

Stormwater Control Measure Maintenance Tips

Happy New Year!

This is the twelfth installment of Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District's (SWCD) Stormwater Control Measure Maintenance Tips publication, an outreach campaign to deliver useful information and seasonal tips for property owners, managers, contractors, and HOAs to assist you with your stormwater control measure (SCM) maintenance needs. You are receiving this email because our records indicate you own or maintain a retention basin.

See our Winter Maintenance tips below.



A local retention basin in Olmsted Township.

Retention Basin Maintenance Tips

JANUARY 2019

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. But don't let them ice skate! Include safety signs around wet ponds to indicate "no skating." Frozen ponds are attractive to kids, but wet stormwater ponds are never safe. Stop kids from skating if you see it happening.

Winter is the best time to remove any shrubs or trees that are growing from pond embankments. Be sure to stabilize any soil areas that are disturbed to prevent erosion or dam failure.

Non-Routine Maintenance

Basin Needs

- Regular inspection of components
- Specialized mowing – not scalping
- Specialized pruning and landscaping
- Plant management
- Water level management
- Protection from sediment
- Regular trash cleaning



Does your basin look more like the one on the bottom or the top?

If your basin looks more like the one on the bottom of the slide above it needs non-routine maintenance. Without routine inspection, mowing, and debris removal it is easy for basins to become overgrown. Overgrown basins lose flood storage capacity and lack access for routine maintenance.

Many HOAs and property owners have basins that did not receive routine maintenance and now need a serious overhaul to get back to baseline. While you aren't alone, you are responsible for repairs.

Work with your municipality to come up with a plan and timeline for repairs.

- 1) Locate basin plans and review needed repairs.
- 2) Get proposals from contractors for repairs needed.
- 3) Raise funds for repairs.
- 4) Repair the basin.
- 5) Adopt a plan for routine maintenance going forward.

Have Questions?

For more detailed information about routine and non-routine maintenance of stormwater control measures (SCMs), download the *Maintaining Stormwater Control Measures*

Manual here: www.neohiostormwater.com

- Wet basin details can be found on page 11
- Routine and non-routine maintenance details can be found on page 30
- Basin maintenance details can be found on pages 33 and 34
- A wet basin inspection checklist can be found on page 57

Cuyahoga SWCD can answer questions and provide additional guidance about maintaining your retention basin. Please e-mail us at cregener@cuyahogawcd.org or call 216-524-6580 extension 1002.



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