



**Stormwater Management Facility
Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual**

For:

Development Name

Located at:

Insert Address

Prepared for:

Property Owner Name

Address

Phone No.

Prepared by:

Name and Firm

Address and Phone No.

**Stormwater Management Facility
Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual**

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Stormwater Management Facility Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual

I. Compliance with Stormwater Facility Maintenance Requirements

All property owners are responsible for ensuring that stormwater facilities installed on their property are properly maintained and that they function as designed. In some cases, this maintenance responsibility may be assigned to others through special agreements. The maintenance responsibility for a stormwater facility may be designated on the subdivision plat, the site development plan, and/or within a maintenance agreement for the property. Property owners should be aware of their responsibilities regarding stormwater facility maintenance. Maintenance agreement(s) associated with this property are provided in Appendix A.

In some cases, the City of Wheat Ridge (City) may agree to provide the required inspection and maintenance for some or all private stormwater facilities. In these cases, a CITY maintenance agreement will be included in Appendix A for those facilities that are agreed to be included in the CITY routine maintenance program.

II. Inspection & Maintenance – Annual Reporting

Requirements for the inspection and maintenance of stormwater facilities, as well as reporting requirements are included in this Stormwater Management Facility Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual.

Verification that the Stormwater facilities have been properly inspected and maintained; submittal of the required Inspection and Maintenance Forms and Inspector qualifications shall be provided to the CITY on an annual basis. The annual reporting form shall be provided to the City prior to May 31st of each year.

Copies of the Inspection and Maintenance forms for each of the stormwater facilities are located in Appendix D and E. A standard annual reporting form is provided in Appendix F. Each form shall be reviewed and submitted by the property owner or property manager **electronically** to the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager via the following email, blarow@ci.wheatridge.co.us. If unable to submit via email other arrangements can be made.

Property owners are not required to provide Inspection and Maintenance Reports for stormwater facilities that have been agreed to be maintained by the City. These reports will be generated through the City's inspection & maintenance program.

III. Preventative Measures to Reduce Maintenance Costs

The most effective way to maintain your water quality facility is to prevent the pollutants from entering the facility in the first place. Common pollutants include sediment, trash & debris, chemicals, dog wastes, runoff from stored materials, illicit discharges into the storm drainage system and many others. A thoughtful maintenance program will include measures to address these potential contaminants, and will save money and time in the long term. Key points to consider in your maintenance program include:

- Educate property owners/residents to be aware of how their actions affect water quality, and how they can help reduce maintenance costs.
- Keep properties, streets and gutters, and parking lots free of trash, debris, and lawn clippings.
- Ensure the proper disposal of hazardous wastes and chemicals.
- Plan lawn care to minimize the use of chemicals and pesticides.
- Sweep paved surfaces and put the sweepings back on the lawn.
- Be aware of automobiles leaking fluids. Use absorbents such as cat litter to soak up drippings – dispose of properly.
- Re-vegetate disturbed and bare areas to maintain vegetative stabilization.
- Clean out the upstream components of the storm drainage system, including inlets, storm sewers and outfalls.
- Do not store materials outdoors (including landscaping materials) unless properly protected from runoff.

IV. Access and Easements

All stormwater management facilities located on the site have both a designated access location as well as a maintenance easement. Refer to the Stormwater Facilities Map located in Appendix G for access and easement locations.

V. Safety

Keep safety considerations at the forefront of inspection procedures at all times. Likely hazards should be anticipated and avoided. Never enter a confined space (outlet structure, manhole, etc) without proper training or equipment. A confined space should never be entered without at least one additional person present.

If a toxic or flammable substance is discovered, leave the immediate area and contact the local Sheriff at 911.

Potentially dangerous (e.g., fuel, chemicals, hazardous materials) substances found in the areas must be referred to the local Sheriff's Office immediately for response by the Hazardous Materials Unit. The emergency contact number is 911.

Vertical drops may be encountered in areas located within and around the facility. Avoid walking on top of retaining walls or other structures that have a significant vertical drop. If a vertical drop is identified within the pond that is greater than 48" in height, make the appropriate note/comment on the maintenance inspection form.

If any hazard is found within the facility area that poses an immediate threat to public safety, contact the local Sheriff's Office immediately.

VI. Field Inspection Equipment

It is imperative that the appropriate equipment is taken to the field with the inspector(s). This is to ensure the safety of the inspector and allow the inspections to be performed as efficiently as possible. Below is a list of the equipment that may be necessary to perform the inspections of all Stormwater Management Facilities:

- Protective clothing and boots.
- Safety equipment (vest, hard hat, confined space entry equipment).
- Communication equipment.
- Operation and Maintenance Manual for the site including stormwater management facility location maps.
- Clipboard.
- Stormwater Facility Maintenance Inspection Forms (See Appendix D).
- Manhole Lid Remover
- Shovel.

Some of the items identified above need not be carried by the inspector (manhole lid remover, shovel, and confined space entry equipment). However, this equipment should be available in the vehicle driven to the site.

VII. Inspecting Stormwater Management Facilities

The quality of stormwater entering the waters of the state relies heavily on the proper operation and maintenance of permanent best management practices. Stormwater management facilities must be periodically inspected to ensure that they function as designed. The inspection will determine the appropriate maintenance that is required for the facility.

