

# Stormwater Basin Maintenance Guide

An educational guide provided by the Moorestown Environmental Advisory Committee

## What is a stormwater basin?

A stormwater basin, such as a detention or retention basin, collects and manages rainwater runoff from streets, lawns, and other surfaces. These basins are crucial components of urban and suburban infrastructure providing flood control and maintaining water quality.



Pictured: A retention basin at East 2nd Street in Moorestown. Retention basins are meant to control stormwater flow and improve water quality by filtering out sediment and pollutants before they can enter a stream or river. (Photo taken by MEAC)

## Why maintain the basin on your property?

Maintaining your basin is required by law and is critical for the public health of Moorestown residents and the environment of our community. Having a well-maintained basin prevents local flooding by effectively managing runoff and protects homes, local businesses, and township infrastructure from water damage. Stormwater basins are also vital in improving local water quality by filtering pollutants from runoff before entering natural waterbodies.



Pictured: A detention basin at 457 East Camden Avenue in Moorestown. Detention stormwater basins are meant to drain captured stormwater to help prevent flooding and improve water quality. (Photo taken by MEAC)

Learn the steps you can take to maintain your stormwater basin



# Developing Your Stormwater Maintenance Plan

## Steps to have a well-maintained basin

For stormwater basins, homeowners must regularly trim vegetation and remove sediment that blocks the outflow of the basin design. Clear trash and debris from retention ponds and routinely stabilize slopes of the designated basin.



## Benefits for having a stormwater plan

- 💧 **Environmental Protection:** Basins reduce pollution in waterways by capturing sediment and debris from stormwater runoff.
- 💧 **Community Safety:** By developing a strong basin maintenance plan you minimize the risk of flooding around township property and associated hazards such as erosion and crop loss from farmland.
- 💧 **Cost Savings:** Early detection and repair of basin damage can prevent costly repairs in the future.

## Maintenance Tips

- 💧 Vegetation should be trimmed monthly and quarterly around the drainage outlet of the basin.
- 💧 Remove sediment from basins quarterly.
- 💧 Inspections should be updated and documented frequently.

## Suggestions

- 💧 Contact a local contractor to get started with paperwork and maintenance requirements.
- 💧 Keep leaves and debris aside of basin for better support.

## Note for Residents:

You are responsible for all maintenance operations and documenting inspections of any basin on your property. Inspection reports should be provided to the Director of Community Development. By managing your own stormwater basin, you are improving the environment and reducing the negative impacts of stormwater around the township. Thank you for doing your part!

**More Information on Stormwater Maintenance Guidance in New Jersey is available from the below resources.**

[NJDEP | Stormwater | Maintenance Guidance](#)  
[NJ Developers Green Infrastructure Guide | New Jersey's Stormwater Rules and Requirements](#)  
[New Jersey Clean Communities | Stormwater Management \(njclean.org\)](#)  
<https://thewatershed.org/25653-2/>

Visit Moorestown's MEAC page to access the above hyperlinks:  
<https://www.moorestown.nj.us/177/Environmental-Advisory-Committee>

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