

Stormwater Sewer System Operations & Maintenance Manual

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City of Camas
Stormwater Division | Public Works

City of
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Introduction

Background

All public and privately owned, roads, parking lots, residential developments, commercial or industrial developments, or school facilities have various components that make up a storm system. These components consist of conveyance pipes, catch basins, manholes, roadside ditches, stormwater facilities (such as bioswales, detention ponds, wet ponds, treatment filters, etc.), landscaping and any other structure that collects, conveys, controls, and/or treats stormwater. Regardless of the component, all storm systems eventually discharge into 'waters of the state' which are streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands.

Under the Federal Clean Water Act (FCWA) and in compliance with the Department of Ecology's NPDES Phase II Permit, 'waters of the state' are to be protected from contamination. This in turn protects threatened and endangered species under the Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA).

One way to protect 'waters of the state' is to provide the proper maintenance of all storm system components. It is the responsibility of the City of Camas (City) to ensure that all components of the public storm system be properly maintained and operated. The City is responsible for those components that are located within the City's right-of-way, such as the conveyance pipes, manholes, catch basins, roadside ditches, and stormwater facilities. A large part of the stormwater facilities in the City are privately owned and maintained by the property owners. These property owners include, but are not limited to, Homeowners Associations (HOAs), school district, businesses, and commercial/industrial site owners.

Purpose

This manual is intended to help, both public and private stormwater facility maintenance operators, meet the requirements of City Municipal Code 14.02.090 for proper maintenance and operation of the various storm system components. Proper maintenance will help to assure that:

- Stormwater facilities operate as they were designed;
- Storm systems are cleaned of the pollutants that they trap, such as sediment and oils, so that storm systems are not overwhelmed and become pollutant sources;
- Pollutant sources are removed, or minimized, prior to entering the storm system.

Along with keeping a site from flooding, properly maintained storm system can help reduce surface water and groundwater pollution. Most sites have some type of stormwater control component designed to limit the environmental and flooding damage caused by stormwater runoff. These components require more labor intensive maintenance than a system of pipes and catch basins.

Manual Layout

This manual is broken out into various best management practice (BMP) maintenance components. For each BMP maintenance component, this manual will:

- Briefly describe the component type, e.g. facility or activity.
- Describes potential maintenance issues and/or problems.
- Describes conditions when maintenance is required.
- Minimum performance standards and suggested maintenance methods.

Additional information may be found in other manuals, such as the Washington Department of Ecology's *Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW)*, Vols. V, and Ecology's LID manual.

Inspection of a stormwater facility will determine if conditions require a maintenance action. The maintenance standard is not the required condition at all times. Exceeding a condition, between inspections and/or maintenance, does not automatically constitute a violation of these standards. The inspection and maintenance schedules should be adjusted to minimize the length of time that a facility is in a condition that requires maintenance.

Emergent Treatment Technologies

Some stormwater treatment facilities are designed and installed with emerging technologies that are not standard at the time of their installation. If not found in this manual, a treatment facility may be an emerging technology approved by Washington Department of Ecology; the maintenance standards can be found at [Emerging Stormwater Treatment Technologies](#).

Mosquito Control

Mosquitoes are annoying and sometimes pose a serious risk to public health. They can transmit diseases such as West Nile Virus and equine encephalitis. Above-ground stormwater facilities should be designed to allow water to flow through or infiltrate in less than 48 hours. Presence of mosquitos in a stormwater facility may indicate a clogged outlet, compromised infiltration capacity, or other defect that should trigger inspection and may require maintenance.

If mosquitos are identified during a stormwater facility maintenance or inspection and are a concern, a request to the Clark County Mosquito Control District for service or information regarding mosquito control can be made online at [Mosquito Control District](#) or at the 24-hour request line, 360-397-8430.

Material Disposal and Spills

The disposal of waste, e.g. sediment or standing water, from the maintenance of the stormwater facilities and storm system components shall be conducted in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations, including the Solid Waste Handling Standards chapter [173-350 WAC](#), Minimum Functional Standards for Solid

Waste Handling chapter [173-304 WAC](#) and [Appendix IV-B](#): Management of Street Waste Solids and Liquids of the SWMMWW. Dangerous waste must be handled following, Dangerous Waste Regulations chapter [173-303 WAC](#). Vegetation to be recycled and disposed of at local receptacle locations.

For major spills, coordinate removal/cleanup with the City at 360-817-1563 and notify Department of Ecology at 360-407-6300.

Vegetated Facilities

Biofiltration Swale

Biofiltration swales use grass or other dense vegetation to filter sediment and oily materials out of stormwater. Usually, they look like flat-bottomed channels with grass growing in them. As water passes through the vegetation, pollutants are removed through the effects of filtration, infiltration and settling.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.8 for biofiltration swale maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix and groundcover replacements, or see SWMMWW [BMP T9.10, Tables V-7.3 and V-7.4](#). Presence of cattails is a sign that that there is water ponding and the facility is not functioning as design. Cattails will need to be removed and further investigation may be required.



Wet Biofiltration Swale

A wet biofiltration swale is a variation of basic biofiltration swale for use where the centerline slope is slight, groundwater table are high, or a continuous low base flow is likely to result in wet soil conditions for long periods of time. Where continuously wet soil exceeds about 2 weeks, typically grasses will die. Thus, vegetation specifically adapted to wet soil conditions is needed. Different vegetation requires modification of several of the design and maintenance requirements from the basic biofiltration swale.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.9 for wet biofiltration swale maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix and groundcover replacements, or see SWMMWW [BMP T9.20, Table V-7.5](#). Removal of cattail is required when vegetation is crowded out by very dense clumps of cattails, prevents water flow, or alters the designed functionality.



Filter Strip

Filter strips are linear strips of grass that remove sediment and oils from stormwater by filtering it. Stormwater is treated as it sheet flows across the filter strip. Usually, filter strips are placed along the edge of linear paved areas, such as parking lots and roads. Where designed filter strips are installed; road shoulders should only be graded to maintain level flow off the road.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.10 for filter strip maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix replacement, or see SWMMWW [BMP T9.10, Table V-7.3](#).



Detention Pond

Detention pond facilities are designed to hold and slowly release stormwater by use of a pond with a specially designed control structure. Styles vary greatly from well-manicured to natural appearing. Generally, native vegetation is preferred for reduced maintenance and enhance wildlife habitat. Some facilities are designed to appear as natural water bodies or are in a park-like setting.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.1 for detention pond maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix replacement, or see SWMMWW [BMP D.1, Table V-12.3](#). Removal of cattail is required when vegetation is crowded out by very dense clumps of cattails, prevents water flow, or alters the designed functionality.



