

Bioretention Basin Maintenance Guide



Inspection Checklist	Y/N		If yes, perform the following maintenance.
Are weeds or invasive plants present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Pull weeds and invasive plants out by the roots to prevent them from returning. Spot treat perennial weeds with appropriate herbicide if necessary.
Is there sediment accumulation?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove sediment that has accumulated in the inlets, outlets, and bottom of the basin with a shovel or other appropriate tool.
Are trash, excessive leaves, grass clippings, or other debris present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove any debris present.
Is anything blocking or clogging inlets or outlets?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove any debris or sediment that may be preventing the water from flowing into or out of the bioretention basin.
Are there areas of bare soil or erosion?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Add mulch where it has been depleted and add additional plants where necessary. Use appropriate erosion control methods for more serious cases of erosion.
Is there standing water 48 or more hours after a rainfall?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	This is an indication that your bioretention basin is not functioning as designed, likely due to a larger problem that will require further study and action.
If underdrain is present, is there standing water 48 or more hours after a rainfall?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Remove any trapped sediment present. If sediment does not appear to be blocking flow, this may be an indication that your underdrain is not functioning as designed and will require further study and action.

Additional Comments:

Importance of Bioretention Basins

The bioretention basin on your property makes a significant positive impact on the water quality of nearby lakes and streams. The shallow impoundment is designed to capture and absorb rainwater. The soil in your bioretention basin naturally removes pollutants such as phosphorus, nitrogen, and heavy metals from the water. This helps prevent these and other pollutants from entering our lakes and streams where they can cause unwanted algae and degrade water quality. Bioretention basins contain plants with long roots that should soak up all water within 48 hours of an average rainfall. Some basins also use drain tiling underneath to increase the amount of rainwater they can capture. Thank you for your help in protecting our water resources by keeping your bioretention basin looking great and functioning properly.



Inspector: _____
 Date: _____
 Time: _____

**Ramsey-Washington Metro
 Watershed District
 2665 Noel Drive
 Little Canada, MN 55117
 www.rwmwd.org**

With questions, please contact:
 Nicole Soderholm, BMP Inspector
 E-mail: nicole.soderholm@rwmwd.org
 Phone: 651-792-7976