

STF Maintenance Plan Dry Detention with Native Vegetation

Short-term: Year 1

1. Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) should be monitored weekly for the first three months, and additional watering may be required to ensure that the native plantings receive at least 1 inch of rainfall or water. No additional watering is necessary if the soil is wet at the surface.
2. Monitor Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) for growth of species not in the planting plan (invasive species). Eliminate invasive plants at the soonest possible time. Hand weeding and pruning is the preferred method for removing invasive plants. Spot applications of appropriate herbicides may also be utilized. Determination of herbicide use and application should only be completed by certified professional applicators. All manufacturers' recommendations must be followed.
3. Assure that the Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) drains completely within a 48-hour period, or per design specifications. If the basin does not drain as designed, identify the cause. Corrective measures may be necessary to mitigate drainage issues.
4. During the first year, mowing may be necessary to control growth of invasive species. Mowing no shorter than 8" should be completed prior to the maturation of weed seed, typically in late spring, mid-summer, and early fall. Do not mow in wet or muddy locations.
5. Inspect and maintain inlet and outlet structures to assure function. Remove any obstructions.
6. Complete the first annual inspection of Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) condition during the fall to assess vegetation establishment. Replace dead plants if necessary.

Mid- and Long-Term: Year 2 and Beyond

During the second and succeeding years, more of the planned plant species will be more noticeable and vigorous in their growth.

7. Mow the Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) in the early spring to remove dead vegetation. Mowing height should be 4 to 6 inches.
8. Monitor the Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) for drainage. If drainage does not occur, determine the nature of the problem. Corrective measures may be necessary. If soil conditions indicate that drainage could be a continuing problem, consult with the design engineer and/or owner to consider if the drainage issue impairs the basin function and requires correction, or if the drainage issue can be allowed to remain.
9. Continue to monitor Dry Detention Basin (bioretention, etc.) for growth of invasive species at least twice per year. Eliminate invasive plants at the soonest possible time. Spot herbicide application and/or periodic mowing may be appropriate to control invasive species.
10. After year 3, native vegetation should be self-sustaining. Monitoring for invasive species may be reduced to once per year. Mowing should be completed early each spring to remove dead vegetative matter and invasive species. Excessive growth of vegetation may be desired, and thinning of native grasses or forbs (flowering species) may be desired and accomplished with spot herbicide applications.