes, embankment and	Spring through	
emergency spillway	Fall	Bi-Annually
Remove trash and debris	Spring	Bi-Annually
Remove sediment from basin	Year round	At least once every 5 years

Proprietary Media Filters

Media Filters are designed to reduce total suspended solids and other target pollutants, such as organics, heavy metals or nutrients, which are sorbed onto the filter media, which is contained in a concrete structure. The substrate used as filter media depends on the target pollutants, and may consist of leaf compost, pleated fabric, activated charcoal, perlite, amended sand in combination with perlite, and zeolite. Two types of Media Filters are manufactured: Dry Media Filters, which are designed to dewater within 72 hours; and Wet Media Filters, which maintain a permanent pool of water as part of the treatment system.

Inspection & Maintenance

Maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements is necessary to ensure stormwater treatment. Inspection or maintenance of the concrete structure may require OSHA confined space training. Dry Media Filters are required to dewater in 72 hours, thus preventing mosquito and other insect breeding. Proper maintenance is essential to prevent clogging. Wet Media Filters require tight fitting seals to keep mosquitoes and other insects from entering and breeding in the permanent pools. Required maintenance includes routine inspection and treatment.

Maintenance Schedule: Proprietary Media Filters

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Inspect for standing water, trash, sediment and	Per manufacturer's	Bi-Annually
clogging	schedule	(minimum)
Remove trash and debris	N/A	Each Inspection
Examine to determine if system drains in 72		
hours	Spring, after large storm	Annually
	Per manufacturer's	Per manufacturer's
Inspect filtering media for clogging	schedule	schedule

Sand and Organic Filters

Sand and organic filters, also known as filtration basins, are intended for quality control rather than quantity control. These filters improve water quality by removing pollutants through a filtering media and settling pollutants on top of the sand bed and/or in a pretreatment basin. Pretreatment is required to prevent filter media from clogging. Runoff from the filters is typically discharged to another BMP for additional treatment.

Inspection & Maintenance

If properly maintained, sand and organic filters have a long design life. Maintenance requirements include raking the sand and removing sediment, trash and debris from the surface of the BMP. Over time, fine sediments will penetrate deep into the sand requiring replacement of several inches or the entire sand layer. Discolored sand is an indicator of the presence of fine sediments, suggesting that replacement of the sand should be completed.

Maintenance Schedule: Proprietary Media Filters

Activity	Frequency		
Inspect filters and remove debris	After every major storm for the first 3 months after		
	construction completion. Every 6 month		
	thereafter.		

Wet Basins

Wet basins are intended to treat stormwater quality through the removal of sediments and soluble pollutants. A permanent pool of water allows sediments to settle and removes the soluble pollutants, including some metals and nutrients. Additional dry storage is required to control peak discharges during large storm events, and if properly designed and maintained wet basins can add fire protection, wildlife habitat and aesthetic values to a property.

Inspection & Maintenance

To ensure proper operation, wet basin outfalls should be inspected for evidence of clogging or excessive outfall releases. Potential problems to investigate include erosion within the basin and banks, damage to the emergency spillway, tree growth on the embankment, sediment accumulation around the outlet and the emergence of invasive species. Should any of these problems be encountered, perform repairs immediately. An on-site sediment disposal area will reduce sediment removal costs.

Maintenance Schedule: Wet Basins

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Inspect wet basins	Spring and/or Fall	Annually (Minimum)
Mow upper stage, side slopes, embankment and		
emergency spillway	Spring through Fall	Bi-Annually (Minimum)
Remove sediment, trash and debris	Spring through Fall	Bi-Annually (Minimum)
		As required, but at least
Remove sediment from basin	Year round	once every 10 years

Dry Wells

Dry wells are used to infiltrate uncontaminated runoff. These BMPs should never be used to infiltrate stormwater or runoff that has the potential to be contaminated with sediment and other pollutants. Dry wells provide groundwater recharge and can reduce the size and cost required of downstream BMPs or storm drains. However, they are only applicable in drainage areas of less than one acre and may experience high failure rates due to clogging.

Inspection & Maintenance

Proper dry well function depends on regular inspection. Clogging has the potential to cause high failure rates. The water depth in the observation well should be measured at 24 and 48 hour intervals after a storm and the clearance rate calculated. The clearance rate is calculated by dividing the drop in water level (inches) by the time elapsed (hours).

Maintenance Schedule: Dry Wells

Activity	Frequency	
Inspect dry wells	After every major storm for the first 3 months af	
	construction completion. Annually thereafter.	

Infiltration Basins

Infiltration basins are designed to contain stormwater quantity and provide groundwater recharge. Pollution prevention and pretreatment are required to ensure that contaminated stormwater is not infiltrated. Infiltration basins reduce local flooding and preserve the natural water balance of the site, however high failure rates often occur due to improper siting, inadequate pretreatment, poor design and lack of maintenance.

Inspection & Maintenance

Regular maintenance is required to prevent clogging, which results in infiltration basin failure. Clogging may be due to upland sediment erosion, excessive soil compaction or low spots. Inspections should include signs of differential settlement, cracking, erosion, leakage in the embankments, tree growth on the embankments, riprap condition, sediment accumulation and turf health.