Wet Pond

A wet pond is an open basin that retains a permanent pool of water year-round or only during the wet season. The volume of the wet pond allows sediment and other pollutants to settle out of the runoff. Wetland vegetation is typically planted within the wet pond to provide additional treatment through nutrient removal. Detention quantity control can be provided with additional temporary storage volume above the permanent pool elevation.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.11 for wet pond maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix and plants replacement, or see SWMMWW [BMP D.1, Table V-12.3](#) for seed mix and [BMP T10.10, Table V-8.1](#) for plants. Removal of cattails is required when vegetation is crowded out by very dense clumps of cattails, prevents water flow, or alters the designed functionality.



Infiltration Facility

Infiltration facilities dispose of water by holding it in an area where it can soak into the ground. These are open facilities that may either drain rapidly and have grass bases or have perpetual ponds where water levels rise and fall with stormwater flows. Infiltration facilities may be designed to handle all of the runoff from an area or they may overflow and bypass larger storms.

Since the facility is designed to pass water into the ground, generally after passing through a sediment trap/manhole, anything that can cause the base to clog will reduce the performance and is a large concern. Generally, infiltration basins are managed like detention ponds, but with greater emphasis on maintaining the capacity to infiltrate stormwater.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.2 for infiltration facility maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for seed mix replacement, or see SWMMWW [BMP D.1, Table V-12.3](#). Removal of cattail is required when vegetation is crowded out by very dense clumps of cattails, prevents water flow, or alters the designed functionality.



Rain Garden

Rain gardens are non-engineered, shallow, landscaped depressions with compost-amended soils and adapted plants. The depression temporarily stores stormwater runoff from adjacent areas. Some or all the influent stormwater passes through the amended soil profile and into the underlying native soil. Stormwater that exceeds the storage capacity is designed to overflow to an adjacent drainage system.

If available, reference record drawings for plant replacements, or see [Rain Garden Handbook for Western Washington, Appendix A](#) for recommendation on rain garden plants. Presence of cattails is a sign that that there is water ponding and the facility is not functioning as design. Cattails will need to be removed and further investigation may be required.



Rain Garden			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Trash and Debris	Evidence of trash and debris	Remove trash and debris
Side slopes	Erosion	Persistent soil erosion on slopes	Replenish mulch areas throughout rain garden - on the sides and bottom of the rain garden and around the perimeter (and on berm if applicable).
Bottom area	Sediment	Visible sediment that reduces drainage rate	Remove sediment accumulation
		Sediment deposited from water entering the rain garden	Remove sediment, determine the source, and stabilize area
	Leaves	Matted accumulation of leaves reducing drainage rate	Remove leaves
Ponded water	Ponding	Ponded water remains for more than 3 days after the end of a storm	Remove sediment, leaf litter and/or debris accumulation
Pipe inlet/outlet	Pipe	Water is backing up in pipe	Clear pipes of sediment and debris with snake and/or flush with water
		Damaged or cracked drain pipes	Repair or seal cracks, or replace as needed
Inlet rock pad	Erosion	Rock or cobble is removed, missing and flow is eroding soil.	Replace rock and reestablish pad
Weeds	Weeds	Weeds are present	Remove weeds and apply mulch after weeding
Vegetation	Dying Vegetation	Dying, dead or unhealthy plants	Remove diseased plants or plant parts and dispose, then replace
	Sight Distance	Vegetation reduces sight distances and sidewalk	Keep sidewalks and sight distances on roadways clear
	Blockage	Vegetation is crowding inlets and outlets	Remove vegetation crowding inlets and outlets
	Poor Vegetation Growth	Yellowing, poor growth, poor flowering, spotting or curled leaves, weak roots, or stems	Test soil to identify specific nutrient deficiencies. Do not use synthetic fertilizers Consider selecting different plant for soil conditions
Mulch	Bare Soil	Bare spots are present or mulch depth less than 2 inches	Supplement mulch with hand tools to a depth of 2 to 3 inches, keep mulch away from woody stems.

Bioretention

Bioretention facilities are engineered facilities that store and treat stormwater by filtering it through a specified soil profile. Water that enters the facility ponds in an earthen depression or other basin (e.g., concrete planter) before it infiltrates into the underlying bioretention soil. Stormwater that exceeds the surface storage capacity overflow to an adjacent drainage system. Treated water is either infiltrated into the underlying native soil or collected by an underdrain and discharged. An underdrain system can be comprised of perforated or slotted pipe, wrapped in an aggregate blanket.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.21 for bioretention maintenance standards. If available, reference record drawings for plant replacements, or see [LID Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound](#), Appendix 1 for plant recommendations. Presence of cattails is a sign that there is water ponding and the facility is not functioning as design. Cattails will need to be removed and further investigation may be required.



Conveyance Ditch

Ditches are often manmade open-channels that convey stormwater runoff. These ditches are maintained to prevent localized flooding.



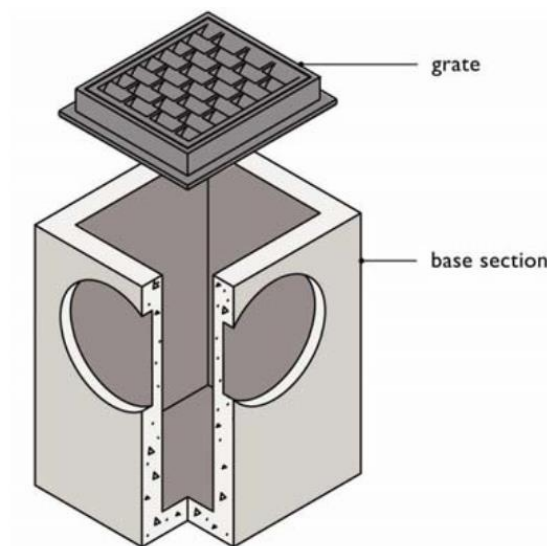
Conveyance Ditch			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Sediment	Sediment exceeds 20% of ditch depth or affects the historic or designed hydraulic capacity.	Remove sediment deposits. When finished, ditch should be level from side to side and drain freely in intended direction.
	Standing Water	Excessive standing water in ditch between storms due to ditch not draining freely	If possible, repair cause of poor drainage. This may include but is not limited to the following activities: remove sediment or trash blockages, improve grade of ditch.
	Eroded or Unstable Side Slopes	When grass is sparse, bare or eroded, patches occur in more than 20% of the ditch	Determine why grass growth is poor and correct that condition. Replant with plugs of grass at eight-inch intervals or reseed. If cause is excessive moisture replace grass with wetland plantings.
	Vegetation	Grass is excessively tall (greater than 15 inches). Nuisance weeds and other vegetation start to take over ditch.	Mow vegetation and/or remove nuisance vegetation so that flow is not impeded. Grass should be mowed to a height of 3 to 4 inches.
	Bare Soil	Poor vegetation coverage.	Reseed poor vegetation areas. Reference "Low Grow" seed mix, see SWMMWW BMP C120 Table II-3.4
	Inlet/Outlet Pipes or Culverts	Inlet/outlet area clogged with sediment and/or debris	Remove material so that there is no clogging or blockage in the inlet and outlet area
	Trash and Debris	Any trash and debris which exceed 1 cubic feet per 1,000 square feet. In general, there should be no visual evidence of dumping.	Remove trash and debris from ditch.
	Erosion/Scouring	Eroded or scoured ditch bottom	Permanently stabilize ditch bottom

