

Structural BMP

Common Inspection Items

The following are examples of typical assessments made during an inspection of structural (treatment control) BMPs. This is a general list, so not all of the items apply to all types of BMPs.

1. Ensure that the BMP is correctly and permanently installed (including any necessary vegetation), based on the approved plans and/or the Storm Water Management and Discharge Control Maintenance Agreement (“Maintenance Agreement”) for your property.
2. Ensure that the BMP is free of damage. Vegetated BMPs should be free of erosion or scouring.
3. Ensure that the BMP does not have significant sediment, trash, and/or debris accumulation.
4. Ensure that the BMP inlets and outlets are free of obstructions. Obstructions may be caused by sediment, trash, and debris, or by excessive vegetation.
5. Ensure that the BMP is free of standing water and unpleasant odors.
6. Ensure that vegetated BMPs maintain sufficient ground cover (per design). Vegetation should be healthy, but not overgrown.
7. Ensure that any filter media pouches, booms, cartridges, etc. associated with a BMP are completely secured, intact, and in working condition. Filter media should be replaced according to manufacturer’s specifications.
8. Ensure that pre-manufactured structural BMPs follow manufacturer’s recommended operations and maintenance specifications. These may vary by device and manufacturer.

If a BMP fails any of these assessments during an inspection, it would likely be considered to have a maintenance deficiency, and the City will issue a Notice of Deficient Maintenance.

When you submit your Annual Maintenance Verification Form, you are certifying that your BMPs have been maintained such that they should attain compliance if subjected to an inspection.

For an overview about inspection & maintenance for specific types of BMPs, please refer to the BMP Inspection & Maintenance Information Sheet. Detailed BMP information can also be found in the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) handbooks found at:

https://www.casqa.org/sites/default/files/BMPHandbooks/BMP_Municipal_Complete.pdf.