Maintenance Schedule: Infiltration Basins

Activity	Time of Year	Frequency
Preventative maintenance	Spring and Fall	Bi-Annually
		After every major storm for the first 3
		months after construction completion.
		Bi-annually thereafter and discharges
Inspection	Spring and Fall	through the high outlet orifice.
Mow/rake buffer area, side slopes and		
basin bottom	Spring and Fall	Bi-Annually
Remove trash, debris and organic matter	Spring and Fall	Bi-Annually

INSPECTION OF BIORETENTION AREAS / RAIN GARDENS

General Information

BMP Description	Bioretention Area / Rain Garden		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🗌 Dui	ring Storm Event 🔲	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Inspect for soil erosion and repair	Monthly	Yes No	
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Monthly	Yes No	
Remove trash	Monthly	Yes No No	
Mulch void areas	Annually	Yes No No	
Remove dead vegetation	Bi-Annually	Yes No No	
Replace dead vegetation	Annually	Yes No No	
Prune	Annually	Yes No No	
Replace all media and vegetation	As Needed	Yes No	

INSPECTION OF CONSTRUCTED STORMWATER WETLANDS Years 0-3 of Operation

General Information

BMP Description	Constructed Stormwater Wetland		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🗌 Dui	ring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Specific Information

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Monthly	Yes No	
Replace all media and vegetation	As Needed	Yes No	

In addition, the following information should be recorded and mapped at least once per year:

- Types and distribution of dominant wetland plants
- Presence and distribution of planted wetland species
- Presence and distribution of invasive species
- Indications other species are replacing planted wetland species
- Percent of standing water that is not vegetated
- Replace all media and vegetation
- Stability of original depth zones and micro-topographic features
- Accumulation of sediment in the forebay and micropool and survival rate of plants

INSPECTION OF CONSTRUCTED STORMWATER WETLANDS Year 4 - Lifetime of Operation

General Information

BMP Description	Constructed Stormwater Wetland		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🗌 Dui	ring Storm Event 🔲	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Inspect for invasive species and remove if present	Monthly	Yes No	
Clean forebays	Annually	Yes No No	
Clean sediment in basin/wetland system	Once every 10 years	Yes No	
Mulch void areas	Annually	Yes No No	
Remove dead vegetation	Bi-Annually	Yes No No	
Replace dead vegetation	Annually	Yes No No	
Prune	Annually	Yes No No	
Replace all media and vegetation	As Needed	Yes No No	

INSPECTION OF EXTENDED DRY DETENTION BASINS

Inspections should be conducted bi-annually, and during and after major storm events.

General Information

BMP Description	Extended Dry Detention Basin		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🗌 Dui	ring Storm Event 🔲	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Examine outlet structure for clogging or high outflow release velocities	Bi-Annually	Yes No	
Mow upper stage, side slopes, embankment and emergency spillway	Bi-Annually	Yes No	
Remove trash and debris	Bi-Annually	Yes No No	
Remove sediment from basin	At least once every 5 years	Yes No	

INSPECTION OF PROPRIETARY MEDIA FILTERS

General Information

BMP Description	Media Filter		
BMP Location			
Media Type			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection:			
Regular Pre-	-Storm Event Du	ring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Inspect for standing water, trash, sediment and clogging	Bi-Annually (minimum)	Yes No	
Remove trash and debris	Each Inspection	Yes No	
Examine to determine if system drains in 72 hours	Annually	Yes No	
Inspect filtering media for clogging	Per manufacturer's schedule	Yes No	

INSPECTION OF SAND AND ORGANIC FILTERS

Inspections should be conducted after every major storm event for the first 3 months following completion, then every 6 months thereafter.

General Information

BMP Description	Sand/Organic Filter		
BMP Location			
Media Type			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event Dun	ring Storm Event 🔲	Post-Storm Event
Regular 11e-	-Storm Event Dui	ing Storm Event	Tost-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Remove sediment, trash, and debris	Every 6 months	Yes No	
Rake sand	Every 6 months	Yes No	

INSPECTION OF DRY WELLS

Regular inspections should be conducted after every major storm event for the first 3 months following completion, then annually thereafter.

General Information

BMP Description	Dry Well		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection:			
Regular Pre-	-Storm Event Dur	ring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			
Describe condition of dry well at time of inspection			

After a major storm event, the water depth in the observation well should be measured at 24 and 48 hour intervals and the clearance rate calculated.

INSPECTION OF WET BASINS

Inspections should be conducted after every major storm event for the first 3 months following completion, then biannually thereafter.

General Information

BMP Description	Wet Basin		
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection:			
Regular Pre-	-Storm Event Dur	ring Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			
Describe condition of wet basin at time of inspection			

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
Preventative maintenance	Bi-Annually	Yes No No	
Mow/rake buffer area, side slopes and basin bottom	Bi-Annually	Yes No	
Remove trash, debris and organic matter	Bi-Annually	Yes No	
Inspect and clean pretreatment devices	Every other month and after every major storm event	Yes No	

INSPECTION OF OTHER BMP

General Information			
BMP Description			
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspec	tion
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular Pre-	-Storm Event 🔲 🏻 🗈	During Storm Event	Post-Storm Event
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			
Specific Information			
Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
		Yes No No	
		Yes No No	
		Yes No No	
		Ves □ No □	

Yes

Yes

Yes

No \square

No 🗌

No 🗌

