

# Stormwater Management Facilities:

## What Property Owners Need to Know

*Inspection and Maintenance Information for Privately Owned Stormwater Facilities*




## What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is precipitation that flows over the ground instead of soaking into the soil, especially from roofs, driveways, and paved areas. It can carry pollutants and cause flooding or erosion if not managed.

Some properties have stormwater management facilities to help control stormwater runoff as part of local stormwater requirements.



## Most Common Questions...

### What is a stormwater management facility (SMF), and why is it on my property?

A stormwater management facility (SMF) or Best Management Practice (BMP) helps control rainwater runoff and reduce flooding and pollution. It was installed to meet state and local stormwater requirements and protect nearby waterways.

### What kinds of stormwater facilities are common in Herndon?

Common facilities include bioretention areas (also called rain gardens), infiltration trenches or dry wells, dry detention ponds, underground treatment devices, and permeable pavement. Facilities may serve homes, HOAs, churches, or commercial properties.

### How do I know if I have a stormwater facility on my property?

Stormwater facilities may look like landscaped areas, ponds, or special pavement, or they may be underground and hard to see. If you received a notice from the Town, records show a facility is associated with your property and maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner.

### What is a Stormwater/BMP Maintenance Agreement, and why does it apply to me?

A maintenance agreement is a recorded document that assigns inspection and maintenance responsibility of a stormwater facility to the property owner. It stays with the property when it is sold and may have been signed by a previous owner or developer.

### Why are stormwater facilities inspected, and how often?

Inspections confirm facilities are working properly and not causing flooding, erosion, or pollution. Privately owned facilities must be inspected at least once every five years.

### Who is responsible for getting the inspection done?

The property owner is responsible for arranging the inspection. This includes homeowners, HOAs, and commercial or institutional property owners. If the inspection indicates improvements are required, these must be completed by the property owner.

### Who can perform the inspection?

Inspections must be completed by a professional engineer or a person certified by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

### Helpful resources:

- ▶ [VA DEQ Certified Inspector Search](#)
- ▶ [Fairfax County Stormwater Contractor List](#)

### What needs to be submitted after the inspection?

Submit a copy of the certified inspection report and any documentation showing completed maintenance.

### Mail

- ▶ Department of Public Works  
Attn: Stormwater Division,  
777 Lynn Street, Herndon  
VA 20170 4602

### Email

- ▶ [stormwater@herndon-va.gov](mailto:stormwater@herndon-va.gov)

## Who Should I Contact If I Have Questions?

If you have questions about inspection or maintenance requirements, or about your stormwater facility, please contact the Town of Herndon Department of Public Works.

777 Lynn Street | Herndon, VA | 20170-4602

(703) 435-6853  
[stormwater@herndon-va.gov](mailto:stormwater@herndon-va.gov)