Contech[®] CMP Detention Inspection and Maintenance Guide

Underground stormwater detention and infiltration systems must be inspected and maintained at regular intervals for purposes of performance and longevity.

Inspection

Inspection is the key to effective maintenance of CMP detention systems and is easily performed. Contech recommends ongoing, annual inspections. Sites with high trash load or small outlet control orifices may need more frequent inspections. The rate at which the system collects pollutants will depend more onsite specific activities rather than the size or configuration of the system.

Inspections should be performed more often in equipment washdown areas, in climates where sanding and/or salting operations take place, and in other various instances in which one would expect higher accumulations of sediment or abrasive/ corrosive conditions. A record of each inspection is to be maintained for the life of the system.

Maintenance

CMP detention systems should be cleaned when an inspection reveals accumulated sediment or trash is clogging the discharge orifice. Accumulated sediment and trash can typically be evacuated through the manhole over the outlet orifice. If maintenance is not performed as recommended, sediment and trash may accumulate in front of the outlet orifice. Manhole covers should be securely seated following cleaning activities. Contech suggests that all systems be designed with an access/inspection manhole situated at or near the inlet and the outlet orifice. Should it be necessary to get inside the system to perform maintenance activities, all appropriate precautions regarding confined space entry and OSHA regulations should be followed.

Annual inspections are best practice for all underground systems. During this inspection if evidence of salting/de-icing agents is observed within the system, it is best practice for the system to be rinsed, including above the spring line soon after the spring thaw as part of the maintenance program for the system.

Maintaining an underground detention or infiltration system is easiest when there is no flow entering the system. For this reason, it is a good idea to schedule the cleanout during dry weather.

The foregoing inspection and maintenance efforts help ensure underground pipe systems used for stormwater storage continue to function as intended by identifying recommended regular inspection and maintenance practices. Inspection and maintenance related to the structural integrity of the pipe or the soundness of pipe joint connections is beyond the scope of this guide.





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