Stormwater Structures

Catch Basin

A catch basin is an underground concrete structure with a slotted grate that collects stormwater runoff and route it through the underground pipes. Catch basins typically provide a sump below the outlet pipe to allow sediment and debris to settle out of the stormwater runoff. Some catch basins are fitted with a spill control device such as an inverted elbow on the outlet pipe to control grease or oils. The most common tool for cleaning catch basins is a vactor truck which is used to remove sediment and debris from the sump. The sediment and oils if not removed from the catch basins have the potential to pollute downstream waterbodies. Unless you have Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) approved confined space training and equipment, never enter a catch basin. There is a considerable risk of poisonous gas and injury.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.5 for catch basin maintenance standards.



Field/Ditch Inlet

An inlet is a concrete, plastic or steel structure fitted with a slotted grate to collect stormwater runoff and route through underground pipes. A field inlet has a flat grate, and a ditch inlet has an angled grate. These inlets typically provide a sump below the outlet pipe to allow sediment and debris to settle out of the stormwater runoff. Some of these inlets are fitted with a spill control device such as an inverted elbow on the outlet pipe to control grease or oils. The most common tool for cleaning out the inlet is a vactor truck which is used to remove sediment and debris from the sump. The sediment and oils if not removed from the inlet has the potential to pollute downstream water bodies. Unless you have OSHA approved confined space training and equipment, never enter an inlet. There is a considerable risk of poisonous gas and injury.



Field Inlet

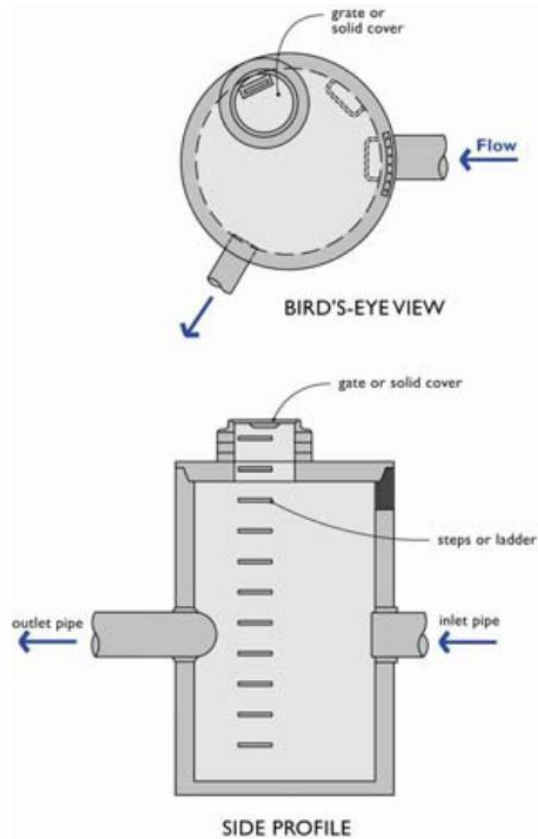


Ditch Inlet

Field Inlet/Ditch Inlet			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Trash & Debris	Trash or debris blocking inletting capacity by more than 10%.	Remove trash or debris blocking grate opening.
		Dead animals or vegetation that could generate odors that could cause complaints or dangerous gases (e.g., methane).	Remove dead animals or vegetation present within the field/ditch inlet.
	Sediment	Sediment has accumulated to within six inches of the invert of the lowest pipe	Remove sediment
	Structure Damage to Frame and/or Top Slab	Top slab has holes larger than 2 square inches or cracks wider than 1/4 inch.	Repair top slab to be free of holes and cracks.
		Frame not sitting flush on top slab, i.e., separation of more than 3/4 inch of the frame from the top slab. Frame not securely attached	Make adjustments so that frame is sitting flush on the riser rings or top slab and is firmly attached.
	Fractures or Cracks in Field Inlet Walls/Bottom	Grout fillet has separated or cracked wider than 1/2 inch and longer than 1 foot at the joint of any inlet/outlet pipe or any evidence of soil particles entering catch basin through cracks.	RegROUT pipe and secure at field inlet wall.
	Settlement/ Misalignment	If failure of field inlet has created a safety, function, or design problem.	Replace or repair field inlet to design standards.
	Vegetation	Vegetation growing across and blocking more than 10% of the inlet opening.	Remove vegetation blockage from basin opening.
Contamination and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants, or other pollutants	Identify and remove source. Notify City at (360) 817-1567.	
Metal Grates	Grate Not in Place	Grate is missing or only partially in place. Any open field inlet requires maintenance.	Replace missing grate, cover field inlet
	Grate opening Unsafe	Grate with opening wider than 7/8 inch.	Repair grate opening
	Damaged or Missing.	Grate missing or broken member(s) of the grate.	Replace missing grate or repair broken member(s)

Manhole

Manholes are large cylindrical underground structures usually set at storm sewer pipe connections. Manholes are used in storm sewer system at any change in direction, slope, pipe material or pipe size. Some manholes have sumps and fitted with stormwater flow control structures such as orifices or weirs. Unless you have OSHA approved confined space training and equipment, never enter a manhole. There is a considerable risk of poisonous gas and injury.

