

SOP 3: CATCH BASIN CLEANING PROCEDURE

Catch basin cleaning procedures should address both the grate opening and the basin's sump. Document any and all observations about the condition of the catch basin structure and water quality on the Catch Basin Inspection Form (attached).

Catch basin inspection and cleaning procedures include the following:

1. Work upstream to downstream.
2. Clean sediment and trash off grate.
3. Visually inspect the outside of the grate.
4. Visually inspect the inside of the catch basin to determine cleaning needs.
5. Inspect catch basin for structural integrity.
6. Determine the most appropriate equipment and method for cleaning each catch basin.
 - a. Manually use a shovel to remove accumulated sediments, or
 - b. Use a bucket loader to remove accumulated sediments, or
 - c. Use a high pressure washer to clean any remaining material out of catch basin while capturing the slurry with a vacuum.
 - d. If necessary, after the catch basin is clean, use the rodder of the vacuum truck to clean downstream pipe and pull back sediment that might have entered downstream pipe.
7. If contamination is suspected, chemical analysis will be required to determine if the materials comply with the Massachusetts DEP Hazardous Waste Regulations, 310 CMR 30.000 (<http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/regulations/310cmr30.pdf>). Chemical analysis required will depend on suspected contaminants. Note the identification number of the catch basin on the sample label, and note sample collection on the Catch Basin Inspection Form.
8. Properly dispose of collected sediments. See following section for guidance.
9. If fluids collected during catch basin cleaning are not being handled and disposed of by a third party, dispose of these fluids to a sanitary sewer system, with permission of the system operator.
10. If illicit discharges are observed or suspected, notify the appropriate Department (see "SOP 10: Addressing Illicit Discharges").
11. At the end of each day, document location and number of catch basins cleaned, amount of waste collected, and disposal method for all screenings.
12. Report additional maintenance or repair needs to the appropriate Department.

Disposal of Screenings

Catch basin cleanings from storm water-only drainage systems may be disposed at any landfill that is permitted by MassDEP to accept solid waste. MassDEP does not routinely require stormwater-only catch basin cleanings to be tested before disposal, unless there is evidence that they have been contaminated by a spill or some other means.

Screenings may need to be placed in a drying bed to allow water to evaporate before proper disposal. In this case, ensure that the screenings are managed to prevent pollution.

Attachments

1. Catch Basin Inspection Form

Related Standard Operating Procedures

1. SOP 4, Water Quality Screening in the Field
2. SOP 5, Locating Illicit Discharges