

Underground Detention Facility Maintenance Schedule and Guidelines

A. INSPECTIONS

The Detention Facility shall be inspected quarterly and within 48 hours after each major storm event. The frequency of inspecting the Detention Facility may increase depending on the generation of trash and debris and sediments in the facility. The detention facility shall be inspected annually by representatives of the owner and the governing jurisdiction to assure continued proper functioning.

B. RECORDS OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The facility owner must maintain records of the operation and maintenance of the Detention Facility to document the effective maintenance of this important component of your storm water management program. This log should include all inspection dates, observations, and maintenance activities, as well as the observations of the depth of water at each inspection in order to determine the rate at which the facility dewateres after runoff producing storm events. Once the performance characteristics of the structure have been verified, the monitoring schedule can be reduced to an annual basis, unless the performance data suggest that a more frequent schedule is required.

C. MAINTENANCE TASKS

The following items shall be inspected and maintained as stated:

- Drain Inlet Pipes shall be inspected for clogging or leaks where it enters the detention facility during every inspection and cleanout. Debris and sediment that is found to clog the inlet shall be removed, tested, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal and state requirements.
- Detention Facilities shall be inspected for cracks or damage during each inspection. The detention facility shall be cleaned out yearly or after an inch of sediment has accumulated. Grit and sediment that has settled to the bottom of the facility shall be removed during each cleaning. Water and sediment in the detention facility shall be removed, tested, and disposed of in accordance with regulations. Cleaning shall be accomplished without use of detergents or surfactants. If the facility contains an oil skim, it should be removed by a firm specializing in oil recovery and recycling.
- The Control Structure shall be inspected for clogging during unit inspections/cleanouts. Debris and sediment that is found to clog the inlet shall be removed, tested, and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal and state requirements.
- Egress and ingress routes to the detention facility is required for efficient maintenance shall be open and maintained to design standards.
- Vegetation such as trees should not be located in or around the detention facility because roots from trees can penetrate the unit body, and leaves from deciduous trees and shrubs can increase the risk of clogging the intake pipe. Large shrubs or trees that are likely to interfere with detention facility operation shall be identified at each inspection then removed.
- Signage (where applicable) will be maintained and repaired as needed during or shortly after inspections.
- Insects and rodents shall not be harbored in the detention facility. Pest control measures shall be taken when insects and rodents are found to be present. Sprays may be applied only with prior approval from the governing jurisdiction, and only by a licensed individual or contractor. Holes in the ground located in and around the detention facility shall be filled.