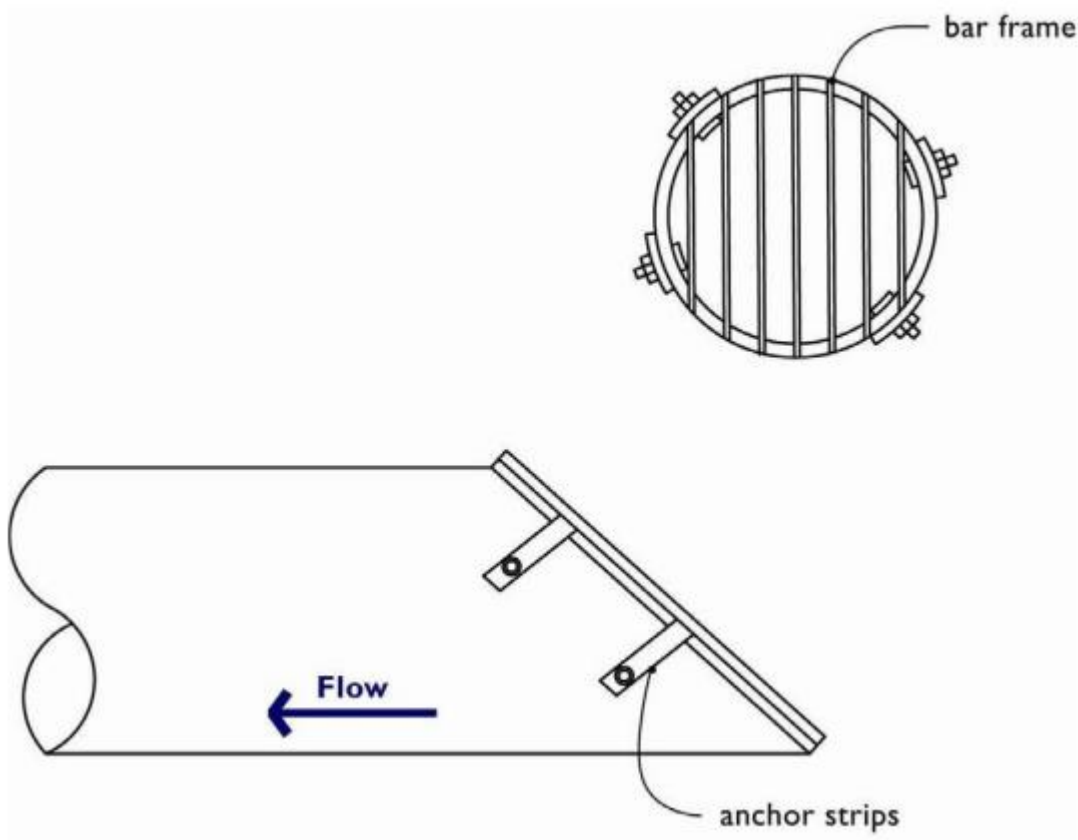


Manhole			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Trash and Debris	Trash or debris has accumulated to within six inches of the invert of the lowest pipe.	Remove all trash or debris from manhole.
		Trash or debris in any inlet or outlet pipe blocking more than 1/3 of its height.	Remove trash or debris from inlet and outlet pipes.
	Sediment	Sediment has accumulated to within six inches of the invert of the lowest pipe.	Remove all sediment from manhole
	Structure Damage to Frame and/or Top Slab	Top slab has holes larger than 2 square inches or cracks wider than 1/4 inch.	Repair top slab to be free of holes and cracks.
		Frame not sitting flush on top slab, i.e., separation of more than 3/4 inch of the frame from the top slab. Frame not securely attached	Make adjustments so that frame is sitting flush on the riser rings or top slab and is firmly attached.
	Fractures or Cracks in Manhole Walls/Bottom	Grout fillet has separated or cracked wider than 1/2 inch and longer than 1 foot at the joint of any inlet/outlet pipe or any evidence of soil particles entering manhole through cracks.	RegROUT pipe and secure at manhole wall.
	Settlement/ Misalignment	If failure of manhole has created a safety, function, or design problem.	Replace or repair manhole to design standards.
Cover	Cover Not in Place	Cover is missing or only partially in place. Any open manhole requires maintenance.	Replace missing cover, cover manhole.
	Locking Mechanism Not Working	Mechanism cannot be opened by one maintenance person with proper tools. Bolts into frame have less than 1/2 inch of thread.	Repair opening mechanism
	Cover Difficult to Remove	One maintenance person cannot remove lid after applying normal lifting pressure.	Make adjustments so that one maintenance person can remove the manhole cover.
Ladder	Ladder Rungs Unsafe	Ladder is unsafe due to missing rungs, not securely attached to basin wall, misalignment, rust, cracks, or sharp edges.	Repair or replace ladder to meet design standards and allow maintenance person safe access.
Control Structure/Flow Restrictor	See Control Structure/Flow Restrictor		

Debris Barrier

Debris barriers and trash racks are barred covers to pipe openings. They prevent large objects from entering pipes and keeps pets and people out of the pipes as well.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.6 for debris barrier maintenance standards.



Profile View

Sediment Trap

A sediment trap is a concrete structure typically fitted with slotted grate or multiple slotted grates. The concrete structure provides a storage volume (sump) below the outlet pipe to allow sediment and debris to settle out of the stormwater runoff. A sediment trap can be a fully enclosed concrete structure (above or below ground) with a sump, inlet pipe(s) and outlet pipe.



Sediment Trap			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Trash and Debris	Trash and debris which is located immediately in front of the sediment trap opening or is blocking the inlet capacity of the basin by more than 10%	Remove trash and debris
		Dead animals or vegetation that could generate odors that could cause complaints or dangerous gases (e.g., methane).	Remove dead animals or vegetation present within the sediment trap.
	Sediment (non-enclosed structure)	Sediment depth exceeds 2 inches.	Remove sediment
	Sediment (enclosed structure)	Sediment depth within 6 inches from lowest invert	Remove sediment
	Fractures or Cracks in Sediment Trap	Grout fillet has separated or cracked wider than 1/2 inch and longer than 1 foot at the joint of any inlet/outlet pipe or any evidence of soil particles entering sediment trap through cracks.	RegROUT pipe and secure at sediment trap wall.
	Settlement/ Misalignment	If failure of sediment trap has created a safety, function, or design problem.	Replace or repair sediment trap to design standards.
	Vegetation	Vegetation growing across and blocking more than 10% of the sediment trap opening	Remove vegetation
	Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants, or other pollutants	Remove contaminants and/or pollutants. (Coordinate removal/cleanup with local water quality response agency)
Slotted Grate	Trash and Debris	Trash and debris that is blocking more than 20% of the grate surface inlet capacity	Remove trash and debris from grate
	Damaged or Missing Grate	Grate missing or broken member(s) of the grate	Replace or repair grate to design standards.
Cover (enclosed structure)	Cover Not in Place	Cover is missing or only partially in place.	Replace missing cover
	Cover Difficult to Remove	One maintenance person cannot remove lid after applying normal lifting pressure or latch broken	Make adjustments so that one maintenance person can remove the cover and/or repair broken latch.

Energy Dissipater

Energy dissipaters are critical for preventing erosion at storm drain outfalls. There are a variety of designs, including wire gabion baskets, rock splash pads, trenches, and specially designed pools or manholes. They are installed on or near the inlet or outlet to a closed pipe system to prevent erosion at these locations.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.7 for energy dissipater maintenance standards.



Discharge Point

Stormwater facility discharge points may convey drainage from the stormwater facility into open channels, ditches, ponds, wetlands, streams, or lakes. Stormwater facility discharge points need to be assessed to make sure stormwater is not causing any negative impacts to these drainage areas.



