



Stormwater Facilities & Maintenance

Storm Vaults

Storm Vaults are underground cast structures designed to hold large amounts of excess stormwater runoff from a developed area. They allow for the settling out of fine sediments, and are designed for flow control and the conveyance of stormwater during large storm events. There are several different types of storm vaults, including: 1) detention vaults 2) wet vaults (hold a permanent pool of water), and 3) infiltration vaults (which have holes or are bottomless allowing for infiltration onsite). Many storm vaults also include filters.

Pro Tip:

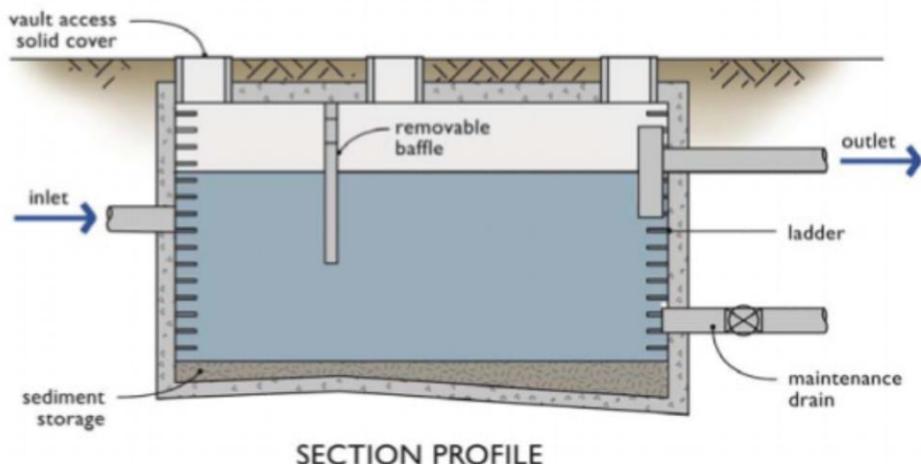
To enter a vault, you must be trained and certified in OSHA requirements for confined spaces.



Source: Stormwatercenter.colstate.edu



Source: Oldcastle Precast



Source: Clark County Stormwater Manual 2015

Maintenance required when:

- Access road is blocked or damaged
- Vault entrance is not marked
- Inlet/Outlet pipes become blocked
- Flooding around the structure
- See manufacturer recommendations for maintenance specs

Contact your HOA or property manager immediately if:

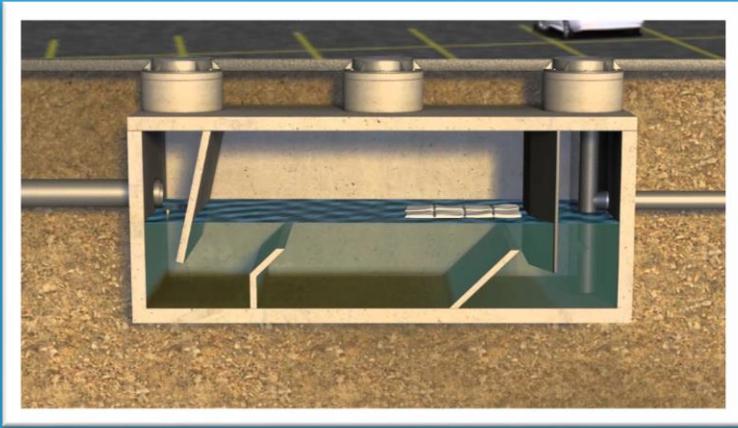
- The area around the vault begins to smell
- Access ladder is missing/broken
- Vandalism on or around the vault

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ThurstonStormwater.org

Don't let your systems fail.

Any storm vault maintenance activity should include inspection for oil sheen present in the structure. Some vaults are designed to include baffles.



Source: Jensen Stormwater Systems



Source: Stormtech.com
– Infiltration Vault

The most common tool used for maintenance is a vac truck to remove sediment, debris, and water from inside the vault. Any sediment removed should be tested for contaminants and disposed of in accordance with current federal and state regulations. The preferred disposal option for any standing water that is removed is at an approved sanitary sewer location for treatment (after required testing and permits have been received).

Keep water clean. Protect county roads from flooding. Save money.

Inside the storm vault, conditions of pollutants and standing water can cause noxious gasses to form and accumulate to dangerous levels. Do NOT enter until you have first attended the required training and received necessary permit(s). Always ensure that there is a clearly marked and safe entrance into the confined space before attempting entry.



Thurston County storm vault maintenance

For additional information regarding stormwater management in Thurston County, reference our Stormwater Drainage Manual at DM.ThurstonStormwater.org.