

Level Spreader -Vegetated Filter Strip, Restored Riparian Buffer Operation and Maintenance Agreement

I will keep a maintenance record on this SCM. This maintenance record will be kept in a log in a known set location. Any deficient SCM elements noted in the inspection will be corrected, repaired or replaced **immediately**. These deficiencies can affect the integrity of structures, safety of the public, and the pollutant removal efficiency of the SCM(s).

Important maintenance procedures:

- Immediately after the filter strip is established, any newly planted vegetation will be watered twice weekly if needed until the plants become established (commonly six weeks).
- Once a year, the filter strip will be reseeded to maintain a dense growth of vegetation
- Stable groundcover will be maintained in the drainage area to reduce the sediment load to the vegetation.
- Two to three times a year, grass filter strips will be mowed and the clippings harvested to promote the growth of thick vegetation with optimum pollutant removal efficiency. Turf grass should not be cut shorter than 3 to 5 inches and may be allowed to grow as tall as 12 inches depending on aesthetic requirements (NIPC, 1993). Forested filter strips do not require this type of maintenance.
- Once a year, the soil will be aerated if necessary.
- Once a year, soil pH will be tested and lime will be added if necessary.

After the filter strip is established, it will be inspected **quarterly and within 24 hours after every storm event greater than 1.5 inches**. Records of operation and maintenance will be kept in a known set location and will be available upon request.

Inspection activities shall be performed as follows. Any problems that are found shall be repaired immediately.

SCM element:	Potential problem:	How to remediate the problem:
The entire SCM	Trash/debris is present.	Remove the trash/debris.
The perimeter of the SCM	Areas of bare soil and/or erosive gullies have formed.	Regrade the soil if necessary, to remove the gull and then plant a ground cover and water until it is established. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Vegetation is too short or too long.	Maintain vegetation at a height of approximately six inches.
The flow splitter device (if applicable)	The flow splitter device is clogged.	Unclog the conveyance and dispose of any sediment off-site.
	The flow splitter device is damaged.	Make any necessary repairs or replace if damage is too large for repair.

SCM element:	Potential problem:	How to remediate the problem:
The swale and the level lip	The swale is clogged with sediment.	Remove the sediment and dispose of it off-site.
	The level lip is cracked, settled, undercut, eroded or otherwise damaged.	Repair or replace lip.
	There is erosion around the end of the level spreader that shows stormwater has bypassed it.	Regrade the soil to create a berm that is higher than the level lip, and then plant a ground cover and water until it is established. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Trees or shrubs have begun to grow on the swale or just downslope of the level lip.	Remove them.
The bypass channel	Areas of bare soil and/or erosive gullies have formed.	Regrade the soil if necessary, to remove the gully, and then reestablish proper erosion control.
	Turf reinforcement is damaged or riprap is rolling downhill.	Study the site to see if a larger bypass channel is needed (enlarge if necessary). After this, reestablish the erosion control material.
The filter strip	Grass is too short or too long (if applicable).	Maintain grass at a height of approximately three to six inches.
	Areas of bare soil and/or erosive gullies have formed.	Regrade the soil if necessary, to remove the gully, and then plant a ground cover and water until it is established. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Sediment is building up on the filter strip.	Remove the sediment and restabilize the soil with vegetation if necessary. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Plants are desiccated.	Provide additional irrigation and fertilizer as needed.
	Plants are dead, diseased or dying.	Determine the source of the problem: soils, hydrology, disease, etc. Remedy the problem and replace plants. Provide a one-time fertilizer application.
	Nuisance vegetation is choking out desirable species.	Remove vegetation by hand if possible. If pesticide is used, do not allow it to get into the receiving water.
The receiving water	Erosion or other signs of damage have occurred at the outlet.	Contact the NCDENR Regional Office, or the 401 Oversight Unit at 919-733-1786.

Permit Number: _____
(to be provided by City of Wilmington)

I acknowledge and agree by my signature below that I am responsible for the performance of the maintenance procedures listed above. I agree to notify the City of Wilmington of any problems with the system or prior to any changes to the system or responsible party.

Project name: _____

SCM drainage basin number: _____

Print name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: The legally responsible party should not be a homeowners' association unless more than 50% of the lots have been sold and a resident of the subdivision has been named the president.

I, _____, a Notary Public for the State of _____, County of _____, do hereby certify that _____ personally appeared before me this _____ day of _____, _____, and acknowledge the due execution of the forgoing filter strip, riparian buffer, and/or level spreader maintenance requirements.

Witness my hand and official seal,



SEAL

My commission expires _____