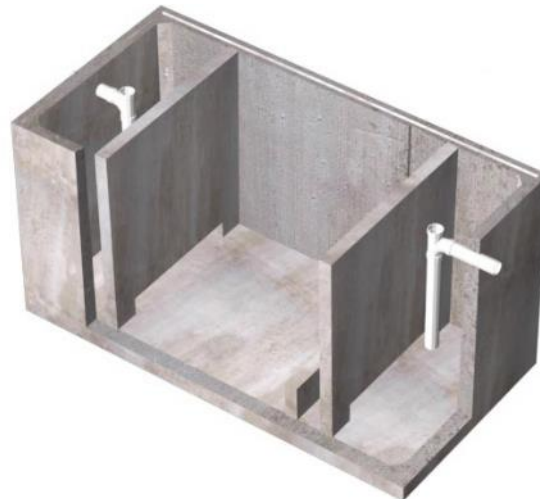
Discharge Point			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
Monitoring	Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, sewage, contaminants, or other pollutants	Identify and remove source. The effluent discharge should be clear and free of odor. Notify City at (360) 817-1567.
	Ditch or Stream Banks Eroding	Erosion, scouring, or head cuts in ditch or stream banks downstream of facility discharge point due to flow channelization or higher flows.	Stabilize ditch or stream banks. Report to City for engineer evaluation.
General	Missing or Moved Rock	Only one layer of rock exists above native soil in an area five square feet or larger, or any exposure of native soil	Replace or repair rock pad to design standards
	Erosion	Soil erosion in or adjacent to rock pad	Replace or repair rock pad to design standards
	Sediment	Sediment blocking 20% of the pipe diameter	Remove sediment
	Obstructions	Roots or debris enters pipe or deforms pipe, reducing flow	Remove roots from pipe by mechanical methods; do not use root-dissolving chemicals in storm sewer pipes. If necessary, remove vegetation over the line.
	Pipe Rusted or Deteriorated	Any part of the piping that is crushed or deformed excessively or any other failure to the piping	Repair or replace pipe
Energy Dissipater	See Energy Dissipater		

Oil/Water Separators

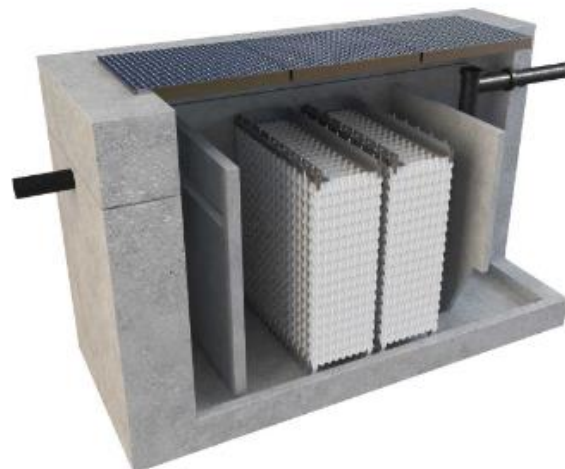
An oil/water separator is an underground vault that treats stormwater by mechanically separating oil from water. The oil rises to the surface and floats on the water and sediment settles to the bottom. Oil/water separators are typically utilized in locations where high oil concentrations in the stormwater runoff are anticipated (e.g., service and fuel stations). Oil/water separators are most commonly used as the first pretreatment facility in a series of stormwater management facilities.

These facilities have special problems for maintenance and should be serviced by contractors. The main issues are working in confined spaces and properly handling any sludge and oil cleaned from vaults or oil/water separators. Manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance should be followed at a minimum.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.16 for baffle oil/water separator maintenance standards and Table V-A.17 for coalescing plate oil/water separator maintenance standards.



Baffle Oil/Water Separator

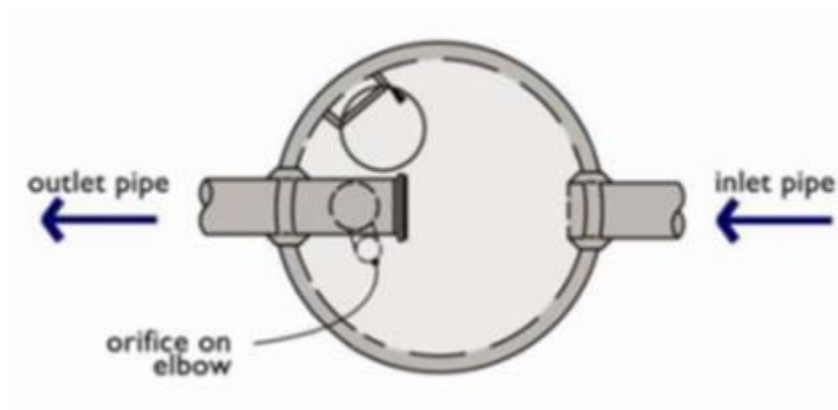


Coalescing Plate Oil/Water Separator

Flow Control Structures/Flow Restrictors

Flow control structures and flow restrictors direct or restrict flow in or out of facility components. Outflow controls on detention facilities are a common example where flow control structures slowly release stormwater at a specific rate. The flow is regulated by a combination of orifices (holes with specifically sized diameters) and weirs (plates with rectangular or 'V' shaped notch). Lack of maintenance of the control structure can result in the plugging of an orifice. If these flow controls are damaged, plugged, bypassed, or not working properly, the facility could overtop or release water too quickly.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.4 for control structure/flow restrictor maintenance standards.



Plan View

Storm Sewer Pipe

Storm sewer pipes convey stormwater. Storm pipes are constructed of many different types of materials and are sometimes perforated to allow groundwater to be collected by the storm system. Storm pipes are cleaned to remove sediment or blockages when problems are identified. Storm pipes must be clear of obstructions and breaks to prevent localized flooding.



Storm Sewer Pipe			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Obstructions, Including Roots	Obstruction exists in pipe, reducing flow capacity	Remove obstruction. Use mechanical methods. Do not put root-dissolving chemicals in storm sewer pipes. If necessary, remove the vegetation over the line.
	Pipe Dented or Broken	Inlet/outlet pipe damaged or broken	Repair or replace pipe
	Pipe rusted or deteriorated	Any part of the piping that is crushed or deformed excessively or any other failure to the piping	Repair or replace pipe
	Sediment and Debris	Sediment or debris depth is greater than 15% of the pipe diameter	Clean pipe. Evaluate source of sediment upstream of the pipe and stabilize if possible.
	Broken Trash Screen	Trash screen is broken or missing parts	Repair or replace trash screen
	Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants, or other pollutants	Identify and remove source. Notify City at (360) 817-1567.

