



STORMWATER BMP MAINTENANCE NEWSLETTER



Fall is here!

Make time to get out and take in all the beautiful colors the County's natural places have to offer. Taking care of your stormwater management facilities means you are also taking care of our natural places... Thanks!

Keeping Stormwater Management Facilities Clean = Keeping Maintenance Costs Down

Trash and debris can clog a stormwater facility fast, possibly leading to flooding of surrounding property and damage to the structure. Removing trash and debris before they enter the structure can be cheaper than removal from inside the structure. Having to drain or pump water out of a structure for more intense maintenance can add significantly to the cost.



In addition to the aesthetic benefits, regular trash removal and parking lot sweeping can prevent trash and other pollutants from entering a facility.



Removing trash and plant debris from around stormwater ponds after severe weather can also help prevent these items from entering the structure and blocking outflow structures.

Much routine maintenance can be handled by landscaping companies at regular visits. Establish preventative maintenance and best management practices with them, directing them to haul away or compost grass clippings and vegetation cuttings rather than storing them around pond edges or blowing them to curbs where they can enter inlets and eventually facilities.

Fall Maintenance Tips

Think twice before a heavy fall herbaceous pruning in planted facilities. Leaving seed heads and leaves late into the fall and winter provides food and habitat for native insects and birds. Leaving vegetation also slows the flow during fall rainstorms, reducing the potential of erosion in bioretention bottoms. Plan full cutback pruning in early winter.

When blowing and storing leaves, avoid storm drains and stormwater facilities (to include bioretention areas). Leaves can clog inlets and media and block the flow of stormwater into the facility.

Learning Opportunities:

IMPORTANT: There will be no Fall 2016 Contractor Training. Join us for the next above and below-ground maintenance training on January 12, 2017 to learn more about maintenance and compliance.

There are new regulations regarding disposing at the Oaks Landfill. **All contractors performing underground maintenance will be required to attend the January training**, regardless of date of last attendance. Please [click here](#) to sign up for the training.

Learn more about the Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC) Credit and how you can save some green by being green. [Click here](#).

Greenfest 2017 has been scheduled! Visit the website for more information: montgomerycountygreenfest.org.

Fall 2016 Newsletter 10/12/16

The quarterly (and sometimes more) e-newsletter of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Program has useful information and seasonal tips for Property Managers, contractors, and HOAs to assist you with your stormwater facility maintenance needs.

Montgomery County, MD has thousands of stormwater facilities including ponds, wet ponds, underground structures, bioretention facilities, and much more. DEP ensures that they are all regularly maintained and functioning as-designed to protect our local streams.

To view previous editions of the newsletter, [visit our website](#). Past editions are at the bottom of the landing page.