

Planter Box Inspection and Maintenance Recommendations

Inspection and Maintenance Activity	Schedule
<p><u>Debris accumulation</u> Inspect: fallen leaves, debris, and litter accumulation Maintain: remove these materials, especially before winter and in early spring; remove sediment especially when a few inches deep or is impacting growth of vegetation</p>	<p>Inspect: Monthly during growing season and after major storm events Maintain: Spring and fall, monthly during growing season and after major storm events</p>
<p><u>Entry Points and Pretreatment</u> Inspect: areas such as sumps and the planter box floor for excessive deposition of sediment; inspect for erosion at the points of inflow or within the ponding area Maintain: Remove sediment with a shovel, rake, or vacuum when accumulation impacts operation of system, stabilize any eroded areas using appropriate methods, and reestablish vegetation if needed</p>	<p>Inspect: Monthly and after major storm events, especially in spring and fall Maintain: Spring and fall, monthly during growing season and after major storm events</p>
<p><u>Newly Established / Young Plants</u> Inspect: may have to keep planter box offline until plants have sufficient growth; inspect for at least 50 percent of specified vegetation cover at end of first growing season and at least 90 percent of specified vegetation cover after the end of the second growing season Maintain: supplement plantings to meet minimum cover objectives, pull undesired vegetation, minimize herbicide use</p>	<p>Inspect: Monthly during growing season Maintain: Spring and fall, monthly during growing season</p>
<p><u>Established / Mature Plants and Trees</u> Inspect: plant and tree health and for wilting young plants, weeds, and undesirable plants Maintain: remove undesirable plants, weeds, and tree saplings throughout growing season by pulling or trimming, prune and thin out plants as needed, replace plants when needed, herbicide use should be minimized</p>	<p>Inspect: Monthly during the summer Maintain: Spring and fall, monthly during growing season; if desired, trim back plant vegetation in the fall, prune trees during the fall or winter</p>
<p><u>Inlets, Overflows, and Outlets</u> Inspect: insure free flowing and working properly Maintain: remove any sediment, debris, and litter; repair or replace if damaged</p>	<p>Inspect: Spring and fall Maintain: Annually, especially during spring and fall</p>

<p>Observation Ports, if applicable Inspect: look for evidence of standing water in the observation port or outlet structure; standing water may be a sign of hydraulic failure Maintain: evaluate the cause of standing water, modified soil may need to be replaced entirely or partially depending on the extent of plugging</p>	<p>Inspect: Annually Maintain: As needed</p>
<p>Mulch Inspect: displacement might smother plants or clog outlets Maintain: replace mulch to maintain a 3-inch layer, rake to redistribute</p>	<p>Inspect: Monthly Maintain: Annually, spring or fall</p>
<p>Function – Inlet and Level Spreader Inspect: ensure runoff flows into the planter box as intended; check levelness of level spreader Maintain: remove any accumulated sediment and debris; make sure surrounding soils are stabilized using appropriate methods</p>	<p>Inspect: Annually, spring or fall Maintain: Annually, spring or fall</p>
<p>Function - Infiltration Inspect: ensure the water infiltrates in a timely manner and that ponding does not occur for more than 12-24 hours Maintain: conduct simple infiltration test using a can on soil surface and addition of water to observe drainage; replace modified soil layer when ponding greatly exceeds the design drainage time</p>	<p>Inspect: Annually, spring or fall Maintain: As needed</p>
<p>Erosion Inspect: erosion or gulying issues Maintain: fix immediately and take measures to re-establish vegetative cover, if applicable add small stones to stabilize drainage paths, regrade and repair bare areas, may need to add additional amended soil and mulch</p>	<p>Inspect: Annually, spring or fall and after major storm events Maintain: As needed</p>
<p>Signage, if applicable Inspect: signage at the site for condition issues Maintain: clean and replace when needed</p>	<p>Inspect: Annually Maintain: As needed</p>

Native Planting Considerations:

Provide the necessary care to keep native plantings weed free and to maintain aesthetics (applies to short or tall; low or high diversity plantings). Avoid fertilization of native plantings. If native turf is installed, mow as needed or as desired to a minimum height of 4 inches (mowing can be eliminated after establishment, if desired). If allowed by local code, consider annual prescribed fire management for diverse native plantings or for un-mowed native turf to maintain vigor of the plant community and aesthetics.

Watering guidelines during initial establishment of plants:

Young plants are susceptible to stress. Depending on the size of the planting, water plants regularly until established. After establishment watering is generally not needed for native plants.