Glossary of **Terms**

Reference: Georgia Stormwater Management Manua



Outlet Control Structure (OCS)

The structure through which the water leaves the BMP. Typically this is a riser pipe, or box, with various outlet openings at different elevations.

Water Quality and Channel Protection Orifice

These are some of the various outlet openings in the OCS. They are sized to slowly release the retained water into the local stream so that the stream channel and stream water quality are protected. These orifices should be protected from clogging, usually with a trash rack.





Filter Stone

#57 stone at the forebay and #4 stone at the OCS; filters sediment, debris, and other solids before stormwater is released to the receiving stream.

Filter Pipe Perforated metal half-round pipe placed in front of orifices on the OCS with the #4 filter stone around it.



Forebay

A sediment forebay is designed to remove incoming sediment from the stormwater flow prior to dispersal in a larger permanent pool. Usually a barrier of rip rap surrounds the forebay.

Dam

Any artificial barrier, which impounds or diverts water and with the improper operation or failure of such would result in probable loss of human life. gwinnettcounty Department of Water Resources Stormwater Management Division 684 Winder Highway Lawrenceville, GA 30045 24-hour Stormwater Hotline: 678.376.7193

For more information about BMPs, links to County departments, suggested readings, and Stormwater Utility credit opportunities related to BMPs, please visit www.gwinnettstormwater.com.

Did You Know?

- Gwinnett County is responsible for inspecting over 5,000 BMPs
- Yearly maintenance of the BMP will generally save time and money compared to waiting every five years or more
- By some estimates, over half of all BMPs fail within the first five years due to lack of maintenance.
- BMPs slow the release of runoff from impervious surfaces so that pre-develop conditions are retained in the receiving stream
- Some pollutants can be "filtered" when runoff drains through a properly maintained BMP





Owner's Guide to Detention Pond Maintenance



Everyone Lives Downstream

Stormwater Ponds

are an example of a **Best Management Practice** (BMP). BMPs are used to control stormwater volume, as well as improve water quality. The most common BMPs are stormwater ponds. In recent years, the urbanization of our watersheds has had serious impacts on area waterways. Increased amounts of impervious surface like concrete driveways and asphalt parking lots have altered drainage patterns, which can result in localized flooding. Along with an increased volume of stormwater, these impervious surfaces also allow for increased nonpoint source pollution such as automotive fluids, pet waste, pesticides, and fertilizers to wash into local streams and lakes.

Detention ponds detain that extra volume of stormwater and slow down the release to the local streams. This slowing of the runoff also allows some pollutants to settle out and be captured in the ponds.

Schedule of Maintenance

In order for a BMP to function as designed, it must be properly maintained. Frequent maintenance and inspection will ensure that potential problems are found early and that solutions can be effective both for the pond and your budget!



Storm Inspection

- After any major rain event
- Remove trash and debris
- Check orifices in the OCS



Regular Maintenance

- Tree and shrub removal from dam and pond embankments
- Mow grasses in the pond every two months
- Consider "no mow zones" for beneficial plants (not on dams
- Clear all access easements to a width of 8 feet

Periodic Maintenance

- Filter stone replacement
- #4 stone around OCS
- #57 stone in the forebay
- Sediment removal (every five years)
 - Forebays—so that rip rap wall and inlet pipe are not holding sediment
 - AVolume Survey and Certification may help determine if sediment removal from pond is necessary



- Signage
 - No dumping: including trash, grass clippings, and yard debris
 - Water quality awareness
- A copy of design plans for BMP
- As-built, final plat, site plans
- For use as reference in case of damage to the BMP