

Standard Operating Procedures

Town of Braintree

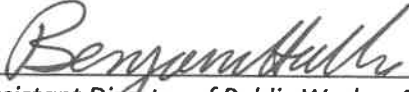
Department of Public Works

Stormwater Treatment Structures Inspection & Maintenance

Issue Date:

6/29/2019

Approved by:



Assistant Director of Public Works - Operations

Purpose of SOPs:

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 three common constructed BMPs, including:

1. Bioretention Areas and Rain Gardens
2. Extended Dry Detention Basins
3. Infiltration Basins

MA Small MS4 General Permit Requirement Summary:

Part 2.3.7.a.iii.6.

The permittee shall establish and implement inspection and maintenance frequencies and procedures for all stormwater treatment structures such as water quality swales, retention/detention basins, infiltration structures, proprietary treatment devices or other similar structures. All permittee-owned stormwater treatment structures (excluding catch basins) shall be inspected annually at a minimum.

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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.

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.

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

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
Inspection	Spring and Fall	After every major storm for the first 3 months after construction completion. Bi-annually thereafter and discharges 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

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1. Employees are trained yearly on this procedure and the proper operation of equipment. Employees are also trained on stormwater pollution prevention, spill and response, and illicit discharge detection and elimination procedures.

Record Keeping

1. Records are kept at the DPW Highway Division Office.

Revising the SOPs

These procedures are reviewed yearly and updated as needed.

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 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> During Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/>			
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Specific Information

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

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 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> During Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/>			
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Specific Information

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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mow upper stage, side slopes, embankment and emergency spillway	Bi-Annually	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Remove trash and debris	Bi-Annually	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Remove sediment from basin	At least once every 5 years	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

INSPECTION OF OTHER BMP

General Information

BMP Description			
BMP Location			
Inspector's Name			
Date of Inspection		Date of Last Inspection	
Start Time		End Time	
Type of Inspection: Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> During Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Storm Event <input type="checkbox"/>			
Describe the weather conditions at time of inspection			

Specific Information

Maintenance Activity	Maintenance Frequency	Is Status of BMP Satisfactory?	Corrective Action Needed
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	