Closed Detention System

A closed detention system functions similarly to a detention pond but with the storage volume provided by an underground structure. The structure is typically constructed of large diameter pipe, plastic chamber structure or a concrete vault. These systems are typically utilized for sites that do not have space available for an above-ground system and are more commonly associated with commercial sites.

Underground detention systems are enclosed spaces where harmful chemicals and vapors can accumulate. Therefore, the maintenance of these facilities should be conducted by an individual trained and certified to work in hazardous confined spaces.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.3 for closed detention maintenance standards.



Drywell

Drywells are perforated, open-bottomed manholes used to infiltrate stormwater into the ground. While not the intended use, drywells trap sediment and some of the oil pollutants in stormwater runoff. Drywells are more likely to fill with oily sediment in areas that lack swales or other treatment facilities. Fine oil sediment can clog drywells and lead to localized street flooding. Also, pollutants discharged into drywells can migrate into groundwater. Drywells were often installed in closed topographic depressions, areas with will-drained soils, or areas having inadequate storm sewers. Often, drywells contain groundwater.



Drywell			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Does not Dissipate Stormwater	Does not dissipate stormwater	Replace or repair
	Opening Clogged	Openings are clogged, reducing capacity	Clear openings or convert existing drywell to a sediment trap and install a new drywell or drainage trench. To convert to a sediment trap: grout holes, cover base with concrete, and add piping. Alterations to any storm facility cannot be done without approval from the City of Camas.
	Standing Water	Standing water indicates the drywell is into the groundwater table	Rebuild drywell to prevent stormwater from going directly into groundwater
	Trash and Debris	Trash or debris blocking any inlet or outlet pipe	Remove trash and debris
	Sediment	Sediment in drywell exceeds 60 percent of the depth below the lowest pipe	Remove sediment
	Structure Damage	Structure unsound	Replace or repair drywell to design standards.
	Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants, or other pollutants	Identify and remove source. Notify City at (360) 817-1567.
Cover	Cover Not in Place	Cover is missing or only partially in place.	Replace missing cover
	Cover Difficult to Remove	One maintenance person cannot remove cover after applying normal lifting pressure.	Make adjustments so that one maintenance person can remove the drywell cover.

Pond Leveler System

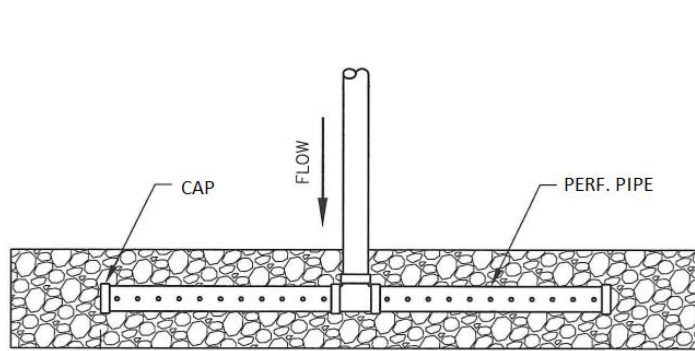
The pond leveler system consists of an intake cage and outlet pipe. This system is used to bypass beaver dams. The pond leveler system creates a permanent leak through the beaver dam that the beavers cannot stop.



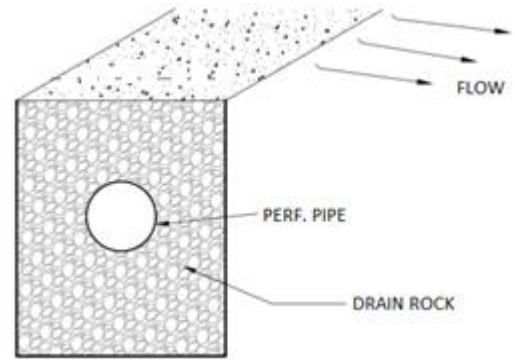
Pond Leveler			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
Intake Cage	Debris and sediment	Debris and sediment build up around cage	Remove debris and sediment build up around cage. Recommended tools: potato rake and a narrow, stiff shop broom.
	Structure	Broken cage, resulting in holes larger than 6" diameter.	Repair hole with similar cage material, attach with hog rings.
	Obstruction to inflow pipe	Debris obstructing pipe flow inside intake cage	Remove obstruction
Outflow Pipe	Obstruction	Debris obstructing outflow	Remove obstruction

Dispersion Trench

Dispersion trench are grave-filled trenches, which serve to spread runoff over vegetated pervious areas. This BMP reduce peak flows, provide some infiltration, and water quality benefits.



Plan View



Cross Section

Dispersion Trench			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Trash and Debris	Any trash and debris which exceed 1 cubic feet per 1,000 square feet. In general, there should be no visual evidence of dumping.	Remove trash and debris from site.
	Poisonous Vegetation and noxious weeds	Any poisonous or nuisance vegetation which may constitute a hazard to maintenance personnel or the public. Any evidence of noxious weeds as defined by State or local regulations.	Remove noxious weeds. Compliance with State or local eradication policies required. Apply requirements of adopted IPM policies for the use of herbicides.
	Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants, or other pollutants	Identify and remove source. Notify City at (360) 817-1567.
	Rodent Holes	Any evidence of rodent holes.	Fill holes.
Perforated Pipe	Sediment and/or obstruction	Sediment and/or obstruction impeding the flow, causing backup	Remove sediment and/or obstruction

Special Facilities

Manufactured Media Filter

Manufacture media filters are passive, flow-through, stormwater treatment systems. They are comprised of manholes or vaults that house media-filled filter cartridges. Stormwater passes through a filtering medium, which traps particulates and/or absorb pollutants such as dissolved metals and hydrocarbons. Once filtered through the media, the treated stormwater is directed to a collection pipe or discharge to a pond or open channel drainage way.

The filter media can be housed in cartridge filters enclosed in concrete vaults or catch basins. Structures will have vault doors or manhole lids for maintenance access. Various types of filter media are available from different manufactures. Determine the type of filter media used and consult manufacturer for maintenance recommendations.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.15 for manufactured media filters maintenance standards.

Manufactured Media Filter – Additional Maintenance Standards			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
Below Ground Vault or Manhole	Sediment Accumulation in Vault (no first chamber)	Sediment depth exceeds 4-inches on vault floor.	Remove sediment from vault floor. May require replacing media cartridges, consult manufacturer.



Permeable Pavement

Permeable pavement is a paving system which allows rainfall to percolate through the surface into the underlying soil or an aggregate bed, where stormwater is stored and infiltrated to underlying subgrade, or removed by an overflow drainage system.

See SWMMWW [Appendix V-A](#), Table V-A.22 for permeable pavement maintenance standards.



