

City of Valley Center

Stormwater Facility Inspection & Maintenance Guidance

Gravity (Oil/Water) Separators

Regular inspection and maintenance is critical to the effective operation of this stormwater management facility so that it can function as designed. In the City of Valley Center, local regulations require that property owners maintain all stormwater facilities on their properties to ensure they are fully functioning to treat and control stormwater runoff, and to document facility inspections and maintenance activities. This documentation must be kept by the property owner and must be made available to Stormwater Management staff upon their request.

This page provides guidance on inspection and maintenance activities that must be performed for gravity (oil/water) separators. Some facilities may have more, or less, frequent maintenance needs, depending upon a variety of factors including the occurrence of large storm events, overly wet or dry (i.e., drought) regional hydrologic conditions, and any changes in the land (e.g., development, landscaping, etc.) that drains to the facility.

Inspection Activities	Suggested Schedule
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inspect the gravity separator unit for clogging, accumulated debris, sediment, and/or oil and grease.	Regularly (at least every three months)
Maintenance Activities	Suggested Schedule
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Clean out sediment, oil and grease, and floatables, using catch basin cleaning equipment (vacuum pumps). Manual removal of pollutants may be necessary.	As Needed

Additional Maintenance Considerations and Requirements

- Additional maintenance requirements for a proprietary system should be obtained from the manufacturer and included in the Operations and Maintenance Plan for the site.
- Use a licensed commercial subcontractor, who has special equipment and abilities to perform periodic cleanout on oil-grit separators.
- Cleanout may require the implementation of confined-space procedures and equipment as required by OSHA regulations, such as non-sparking electrical equipment, oxygen meter, flammable gas meter, etc.
- Proper disposal of oil, solids and floatables removed from the gravity separator must be ensured. Floating oil, grease and petroleum substances removed using special vacuum hoses; should be treated as hazardous waste. Sediments may also contain heavy metals or other toxic substances and should be handled as hazardous waste.
- Removal of sediment depends upon accumulation rate, available storage, watershed size, nearby construction, industrial or commercial activities upstream, etc. The sediment composition should be identified by testing prior to disposal. Some sediment may contain contaminants that require special disposal procedures. Generally, give special attention or sampling to sediments accumulated in industrial or manufacturing facilities, fueling centers or automotive maintenance areas, large parking areas, or other areas where pollutants are suspected to accumulate.
- There is usually uncertainty about what types of oil or petroleum products may be encountered. A significant percentage of petroleum products is attached to fine suspended solids, and therefore, are not easily removed by settling.

The inspection checklist that is presented on the next page is provided to guide and document inspection and maintenance activities. Please use this checklist or other form(s) of maintenance documentation when and where deemed necessary in order to ensure the long-term proper operation of the stormwater management facility.

For more information on the maintenance of your stormwater facility, please contact:
City of Valley Center Stormwater Management, 545 W. Clay Valley Center KS. 67147, (316) 755-7320

City of Valley Center

Gravity (Oil/Water) Separator Inspection Checklist

Project Name: _____ Project #: _____

BMP Name/ID (as shown on the O&M Plan): _____

Refer to the Operations & Maintenance Plan for this property to get the information requested in this box. The Operations and Maintenance Plan for this property is recorded with the Sedgwick County Register of Deeds.

Property Owner Name: _____

Property Address: _____

Owner Phone #: _____ Owner Email Address: _____

Owner Change since last inspection? Y N

Inspection Date/Time: _____

Weather and Site Conditions (last rainfall date, dry/wet soil, etc.): _____

Inspection Items	Condition*	Comments/Corrective Action
*Note - Condition should be marked as Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U). An explanation of corrective actions must be provided for all items marked as Unsatisfactory. The completion date of any corrective actions taken must also be documented.		
Inspect the trench area.		
1. Have there been/are there signs that the gravity separator is clogged? Yes = Satisfactory		
2. Has debris (trash) accumulated in the gravity separator? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
3. Has oil accumulated in the gravity separator? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
4. Has sediment accumulated in the gravity separator? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
5. Are there signs of, or has there been, standing water upstream of the gravity separator? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
6. Are there signs of erosion (soil washing away) downstream of the gravity separator? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
7. Other (describe)?		

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Inspection Items	Condition*	Comments/Corrective Action
8. Other (describe)?		
9. Other (describe)?		
10. Other (describe)?		
Identify any potential hazards to humans or the environment.		
11. Have there been complaints from residents? Yes = Unsatisfactory		
12. Are there any other public hazards that should be noted? Yes = Unsatisfactory		

By signing my name below, I certify that the information submitted in this document (and all attachments) is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are penalties for knowingly submitting false information, including the possibility of regulatory violations and associated fines.

Inspected by (Name): _____

Inspected by (Signature): _____