

GRAHAM STREET RAIN GARDEN

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

I. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

A. Inspection

1. Performance of the rain garden should be inspected monthly and after every major storm event, following the initial construction to evaluate if the basin is draining within the design time limits (typically within 24 hours).
 - a. Plants should be watered as necessary the first year to establish plants.
2. Quarterly inspections of the facility should be made. Inspect the facility for:
 - a. Differential settlement
 - b. Cracking
 - c. Erosion
 - d. Leakage
 - e. Tree and woody plant growth on the embankments and plant health
 - f. Condition of the inlets and outlets and level spreaders
 - g. Sediment accumulation
 - h. Vigor and density of vegetation on the floor of the garden and buffer strips

B. Mowing – Native Vegetation

1. Control woody plant invasion by mowing once a year in the fall, after November 1st. The vegetation height shall be 5 to 6 inches after mowing.
2. Remove trash and debris at the time of mowing.

C. Erosion Control

1. Inspect quarterly for erosion. Inspection after major storm events for erosion problems is also recommended if practical.
2. Repair all eroded areas immediately. Temporary erosion controls may be necessary to facilitate repairs.

D. Tilling

1. If the rain garden is located on marginally permeable soils, annual or semi- annual tilling may be needed to maintain infiltration capacity.
2. Tilled areas should be immediately re-vegetated to prevent erosion.

F. Mulch

1. Re-mulch void areas as needed.
2. Add additional mulch once per year.

II. NON-ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

A. Structural Maintenance

1. Earthen structures should be inspected annually. Erosion should be repaired immediately upon discovery.

B. Restoration of Infiltration Capacity

- Over time the original infiltration capacity may diminish; Deep tilling can be done to restore the infiltration capacity of the garden. The top 2 to 3 inches of topsoil, chisel plowing, and adding topsoil and compost can be done. The garden must be restored with native plantings.

C. Watering

1. Plants need to be watered as necessary during the first growing season.
2. After the first growing season, water as necessary during dry periods.









