



# **Dry Detention Maintenance Guide**

Rain cannot soak into the ground when it falls on hard surfaces like parking lots. Instead, it "runs off" into a storm drain or ditch. This stormwater runoff is captured and eventually reaches our creeks and lakes.

A dry detention basin (also known as a dry pond) is a type of Stormwater Control Measure (SCM). It is designed to capture runoff, remove pollutants and release stormwater slowly before it reaches our waterways.

#### How does it work?

Most dry detention basins consist of three main components that help filter stormwater:

The first section, the **forebay**, removes floating materials and heavy sediments.

The main basin holds water to slow down the runoff leaving the site.

The outlet structure controls how fast the water leaves the basin and enters the storm drainage system.

**Dry Detention Basin Example** 

Note: Specific details of each dry detention basin can vary from site to site. Please refer to the approved plans.



# **Dry Detention Maintenance Property Owner's Tasks and Schedule**



Inspect quarterly and within 24 hours after every storm event greater than one inch. Maintenance tasks may need to be performed more frequently to ensure the dry detention basin is functioning appropriately.

# TASKS: QUARTERLY (and after heavy rainfall)

- Remove trash and debris.
- Remove weeds, preferably by hand.
- Maintain grass at a height of between 4 to 6 inches.
- Repair erosion.
- Unclog inlet and outlet structures if pond is not draining as designed.
- Remove woody vegetation from within the basin and both sides of the embankment.

#### **TASKS: ANNUAL**

• A qualified inspector should inspect the basin and all structural components once per year for cracks, leaks and other deficiencies.

## Additional recommendations

• No standing water should be present more than 5 days after a storm event. Check for any clogged or blocked parts such as the inlet or outlet.

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