A. Inspection Procedures

All stormwater management facilities are required to be inspected by a qualified individual at a minimum of once per year. Inspections should follow the inspection guidance found in the SOP for the specific type of facility. (Appendix C of this manual).

B. Inspection Report

The person(s) conducting the inspection activities shall complete the appropriate inspection report for the specific facility. Inspection reports are located in Appendix D.

The following information explains how to fill out the Inspection Forms:

General Information

This section identifies the facility location, person conducting the inspection, the date and time the facility was inspected, and approximate days since the last rainfall. Property classification is identified as single-family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, or other.

The reason for the inspection is also identified on the form depending on the nature of the inspection. All facilities should be inspected on an annual basis at a minimum. In addition, all facilities should be inspected after a significant precipitation event to ensure the facility is draining appropriately and to identify any damage that occurred as a result of the increased runoff.

Inspection Scoring

For each inspection item, a score must be given to identify the urgency of required maintenance. The scoring is as follows:

- 0 = No deficiencies identified.
- 1 = Monitor – Although maintenance may not be required at this time, a potential problem exists that will most likely need to be addressed in the future. This can include items like minor erosion, concrete cracks/spalling, or minor sediment accumulation. This item should be revisited at the next inspection.
- 2 = Routine Maintenance Required – Some inspection items can be addressed through the routine maintenance program (See SOP in appendix A). This can include items like vegetation management or debris/trash removal.

3 = Immediate Repair Necessary – This item needs immediate attention because failure is imminent or has already occurred. This could include items such as structural failure of a feature (outlet works, forebay, etc), significant erosion, or significant sediment accumulation. This score should be given to an item that can significantly affect the function of the facility.

N/A This is checked by an item that may not exist in a facility. Not all facilities have all of the features identified on the form (forebay, micro-pool, etc.).

Inspection Summary/Additional Comments

Additional explanations to inspection items, and observations about the facility not covered by the form, are recorded in this section.

Overall Facility Rating

An overall rating must be given for each facility inspected. The overall facility rating should correspond with the highest score (0, 1, 2, 3) given to any feature on the inspection form.

C. Verification of Inspection and Form Submittal

The Stormwater Management Facility Inspection Form provides a record of inspection of the facility. Inspection Forms for each facility type are provided in Appendix D. Verification of the inspection of the stormwater facilities, the facility inspection form(s), and Inspector Qualifications shall be provided to the City on an annual basis. The verification and the inspection form(s) shall be reviewed and submitted by the property owner or property manager.

Refer to Section II of this Manual regarding the annual reporting of inspections.

VIII. Maintaining Stormwater Management Facilities

Stormwater management facilities must be properly maintained to ensure that they operate correctly and provide the water quality treatment for which they were designed. Routine maintenance performed on a frequently scheduled basis, can help avoid more costly rehabilitative maintenance that results when facilities are not adequately maintained.

A. Maintenance Categories

Stormwater management facility maintenance programs are separated into three broad categories of work. These categories are based largely on the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District's Maintenance Program for regional drainage facilities. The categories are separated based upon the magnitude and type of the maintenance activities performed. A description of each category follows:

Routine Work

The majority of this work consists of scheduled mowings and trash and debris pickups for stormwater management facilities during the growing season. This includes items such as the removal of debris/material that may be clogging the outlet structure well screens and trash racks. It also includes activities such as weed control, mosquito treatment, and algae treatment. These activities normally will be performed numerous times during the year. These items can be completed without any prior correspondence with the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager however, completed inspection and maintenance forms shall be submitted to the City for each inspection and maintenance activity.

Restoration Work

This work consists of a variety of isolated or small-scale maintenance and work needed to address operational problems. Most of this work can be completed by a small crew, with minor tools, and small equipment. These items require prior correspondence with the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager and require that completed maintenance forms be submitted to the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager for each maintenance activity via email.

Rehabilitation Work

This work consists of large-scale maintenance and major improvements needed to address failures within the stormwater management facilities. This work requires consultation with the City and may require an engineering design with construction plans to be prepared for review and approval. This work may also require more specialized maintenance equipment, surveying, construction permits or assistance through private contractors and consultants. These items require prior correspondence with the City and require that completed maintenance forms be submitted to the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager for each maintenance activity.

B. Maintenance Personnel

Maintenance personnel must be qualified to properly maintain stormwater management facilities. Inadequately trained personnel can cause additional problems resulting in additional maintenance costs and/or overlook critical inadequacies with the overall operations of the facility.

C. Maintenance Forms

The Stormwater Management Facility Maintenance Form provides a record of maintenance activities. Maintenance Forms for each facility type are provided in Appendix E. Maintenance Forms shall be completed by the contractor completing the required maintenance items. The form shall then be reviewed by the property owner or an authorized agent of the property owner and submitted on an annual basis to the City Stormwater Quality Program Manager.

Refer to Section II of this Manual regarding the annual reporting of inspections and maintenance activities performed.

If there are any areas that need further explanation or if there are aspects of this Operations and Maintenance Manual that are of concern contact the City of Wheat Ridge's Stormwater Quality Program Manager Bill LaRow via phone at 303-235-2871 or via email at blarow@ci.wheatridge.co.us