SDOT BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) REFERENCE MANUAL

Street Maintenance Operations
Street and Alley Flushing

December 2008

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Street Maintenance Operations
Street and Alley Flushing

Prepared for

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Contents

Street Maintenance Operations

This best management practice (BMP) reference manual was written to assist you, an SDOT field crew member, in preventing pollution from impacting stormwater. Your actions in the field contribute significantly to preventing stormwater pollution and keeping our streams, lakes, and Puget Sound clean. These manuals also help SDOT comply with the City of Seattle's Stormwater Permit.

We would like to receive your feedback on the information this manual contains. Direct feedback; questions regarding any of the BMPs listed; and information about missing work tasks, pollution sources, or missing BMPs should be directed to Maureen Meehan (SDOT's NPDES Stormwater Advisor) at (206) 684-8750.

To report a spill or any illegal dumping issues you observe while in the field, please call the SPU Water Quality Hotline at (206) 684-7587.

SDOT Manual Name	RCAT	RCAT Description
Street Maintenance Operations 1. Street and Alley Flushing	103	Flushing

Description of Work

Flushing of streets to wash debris and dirt into the gutter. Performed to remove debris from traveled portion of the road, wash under parked cars, clean traffic islands, provide for more effective mechanical sweeping, and to improve air quality.

Objectives

Protect drainage systems and water bodies from flush water and sediment.

Site Preparation

1. **Spill Kit:** Keep a spill cleanup kit in a nearby vehicle or next to the work site so that it is easily accessible. Make sure the contents of the spill kit are appropriate for the types and quantities of materials used for this work task. Refill spill kit materials before beginning work.

2. **Catch Basin Filter Sock:**

   - **Structures less than 12-inches deep:** Remove debris using a mechanical street sweeper or by hand sweeping before flushing.

   - **Structures greater than 12-inches deep:** Install a catch basin filter sock (see Figure 1).

     - Place the appropriate size filter sock in the storm drain or catch basin.
     - Place the storm drain or catch basin grate on top of the filter sock to hold it in place.
     - Trim and remove filter sock material that extends beyond the grate.

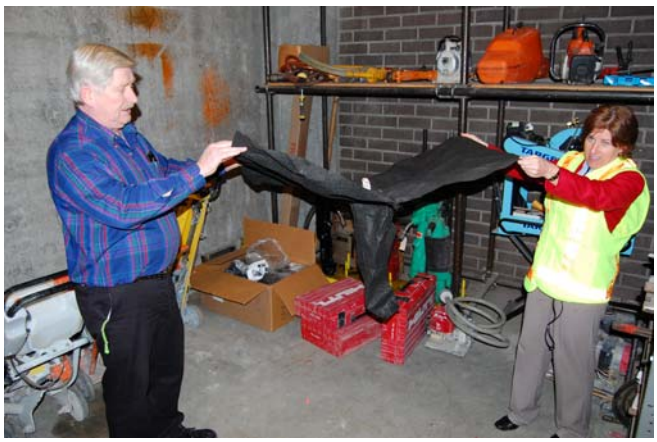

Figure 1. Catch basin filter sock.

BMP Maintenance During Site Work

Catch Basin Filter Sock: Clean or remove and replace the filter sock when sediment has filled one-third of the available storage (unless a different standard is specified by the product manufacturer).

Site Cleanup

1. **Structures less than 12-inches deep:** Use a vactor truck to clean any water or sediment out of the catch basin or storm drain inlets after flushing has been completed.

2. **Structures greater than 12-inches deep:**

   - Remove sediment buildup in front of the catch basin or storm drain inlets by hand sweeping after flushing has been completed.
   - Remove the filter sock and dispose of the collected sediment in a suitable container to be hauled off site.
   - Reuse the filter sock at another site if it remains in good condition (e.g., no rips, tears, or visible staining).
   - *Optional BMP:* Use a vactor truck to clean any water or sediment out of the catch basin or storm drain inlets.

