

## **APPENDIX C**

---

# **StormGarden Maintenance Guidelines**



## StormGarden Maintenance

Maintaining the StormGarden system is necessary to continue the effective pollutant removal from stormwater runoff prior to discharge into the storm drain system. Ongoing maintenance will also extend the life of the filter media and the StormGarden system. As the StormGarden filters stormwater runoff, pollutants accumulate within the filter media and floating debris such as silt, trash and leaves accumulate on top of the media underneath the concrete slab. When an excessive amount of silt and trash build up on top of the media, the flow-through rate of the media is reduced, thus decreasing the capacity of the system. Regular replacement of the top mulch layer helps stop the accumulation of such sediment and debris and maintaining the overall performance of the system.

Rotondo Environmental Solutions (RES) includes a 1-year maintenance plan with each StormGarden purchase. The included maintenance plan consists of a maximum of 2 scheduled visits. If additional visits are required due to excessive sediment and trash loading, they will be performed by RES for an additional charge. The start of the maintenance plan begins when the system is activated for full operation. Full operation is defined as the unit installed, curb and gutter and transitions in place, and the unit activated by RES which includes the mulch and plant installed and the temporary throat protection removed.

Activation cannot occur until the site is fully stabilized, which means full landscaping, grass cover, final paving and sweeping is complete. Maintenance visits are scheduled seasonally. The spring visit cleans up after winter loads which include salts and sands, and the fall visit is to remove excessive leaves and debris.

It is the responsibility of the owner to provide adequate irrigation when necessary to the plant of the StormGarden system. Cleanup due to major contamination such as oils, chemicals, toxic spills, etc. will result in additional costs and are not covered under the 1-year maintenance plan provided by RES. Should a major contamination event occur, the owner must block off the outlet pipe to the StormGarden unit (where the cleaned runoff drains to from the StormGarden, such as the bypass inlet) and block off the throat of the StormGarden. RES should be informed immediately.

Each maintenance visit consists of the following tasks:

- Visual inspection of StormGarden unit and surrounding area
- Removal of tree grate and erosion control stones
- Removal of sediment, trash, debris and mulch
- Mulch replacement
- Clean and replace erosion control stones
- Evaluation of plant and pruning or replacement if necessary
- Clean area around StormGarden unit
- Maintenance report