Modular Wetland

Modular wetlands linear is a biofiltration system that utilizes horizontal flow which allows for a smaller footprint, higher treatment capacity and design versatility. This system can be utilized downstream of storage for additional volume control and treatment. The modular wetland is contained in an underground vault that has different chambers containing media. Some modular wetlands can have plants growing out of it, but it is not required for the system to function. Once filtered through the media, the treated stormwater is directed to a collection pipe or discharge to a pond or open channel drainage way.



Modular Wetland			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Missing or damaged components	Missing or damaged internal components or cartridges	Replace missing or repair damaged internal components or cartridges
Inlet or Outlet	Obstruction	Obstruction to inlet or outlet that impedes flow	Remove obstruction
Pretreatment Chamber	Floatingables	Excessive accumulation of floatables, in which the length and width of the chamber is fully impacted more than 18"	Remove floatables
	Sediment	Excessive accumulation of sediment, more than 6" in depth	Remove sediment
Filter Cartridges	Sediment	Excessive accumulation of sediment on media, more than 85% clogged (blackish color)	Replace media
Vegetation (if applicable)	Overgrown	Overgrown vegetation	Trim/prune vegetation in accordance with landscaping and safety needs
Structure	Cracks in structure	Cracks wider than 1/2 inch or evidence of soil particles entering the structure through cracks	Repair cracks in vault

Tree Box Filter

Tree box filter is a stormwater treatment system incorporating high performance biofiltration media to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff.



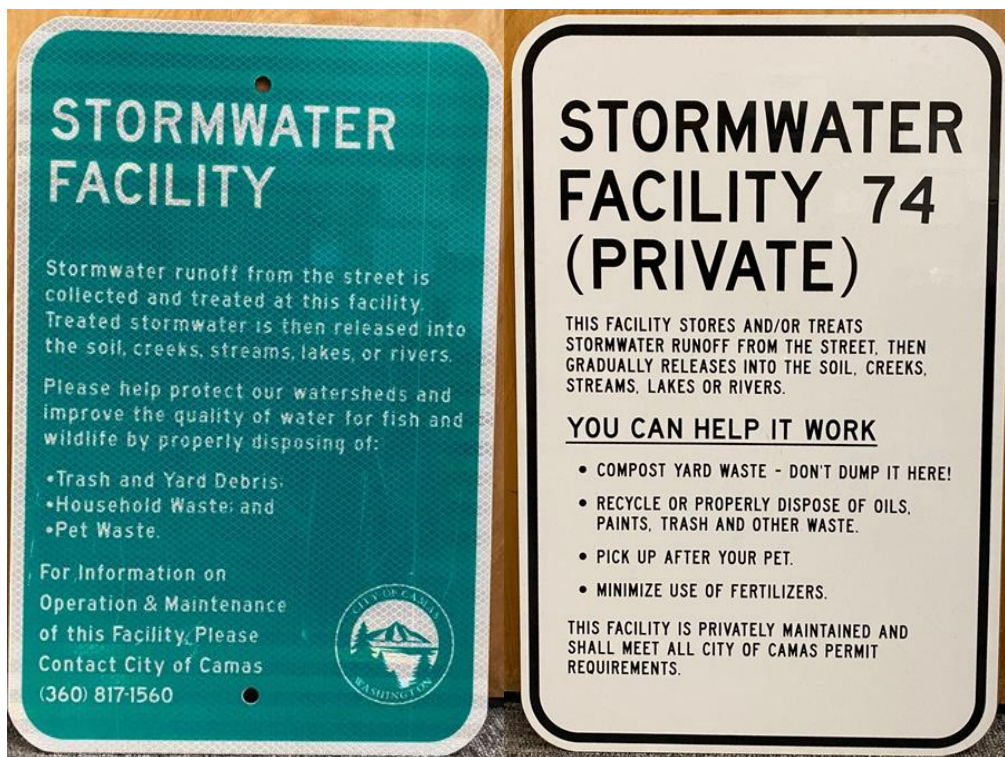
Tree Box Filter			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
Inlet	Excessive sediment or trash accumulation	Accumulated sediments or trash impair free flow of water into system	Remove sediment and/or trash
Mulch cover	Trash and debris	Excessive trash and/or debris accumulation	Remove trash and/or debris.
	Standing water	Ponding of water over mulch due to excessive fine sediment accumulation or spill of petroleum oils	Remove mulch and replace, contact manufacturer for advice
Vegetation	Plant not growing or in poor condition	Soil/mulch too wet, evidence of spill, incorrect plant selection, pest infestation, vandalism to plants	Plants should be healthy and pest free, contact manufacturer for advice
	Plant growth excessive	Plants should be appropriate to the species and location	Trim/prune plants in accordance with landscaping and safety needs
Structure	Cracks in structure	Cracks wider than 1/2 inch or evidence of soil particles entering the structure through cracks	Repair cracks in vault

Miscellaneous Items

Fences, Gates and Water Quality Signs

Fences are installed around the perimeter of stormwater facilities as a means of protecting the public, as they restrict entrance to the facility. Gates are installed to allow for maintenance access. Gates will be secured, typically with a double lock system (daisy chain) that allows access to the City and to the property owner's maintenance crew.

Water Quality Signs are installed on the fences, or on sign poles, within public view as a means of educating the public as to the presence of a stormwater facility. These signs also have a number located in the upper right hand corner that is cross referenced, at the City, to an address and maintenance responsibility. The publicly owned storm facility signs are green and the privately owned storm facility signs are white.



Public Storm Sign (Green)

Private Storm Sign (White)

Fence, Gate and Water Quality Sign			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Gate or Fence Allows Unauthorized Entry	Openings in fence, missing gate, openings beneath fence allowing unauthorized access	Repaired gate and/or fence to prevent unauthorized access
	Locking Mechanism	Mechanism cannot be opened by one maintenance person with proper tools	Repair/replace lock
		No lock on gate, allows unauthorized entry	Add lock
	Damaged Parts	Posts out of plumb more than six inches	Plumb post
		Top rails of plumb more than six inches	Repair top rails so that it is free of bends greater than 1 inch
	Erosion	Erosion has resulted in an opening under a fence that allows entry by people or pets	Replace soil under fence so that no opening exceeds 4 inches in height
	Sign	Sign is leaning more than 8 inches off vertical	Reset sign to plumb
		Sign is missing or 20% of surface is unreadable	Replace sign

Access Roads and Easements

Many stormwater facilities have access roads to bring in heavy equipment for facility maintenance. These roads are typically gravel and should be maintained for inspection access and ease of equipment entry. All facilities should allow access for the inspection process. The easement area should be adequately or otherwise stabilized. Bare soil areas will generate higher levels of stormwater runoff and increase erosion and sedimentation in stormwater facilities.

