

Stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) Maintenance

has been a topic of discussion amongst most proprietary product suppliers, but what about the regulators, engineers, and property owners.

BMP Maintenance



Did you know

- You are required to maintain all permanent BMPs on your property.
- A sumped catch basin is a BMP.
- When you sign your Notice of Termination at the completion of your project you are also agreeing to have a maintenance program in place for all permanent BMPs.
- Most BMPs should be inspected quarterly.
- Proprietary BMPs when properly cleaned and inspected will operate just like the day it was installed.



Maintenance facts

Recently a national study was conducted by the Stormwater Equipment Manufacturers Association (SWEMA), many regulatory agencies reported as not having BMPs within their jurisdiction. For those that had BMPs, many stated that maintenance was the responsibility of the property owner.

In the same national study it was reported that of the 757 wet ponds under maintenance, 43% were maintained once per year. Time spent on maintenance per pond ranged between 2 and 36 hours.

In addition of the 380 Dry Ponds reported under maintenance, 44% were maintained once per year. Time spent on maintenance per pond ranged between 1 and 18 hours.

While of the 485 hydrodynamic separators, 83% were maintained once per year. Time spent on maintenance per separator ranged between 2-4 hours.

Imagine the maintenance cost savings if you placed a hydrodynamic separator upstream of every outlet into a wet or dry pond.

What you can do to help

- Inform your clients of the BMPs being used on their property and what they require to remain functional
- Carefully explain all BMP maintenance obligation to clients
- Consider the full life cycle costs of your stormwater design - Lowest installed costs today does not necessarily equate to lowest long term operating costs. Consider treatment trains to extend the life and reduce the maintenance cost of BMPs.
- Help your client establish a maintenance program and share the estimated yearly cost with them.

