

# GRAND CITIES COMMUNITY STORM CONVEYANCE AND CATCH BASIN SYSTEM

*Storm Water Management Activities Fact Sheet No. 8*

## **Goal/Purpose**

### Short Term:

Maintain the storm conveyance and catch basin system to reduce the amount of potential pollutants flushed into the storm water system. Temporarily protect storm drains with concrete blocks, filter cloth, gravel, or hay bales; this will capture debris while allowing only storm water to enter the conveyance system. Sandbags and plastic sheeting are another type of short-term conveyance system protection that prevents any polluted runoff from entering the system and can be used to seal the inlet to the storm conveyance system.

### Long Term:

Implement a regular cleaning schedule for storm drains, catch basins, and other storm water conveyances. Install petroleum sorbent, debris, and sediment filters where appropriate to reduce pollutant concentrations entering the impaired water body.

## **Storm Water Management Activities**

To comply with the individual Grand Cities Community Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPPs), specific storm water runoff activities must be implemented at all local municipal facilities as required.

### Activity:

1. Inspect storm water drains, grates, inlets, ditches, swales, and catch basins at least twice a year. The best times are a month before the start of the summer rain season and just before the first snow. Keep a written log of areas and structures inspected.
2. Clean storm grates, inlets, drains, ditches, swales, and catch basins to remove the accumulation of debris and sediment. Keep a written log of the material removed from each structure.
3. Evaluate the use of storm drain filters for hydrocarbons and/or debris and sediment removal at your facility. If oil and grease, debris (trash, leaves, etc.), and/or sediment are entering the drains in significant quantities, implement other source control best management practices to the maximum extent possible. Prepare a written plan for ongoing maintenance to preserve filter effectiveness.
4. For conveyance systems that serve unstable or high-sedimentation and erosion areas, protect the system by using sediment and erosion control techniques appropriate for that site to protect the conveyance system. For those areas with highly unstable soils such that erosion cannot be controlled by other methods, protect the storm drain by using filter fences, sediment traps, or diversion structures to protect the conveyance system.
5. Storm drains, catch basins, ditches, and culverts are part of the overall storm water conveyance system and are not part of the sanitary sewer system. Replace damaged or lost storm drain markers on a regular basis.
6. Authorized non-storm water discharges should be directed away from potential pollutant sources such as high sediment loading areas or accumulations of oil and grease in parking lots. This will

minimize pollutants reaching the storm water conveyance system.

Only storm water is allowed into the storm water conveyance system.

7. Promptly repair any damaged or deteriorating structure or any other problems that may compromise the integrity of the storm water conveyance system. Keep a written log of storm water conveyance system maintenance.
8. Update facility plans and schematics with any changes to the plumbing (to prevent cross connections) or storm water conveyance system. Remember:

9. All contractors are required to provide the city with a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the storm water conveyance system.
10. Include specific contract language to inform contractors that they must comply with local community storm water regulations as required by the Clean Water Act.

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If the above-suggested activities require some modification to work efficiently and effectively for you and your staff or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, please contact the appropriate Grand Cities storm water representative:

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For additional information on this or the local area community responsibilities under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, visit the following Grand Cities Community Web sites:

City of Grand Forks:

<http://www.grandforksgov.com/gfgov/EnvironW.nsf/Main+Frameset?OpenFrameset>

City of East Grand Forks:

<http://www.ci.east-grand-forks.mn.us/>

Grand Forks County:

<http://www.co.grand-forks.nd.us/homepage.htm>

University of North Dakota:

<http://www.facilities.und.nodak.edu/stormwater.htm>

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