

A Message About Oil/Floatable Skimmers

The federal law that regulates stormwater requires floating trash removal. In wooded areas adjacent to creeks, you may notice lots of trash and debris that has been washed there by stormwater. This complicated problem could become very expensive to solve. If you place a screen to collect the trash, you may cause flooding which could be a larger problem.

Skimmers can be placed in new streets by developers. The baffles inside a manhole or catch basin achieve compliance with the requirements. Baffles can save contractors and the City money.

An oil/floatable skimmer structure can skim everything that floats such as bottles, cans, balls, cups, and all floating debris including oils. If not maintained, the skimmer will not wash itself out under a heavy rainfall.

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Food Service Industry

Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Erosion Control

Detention Pond Maintenance

Home Repair and Remodeling

SPILL RESPONSE

Montgomery Fire Department
911

Engineering Department
(334) 241-2696

Montgomery Stormwater Management
(334) 354-6149

Alabama Department of Environmental
Management (ADEM)
(334) 271-7700

Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

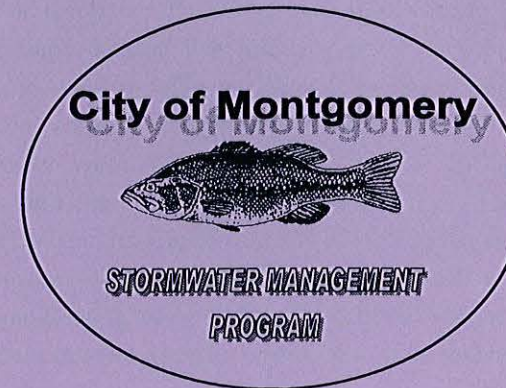
Montgomery Recycling Center
(334) 241-2175

To Report Illegal Dumping

Housing Codes
(334) 241-2161

Engineering Department
(334) 241-2696

Stormwater Management
(334) 354-6149



Volunteer your time! Help protect our streams and the Alabama River.

Join our Stream Clean-up days and the Clean Water Partnership.

For more information call:

City of Montgomery
Engineering Department
(334) 241-2696

Stormwater Management
(334) 354-6149

Clean City Commission
Susan Carmichael
(334) 241-2175

REMEMBER:

"Clean water is the only choice."

Special thanks to the City of Chattanooga Stormwater Management Division

STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)



Detention Pond Maintenance

All Montgomery Businesses

Mayor Bobby Bright

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Clean Water: The Only Choice

Montgomery has two drainage systems—the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from streets, homes, and businesses. However, as development occurs, the amount of impervious surface such as parking lots, roof tops and roads increases. Impervious surfaces prevent storm water from filtering into the ground. Instead, they increase the amount and speed of water leaving an area. This often leads to increased flooding downstream.

Another problem caused by impervious surface is that any pollutant that is placed on these surfaces stays there until it is “washed” into our streams and the Alabama River during the next rainstorm. The pollutants include: oil, and other automobile fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter. The mixing of rainwater and these pollutants causes stormwater pollution.

To help reduce stormwater pollution, a common approach is the installation of a detention pond with a sand filter and oil/floatable skimmer.

Detention ponds can be designed and constructed to be aesthetically pleasing. Ponds can be vegetated and irregularly shaped with landscaping around the edges.

All ponds can be made to be both functional and attractive. Many colorful and unusual aquatic plants can be used along the edges of a wet or a partially wet pond. City ordinance allows a constructed wetland to be used to improve water quality in lieu of a detention pond and sand filter. This pamphlet tells you how to properly maintain your detention pond. These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will help reduce downstream flooding and will ensure cleaner streams and river.

Financial Incentives for Detention Pond Installation

Detention ponds help to keep the developer from paying fines for lack of BMPs and keeping sediments from going into the creeks and river systems.

1. Pollution Prevention Plans

Often the easiest and least expensive way to maintain a detention pond is to develop and implement a pollution prevention plan at your establishment. A pollution prevention plan drastically reduces the amount of pollution entering your detention ponds; thus reducing the amount of time and money necessary to maintain the pond.

Important aspects of a pollution prevention plan:

- Dry sweep parking lots on a regular basis. This prevents solids from entering the pond.
- Keep kitty litter, sawdust, or cornmeal handy to absorb small spills. Properly dispose of the collected material.
- Materials that could pollute stormwater should be stored inside a protected, roofed building.
- Educate employees to be aware of potential stormwater pollution and how to report potential problems.

2. Maintaining the Pond

- Conduct routine inspections.
- Remove any trash that may have accumulated.
- Make sure that the pond's banks and bottom are stable. There should be no active erosion in the pond.
- Remove excess sediment, trash or other debris that is blocking discharge pipes or emergency spillway.
- Remove and properly dispose of any pollutants such as oil that may have been trapped in the pond.
- Excessive vegetation such as willows or other large trees and shrubs should be removed unless they serve as part of your treatment plan.

3. Sand Filter Maintenance

Sand filters are designed to remove and trap pollutants from stormwater. In order to be effective, the following procedures must be followed:

- Routinely inspect the sand filter.
- Keep vegetation growth on the sand to a minimum by hand removing sprouting vegetation.
- Rake the upper layer of sand on a regular basis to loosen the sand and provide for better infiltrations.
- Flush the sand filter perforated pipe several times yearly.
- Remove any oil, grease, or other pollutant visible on the sand and dispose of properly.
- Replace the sand when it becomes clogged and ineffective.

3. Additional Detention Pond Hints

Do not use pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers in your pond. These products will leach from the pond and pollute our streams and river.

Make sure that your pond is draining properly.

Detention ponds are designed to release stormwater slowly and not hold the water permanently. Improperly maintained ponds can harbor breeding areas for mosquitoes and reduce the storage volume of the pond.

Do not place yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings or brush in ponds.