

9-C.4.0. GRASS CHANNELS: O&M CHECKLIST

Inspection Date _____
 Project _____ Site Plan/Permit Number _____
 Location _____ Date BMP Placed in Service _____
 Date of Last Inspection _____ Inspector _____
 Owner/Owner's Representative _____
 As-Built Plans available: Y / N

Type of pretreatment facility:

- Sediment Forebay
- Check Dam
- Grass Filter Strip
- Stone Diaphragm
- Other: _____
- None

Ideally, these BMP areas should be inspected annually, with the inspection conducted spring when the health of the grass channel lining should be evident. Once established, Grass Channels have minimal maintenance needs outside of the Spring clean up: regular mowing, repair of check dams and other measures to maintain the hydraulic efficiency of the channel and a dense, healthy grass cover.

Element of BMP	Potential Problem	Problem? Y / N	Investigate? Y / N	Repaired? Y / N	How to Fix Problem	Who Will Address Problem	Comments
Contributing Drainage Area	There is excessive trash and debris				Remove immediately	Owner or professional	
	There is evidence of erosion and / or bare or exposed soil				Stabilize immediately	Owner or professional	
Pre-treatment	There is adequate access to the pre-treatment facility				Establish adequate access	Professional and, perhaps, the locality	
	There is excessive trash / debris / sediment in the facility				Remove immediately	Owner or professional	
	There is evidence of erosion and / or exposed soil				Stabilize immediately	Owner or professional	
	There is evidence of diaphragm or other clogging				Identify and eliminate the source of the problem; . If necessary, remove and clean or replace the stone.	Professional	
	There is dead vegetation and evidence of erosion and / or exposed soil				Repair erosion damage, and reseed or otherwise restabilize with vegetation	Owner or professional	
Inlets	The inlet is not maintaining a calm flow of water entering the channel or the conveyance capacity is blocked				Remove trash and sediment accumulated at the inflow. Sources of sediment and debris must be identified and corrected. Stone splash pads must be replenished to prevent erosion.	Owner or professional	

Element of BMP	Potential Problem	Problem? Y / N	Investigate? Y / N	Repaired? Y / N	How to Fix Problem	Who Will Address Problem	Comments
	There is evidence of erosion at / around inlet				Repair erosion damage, and reseed or otherwise restabilize with vegetation.	Owner or professional	
Vegetation	Native soil is exposed or erosion channels are forming				If sediment deposits are thick enough to damage or kill vegetation, remove the sediment by hand, while protecting the vegetation.	Owner or Professional	
	Grass height does not reach standards				Grass channels must be mowed to keep grass at a height of 4" to 9". Remove grass clippings after mowing.	Owner or Professional	
	Vegetation requires fertilizer or pest control				Fertilize according to specifications. Use organic rather than chemical fertilizer. If feasible, use compost. Use integrated pest management (IPM) techniques to minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides.	Owner or Professional	
	The plant composition is consistent with the approved plans				Make a judgment regarding whether plants need to be replaced, and replace if necessary	Professional	
	Invasive species or weeds are present				Correctly destroy and/or remove the invasive species; make a judgment regarding whether other weeds need to be removed, and remove if necessary	Owner or professional	
	There is dead vegetation and/or exposed soil				Reseed or replace dead vegetation and exposed soil areas	Owner or professional	
Side Slopes	Evidence of erosion on side slopes, introducing sediment into the swale.				Repair erosion damage immediately. Stabilize slopes using appropriate erosion control measures and plant appropriate vegetation.	Owner or Professional	
Check Dams	Dam is not functioning properly.				Check upstream and downstream sides of check dams for evidence of undercutting, side cutting or erosion and repair immediately.	Professional	
	There is a large accumulation of sediment or trash/debris behind the check dam.				Remove sediment when the accumulation exceeds 25% of the original Tv. Remove trash/debris and clear blockages of weep holes.	Professional	
Channel Bottom	Undesirable plant species, accumulations of fallen leaves, and other debris from deciduous plant foliage are present.				Remove woody vegetation from the channel. Prune adjacent trees and shrubs to keep the channel clear. Remove/replace invasive veg. or weeds if they cover < 25% of the channel area. Remove accumulated organic matter and debris immediately.	Owner or Professional	

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Channel Bottom (continued)	Base soils are compacted. The practice does not draw down within 48 hours after a storm.				De-thatch and aerate the channel. Remove sediment when the accumulation exceeds 25% of channel volume. Restore the original cross section and revegetate the channel.	Owner or Professional	
	There is unhealthy or dead grass cover or evidence of erosion, braiding, or excessive ponding in the channel bottom				Fill in low spots, repair erosion, and add reinforcement planting to maintain 90% turf cover. Reseed any salt killed vegetation and stabilize immediately. Keep the grass in a healthy, vigorous condition at all times, since it is the primary erosion protection for the channel.	Owner or Professional	
Channel Outlet	The outlet does not maintain sheet flow of water exiting the channel (unless a collection drain is used).				The source of erosion damage must be identified and controlled when native soil is exposed or erosion channels are forming. Check the channel outlet and all road crossings for bank stability and evidence of piping or scour holes.	Owner or professional	
	The outlet provides stable conveyance out of the channel				Stabilize immediately, as needed.	Professional	
	There is excessive trash, debris or sediment accumulation at outlet				Check inflow points for clogging and remove any trash and sediment deposits	Owner or professional	
	There is dead vegetation and/or exposed soil				Reseed or replace dead vegetation and exposed soil areas	Owner or professional	
Pest Control	There is evidence of standing water and mosquito habitat or rodent damage				Pest control measures must be taken when mosquitoes and/or rodents are found to be present. If sprays are considered, then a mosquito larvicide, such as Bacillus thurendensis or Altoside formulations can be applied <i>only if absolutely necessary</i> . Holes in the ground located in and around the swale must be filled and stabilized with vegetation.	Professional	
Overall	Access to the Grass Channel is adequate				Establish adequate access	Professional and, perhaps, the locality	
	Complaints from local residents				Correct real problems	Owner or professional	

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Overall (continued)	Encroachment by buildings or other structures				Clearly mark BMP and inform those involved of the BMPs.	Owner, pro (and perhaps the locality)	