

#33 – Maintenance Standards for Rain Gardens (LID.08A):

√	Drainage System Feature	Defect or Problem	Condition When Maintenance is Needed	Results Expected When Maintenance is Performed
	Facility – General Requirements	Mosquitoes	Standing water remains for more than three days following storms.	All inlets, overflows and other openings are protected with mosquito screens. No mosquito infestation present. Rain garden drains freely and there is no standing water between storms. Cause of the standing water is addressed (see “Ponded water”).
	Footprint area	Trash	Trash and debris present.	No trash or debris present.
	Footprint area	Debris Accumulation	Accumulated leaves in facility.	No leaves clogging outlet structure or impeding water flow.
	Earthen side slopes and berms	Erosion	Persistent soil erosion on slopes.	No eroded or scoured areas. Cause of erosion or scour is addressed.
	Rockery sidewalls	Unstable Rockery	Rockery side walls are insecure.	Rockery sidewalls are stable (may require consultation with engineer, particularly for walls 4 feet or greater in height).
	Rain garden bottom area	Sediment Accumulation	Visible sediment deposition in the rain garden that reduces drawdown time of water in the rain garden.	No sediment accumulation in rain garden, Source of sediment addressed.
	Mulch	Lack of Mulch	Bare spots (without mulch cover) are present or mulch depth less than 2 inches.	Facility has a minimum 2- to 3-inch layer of an appropriate type of mulch and is kept away from woody stems.
	Splash block inlet	Water Not Properly Directed to Rain Garden	Water is not being directed properly to the rain garden and away from the inlet structure. Water splashes adjacent buildings.	Blocks are reconfigured to direct water to rain garden and away from structure.
	Pipe inlet/outlet	Erosion	Rock or cobble is removed or missing and concentrated flows are contacting soil.	No eroded or scoured areas. Cause of erosion or scour is addressed. Cover of rock or cobbles protects the ground where concentrated water flows into the rain garden from a pipe or swale.
	Pipe inlet/outlet	Accumulated Debris	Accumulated leaves, sediment, debris or vegetation at curb cuts, inlet or outlet pipe.	Blockage is cleared.
	Pipe inlet/outlet	Damaged Pipe	Pipe is damaged	Pipe is repaired/replaced.

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	Pipe inlet/outlet	Clogged Pipe	Pipe is clogged.	Pipe is clear of roots and debris.
	Access	Blocked Access	Maintain access for inspections.	Vegetation is cleared or transplanted within 1 foot of inlets and outlets.
	Ponded water	Ponded Water	Excessive ponding water: Ponded water remains in the rain garden more than 48 hours after the end of a storm.	Rain garden drains freely and there is no standing water in the rain garden between storms. Leaf litter/debris/sediment is removed.
	Overflow	Blocked Overflow	Capacity reduced by sediment or debris.	No sediment or debris in overflow.
	Vegetation	Blocking Site Distances and Sidewalks	Vegetation inhibits sight distances and sidewalks.	Sidewalks and sight distances along roadways and sidewalks are kept clear.
	Vegetation	Vegetation Blocking Pipes	Vegetation is crowding inlets and outlets.	Inlets and outlets in the rain garden are clear of vegetation.
	Vegetation	Unhealthy Vegetation	Yellowing: possible Nitrogen (N) deficiency Poor growth: possible Phosphorous (P) deficiency. Poor flowering, spotting or curled leaves, or weak roots or stems: possible Potassium (K) deficiency.	Plants are healthy and appropriate for site conditions.
	Vegetation	Weeds	Presence of weeds.	Weeds are removed (manual methods preferred) and mulch is applied.
	Summer watering (years 1-3)	Plant Establishment	Tree, shrubs and groundcovers in first three years of establishment period.	Plants are watered during plant establishment period (years 1-3).
	Summer watering (after establishment)	Drought Conditions	Vegetation requires supplemental water..	Plants are watered during drought conditions or more often if necessary during post-establishment period (after 3 years).