Access Road and Easements			
Maintenance Component	Defect or Problem	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Maintenance Required
General	Erosion	Soils are bare or eroded	Seed or use other stabilization BMP
	Road Surface	Conditions of road surface may lead to erosion of the facility or limit access	Repair road
	Erosion of Ground Surface	Noticeable rills are seen in landscaped areas	Identify causes of erosion and implement BMPs to slow down/spread out the water. Fill, contour, and seed eroded areas. If needed, re-grade affected areas.
	Trash and Debris	Any trash and debris which exceed 1 cubic feet per 1,000 square feet. In general, there should be no visual evidence of dumping.	Remove trash and debris from site.
	Poisonous Vegetation and Noxious Weeds	Any poisonous or nuisance vegetation which may constitute a hazard to maintenance personnel or the public. Any evidence of noxious weeds as defined by State or local regulations.	Remove noxious weeds. Compliance with State or local eradication policies required. Apply requirements of adopted IPM policies for the use of herbicides.
	Tree Growth and Hazard Trees	Tree growth does not allow maintenance access or interferes with maintenance activity (i.e., slope mowing, silt removal, vactoring, or equipment movements). If dead, diseased, or dying trees are identified.	Remove hazardous tree that impede with maintenance access and activities. Remove trees that are damaging the pipe system and/or blocking drain inlet. Remove dead, diseased, or dying trees. Harvested trees should be recycled into mulch or other beneficial uses (e.g., alders for firewood).
	Weeds (Non-poisonous)	Weeds growing in more than 20% of the landscaped area (tree and shrubs only).	Remove weeds
	Insects	When insects such as wasps and hornets interfere with maintenance activities.	Destroy or remove insects from site. Apply insecticides in compliance with adopted IPM policies.

Pavement Sweeping

Pavement sweeping is performed as a means of removing sand, dirt, and litter from streets and curb gutters. Sweeping also reduces dust during dry weather. Pavement sweeping plays a large part in stormwater maintenance because it limits the amount of sediment washed into the municipal storm sewer system. The water quality procedure for street sweeping focuses on sediment removal and disposal. Reducing the amount of sediment washed into catch basins, curb inlets, detention facilities, drywells, and other facilities can save money because sweeping is generally cheaper than removing sediment from facilities. Sweeping also helps protect facilities from clogging with sediment.

Typically, the City sweeps the downtown area once a week and the whole city about three times per year. Most of the downtown area does not have water quality treatment. Pavement sweeping is the main source for pollution control.



Repair/Replacement Activities

Minor Culvert Repair (Not in a Stream)

This activity is for the replacement or repair of culverts and inlets. It applies only to structures that are in ditches that are specifically for storm drainage. These are ditches that do not carry water during dry weather. If there is any question about whether the ditch is a storm drain or a stream, consult with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the City of Camas Public Works Department.

Major Culvert Repair (at a Stream Crossing)

This activity is the replacement or repair of culverts and inlets bridging a stream or ditch with flowing water during dry weather. If there is any question about whether the ditch is a storm drain or a stream, consult the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the City of Camas Public Works Department.

These projects must meet all regulatory requirements such as State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Shoreline Permit, Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) and Flood Plain.



Vegetation Management

The City recognizes the special importance of the rivers, streams, wetlands, ponds, and stormwater control and treatment facilities. The sensitive nature of such habitat, their plant and animal communities, and their direct link with other waterways require that we establish specific policies to ensure their health. All landscape management decisions for controlling unwanted vegetation, diseases, and pests should follow the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) principles and decision-making rationale.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Principles

1. Correctly identify the pest problem and understand their life cycle. Refer to online resources such as [Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board](#) and [Washington Invasive Species Council](#).
2. Every landscape has a population of some pest insects, weeds, and diseases. Once the pest has been identified and studied, determine if low levels of the pest are tolerable. Small numbers of certain pests may not be harmful. If this is the case, simply continue to monitor the pest population.
3. If pest exceed tolerance thresholds, choose a safe and effective control method.
 - a. Cultural methods of vegetation and pest control are preferred and are first employed. Cultural control changes the pest's environment: landscape fabric, mulch, soil amendments, altering the irrigation method of duration, crop rotation, crop covers, etc.
 - b. Mechanical means of vegetation and pest control are next in line of preference and are utilized where feasible. Mechanical means consist of digging, hand-pulling, mowing, tilling, trapping, etc.
 - c. Biological methods of vegetation and pest control are considered before chemical means, where they are feasible. Biological control uses natural enemies: beneficial insects, managed grazing, bird boxes and perches, etc.
 - d. Chemical methods are used only when no other feasible methods exist. Chemical control is the use of pesticides to remove vegetation and pests.
4. Observe and record the results of the control treatment. Evaluate the effectiveness. If necessary, modify maintenance practices to support a healthy landscape and prevent recurrence of the pest.

A licensed pesticide applicator is required for performing any chemical application in stormwater facilities. Applicators must be licensed in Washington State with an aquatic endorsement ([WAC 16-228-1545](#)). Applicator must submit a copy of their license to the City prior to starting work. Aquatic pesticide products are recommended. No chemical application shall be applied directly in the water. Do not apply pesticide when it is raining. Check the weather and ensure there are multiple dry days before and after application. Do not apply pesticide on windy days to prevent drift movement of pesticide from target areas.

For vegetated areas outside of stormwater facilities, Washington State pesticide application laws and rules are followed, [Chapter 17.21 RCW](#) and [Chapter 16-228 WAC](#).

Plants and Groundcover

Use plants that will thrive in the growing conditions of each facility. Growing conditions are affected by moisture, soil conditions, and light. Plants native to western Washington are preferred. Recommended plants, seed mixes and groundcover list for biofiltration swales, bioretention systems, rain gardens, and other facility types are given in the respective BMP maintenance sections. It is best to reference the stormwater facility record drawings for vegetation replacements, if available. Fertilization of vegetated stormwater facilities should be avoided.

The City has adopted a list of approved plants for use in development projects, and to assist homeowners in choosing appropriate plantings. The list also has prohibited undesirable plants. Only plants approved for use on the [City of Camas Plant Materials](#) are allowed within the City's right-of-way.

Mulches and other ground coverings are useful during the installation and restoration of landscapes as well as their ongoing maintenance. Mulches meet a variety of needs. They suppress weeds, help to retain moisture around plants, reduce possible erosion and provide visual enhancement. Possible risk impacts to consider when using mulch are inadvertent introduction of non-native plants or migration of mulch material into waterways.

Possible scenarios where trees should be removed and/or trimmed in a stormwater facility (always check if the stormwater facility has a liner before tree removal):

- Trees that pose a risk to a stormwater structure due to root growth should be removed.
- Trees that are growing on spillways that would impede drainage should be removed.
- Hazardous trees should be removed.
- Trees/shrubs that hinder accessibility to access roads should be trimmed or removed.

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