References

Regional Road Maintenance Endangered Species Act Program Guidelines (Regional Road Maintenance Technical Working Group 2002)	Construction Stormwater Control Technical Requirements Manual (Seattle 2009)	Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (Ecology 2005)
2.79 - Inlet Protection	E3.25 - Storm Drain Inlet Protection E3.65 - Cleaning Inlets and Catch Basins	C220 - Inlet Protection

SDOT Manual Name	RCAT	RCAT Description
Street Maintenance Operations 1. Street and Alley Flushing	104	Alley Flushing

Description of Work

Flushing of designated alleys in the Downtown core, Pioneer Square, International District and Bell Town, March through November, for sanitary and health purposes, to deodorize the alley and remove normal accumulation of debris.

Objectives

Protect drainage systems and water bodies from flush water, sediment, and other debris.

Site Preparation

1. **Spill Kit:** Keep a spill cleanup kit in a nearby vehicle or next to the work site so that it is easily accessible. Make sure the contents of the spill kit are appropriate for the types and quantities of materials used for this work task. Refill spill kit materials before beginning work.

2. **Catch Basin Filter Sock:**

   - **Structures less than 12-inches deep:** Remove debris using a mechanical street sweeper or by hand sweeping before flushing.
   - **Structures greater than 12-inches deep:** Install a storm drain or catch basin filter sock (see Figure 1).
     - Place the appropriate size filter sock in the storm drain or catch basin.
     - Place the storm drain or catch basin grate on top of the filter sock to hold it in place.
     - Trim and remove filter sock material that extends beyond the grate.

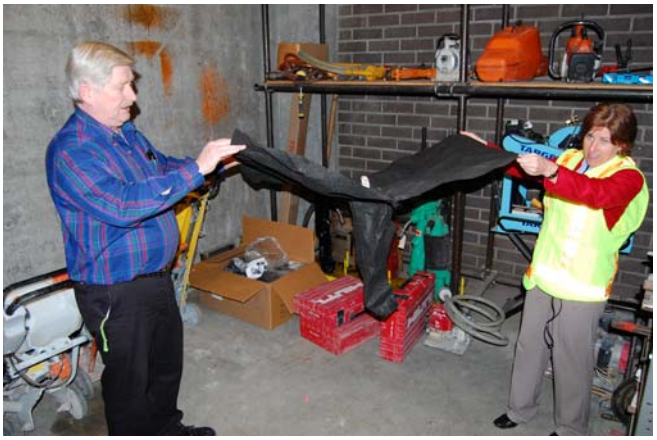

Figure 1. Catch basin filter sock.

BMP Maintenance During Site Work

1. **Catch Basin Filter Sock:** Clean or remove and replace the filter sock when sediment has filled one-third of the available storage (unless a different standard is specified by the product manufacturer).

2. **Waste Disposal:** Ensure that large debris is picked up and disposed of properly instead of being washed towards the separate storm drain system.

Site Cleanup

1. **Structures less than 12-inches deep:** Use a vactor truck to clean any water or sediment out of the catch basin or storm drain inlets after flushing has been completed.
2. **Structures greater than 12-inches deep:**
   - Remove sediment buildup in front of the BMP by hand sweeping after flushing has been completed.
   - Remove the filter sock and dispose of the collected sediment in a suitable container to be hauled off site.
   - Reuse the filter sock at another site if it remains in good condition (e.g., no rips, tears, or visible staining).
   - *Optional BMP:* Use a vactor truck to clean any water or sediment out of the catch basin or storm drain inlets.
3. **Waste Disposal:**
   - Properly dispose of debris in the closest yard with a controlled sediment disposal area or in a dumpster.
   - Place large debris (e.g., pallet boards, cardboard overflowing dumpsters) against the sides of the alley or, if appropriate, in existing dumpsters.

References

Regional Road Maintenance Endangered Species Act Program Guidelines (Regional Road Maintenance Technical Working Group 2002)	Construction Stormwater Control Technical Requirements Manual (Seattle 2009)	Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (Ecology 2005)
2.79 - Inlet Protection	C1.45 - Solid Waste Handling and Disposal E3.25 - Storm Drain Inlet Protection E3.65 - Cleaning Inlets and Catch Basins	C220 - Inlet Protection