



**PRIVATE TREATMENT CONTROL BMP  
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE VERIFICATION FORM  
BIORETENTION FACILITIES, VEGETATED SWALES & HIGHER RATE  
BIOFILTERS-SIDE 2**

**This guide sheet provides general indicators for maintenance only and for a wide array of treatment control BMPs. Your developer prepared maintenance plans specifically for your treatment control BMP as an appendix to the Stormwater Management Plan. Also, if you have a manufactured structure, please refer to the manufacturer's maintenance instructions.**

Biofilters include the following :

- Vegetated Filter Strip/Swale**       **Bioswale**       **Bioretention Facility**       **Planter Boxes**  
 **Manufactured Higher-Flow-Rate Biofilters, such as Tree-Pit-Style Units.**

Routine maintenance is needed to ensure that flow is unobstructed, that erosion is prevented, and that soils are held together by plant roots and are biologically active. Typical maintenance consists of the following:

<b>Bioretention BMPs Inspection and Maintenance Checklist</b>	
<b>Typical Maintenance Indicators</b>	<b>Typical Maintenance Actions</b>
Accumulation of sediment (over 2 inches deep or covers vegetation), litter, or debris	Remove and properly dispose of accumulated materials, without damage to the vegetation. Confirm that soil is not clogging and that the area drains after a storm event. Till or replace soil as necessary.
Poor vegetation establishment	Ensure vegetation is healthy and dense enough to provide filtering and to protect soils from erosion. Replenish mulch as necessary (if less than 3 inches deep), remove fallen leaves and debris, prune large shrubs or trees, and mow turf areas.
Overgrown vegetation—woody vegetation not part of design is present and grass excessively tall (greater than 10 inches)	Mow or trim as appropriate, but not less than the design height of the vegetation (typically 4-6 inches for grass). Confirm that irrigation is adequate and not excessive and that sprays do not directly enter overflow grates. Replace dead plants and remove noxious and invasive weeds.
Erosion due to concentrated irrigation flow	Repair/re-seed eroded areas and adjust the irrigation.
Erosion due to concentrated stormwater runoff flow	Repair/re-seed eroded areas and make appropriate corrective measures such as adding erosion control blankets, adding stone at flow entry points, or re-grading where necessary. Remove obstructions and sediment accumulations so water disperses.
Standing water (BMP not draining) . If mosquito larvae are present and persistent, contact the San Diego County Vector Control Program at (858) 694-2888. Mosquito larvicides should be applied only when absolutely necessary and then only by a licensed individual or contractor.	Where there is an underdrain, such as in planter boxes and manufactured biofilters, check the underdrain piping to make sure it is intact and unobstructed. Abate any potential vectors by filling holes in the ground in and around the biofilter facility and by insuring that there are no areas where water stands longer than 96 hours following a storm .
Obstructed inlet or outlet structure	Clear obstructions.
Damage to structural components such as weirs, inlet, or outlet structures	Repair or replace as applicable.
Before the wet season and after rain events: remove sediment and debris from screens and overflow drains and downspouts; ensure pumps are functioning, where applicable; check integrity of mosquito screens; and; check that covers are properly seated and locked.	Where cisterns are part of the system
<b>For manufactured high-flow-rate biofilters, see manufacturer's maintenance guidelines</b>	