



county of san diego

# Your Structural BMP

I N F O R M A T I O N G U I D E

Development projects replace natural landscapes with man-made structures like driveways, parking lots, and buildings. Unlike natural landscapes capable of absorbing rain water, new hardscapes associated with development generate increased amounts of storm water runoff.



**This runoff can carry pollutants such as trash, fertilizers, pesticides, and sediment into our nearby creeks, rivers, and ocean. To reduce the negative impact storm water runoff can have on our local waterways, certain developed properties are required to maintain structural best management practices, or “structural BMPs”.**

To help property owners understand their responsibilities related to structural BMPs, the **County of San Diego’s Watershed Protection Program** has created this informational guide to answer questions you may have.



Drain Insert BMP



Vegetated BMP



Vegetated BMP

## What Is A Structural BMP?

Structural BMPs are facilities that help to prevent pollutants in storm water runoff from leaving a developed property, entering our storm drains, and impacting our local waterways. All types of structural BMPs require regular inspection and maintenance to ensure that they are operating effectively.

Property owners are responsible for submitting documentation of their inspection findings and maintenance activities prior to the rainy season (October 1st). **This is why the County of San Diego is requesting information about your structural BMPs. Please note that failure to comply with these requirements may initiate an enforcement investigation or a follow up inspection.**





Infiltration BMP

STEP

1

## What Do I Need To Do?

### Locate all of your BMPs

Your BMPs will be listed on the Operation and Maintenance Verification Forms sent to you by the County each year. Their specific locations are listed on your development's grading plan.

STEP

2

### Inspect and maintain your BMPs

Your Operation and Maintenance Verification Forms will include instructions on how to inspect and maintain your BMP. Typical maintenance includes removing trash and accumulated sediment, trimming overgrown vegetation, repairing eroded areas, and replacing damaged BMP components. Make sure to record your inspection findings and maintenance activities in your Operation and Verification Forms.

STEP

3

### Take a photo of your BMP

After your BMP has been inspected and/or maintained, take a photo of the BMP. The photo should show that the BMP is in good condition and ready for the upcoming rainy season. Make sure to take at least one photo of each BMP.

STEP

4

### Submit your documents to the County

Send your Operation and Maintenance Verification Forms, BMP photos, and any other documentation (service invoices, receipts, etc.) to the County.

### Submit online:

- Visit our website at [www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater) and click on "Maintaining my Structural BMP" to find instructions on sending your information using the online Portal.

### Submit by email:

[BMP.Program@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:BMP.Program@sdcounty.ca.gov)

- Include your address and the words "Self-Verification" in the subject line.
- Emails sent to this address must be smaller than 10MB. Larger emails cannot be received.



Detention BMP

thank you for doing  
your part to

protect our  
waterways

## For Questions, Contact Us At:

### Watershed Protection Program

1-858-495-5323

[BMP.Program@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:BMP.Program@sdcounty.ca.gov)

[www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater)