

OCEAN
P R O T E C T

StormFilter

Operations & Maintenance Manual

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Introduction

The primary purpose of stormwater treatment devices is to capture and prevent pollutants from entering waterways, maintenance is a critical component of ensuring the ongoing effectiveness of this process. The specific requirements and frequency for maintenance depends on the treatment device and pollutant load characteristics of each site. This manual has been designed to provide details on the cleaning and maintenance processes for the StormFilter as recommended by the manufacturer.

The StormFilter is designed and sized to meet stringent regulatory requirements. It removes the most challenging target pollutants (including fine solids, soluble heavy metals, oil, and soluble nutrients) using a variety of media. For more than two decades, StormFilter has helped clients meet their regulatory needs and, through ongoing product enhancements, the design continues to be refined for ease of use and improved performance.

Why do I need to perform maintenance?

Adhering to the inspection and maintenance schedule of each stormwater treatment device is essential to ensuring that it functions properly throughout its design life.

During each inspection and clean, details of the mass, volume and type of material that has been collected by the device should be recorded. This data will assist with the revision of future management plans and help determine maintenance interval frequency. It is also essential that qualified and experienced personnel carry out all maintenance (including inspections, recording and reporting) in a systematic manner.

Maintenance of your stormwater management system is essential to ensuring ongoing at-source control of stormwater pollution. Maintenance also helps prevent structural failures (e.g. prevents blocked outlets) and aesthetic failures (e.g. debris build up), but most of all ensures the long term effective operation of the StormFilter.

Health and Safety

Access to a StormFilter unit requires removing heavy access covers/grates, and it is necessary to enter into a confined space. Pollutants collected by the StormFilter will vary depending on the nature of your site. There is potential for these materials to be harmful. For example, sediments may contain heavy metals, carcinogenic substances or objects such as broken glass and syringes. For these reasons, all aspects of maintaining and cleaning your StormFilter require careful adherence to Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) guidelines.

It is important to note that the same level of care needs to be taken to ensure the safety of non-work personnel. As a result, it may be necessary to employ traffic/pedestrian control measures when the device is situated in, or near areas with high vehicular/pedestrian activity.

Personnel health and safety

Whilst performing maintenance on the StormFilter, precautions should be taken in order to minimise (or, if possible, prevent) contact with sediment and other captured pollutants by maintenance personnel. The following personal protective equipment (PPE) is subsequently recommended:

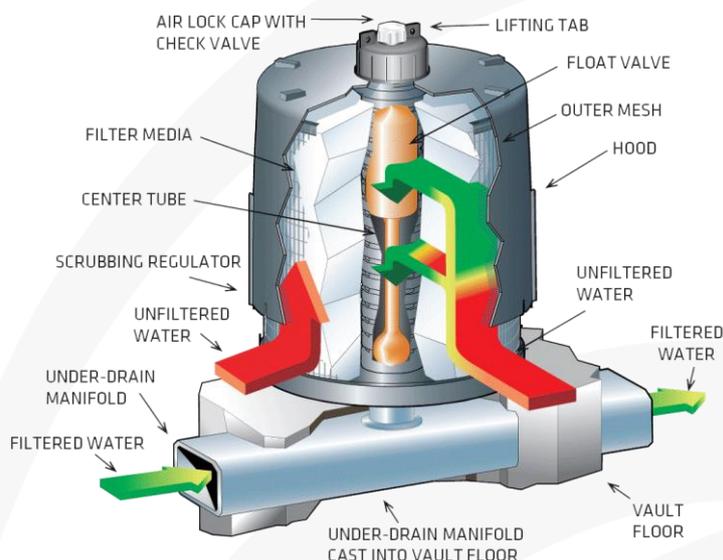
- Puncture resistant gloves
- Steel capped safety boots
- Long sleeve clothing, overalls or similar skin protection
- Eye protection
- High visibility clothing or vest

During maintenance activities, it may be necessary to implement traffic control measures. Ocean Protect recommend that a separate site-specific traffic control plan is implemented as required to meet the relevant governing authority guidelines.

Whilst some aspects of StormFilter maintenance can be performed from surface level, there will be a need to enter the StormFilter system (confined space) during a major service. It is recommended that all maintenance personnel evaluate their own needs for confined space entry and compliance with relevant industry regulations and guidelines. Ocean Protect maintenance personnel are fully trained and carry certification for confined space entry applications.

How does it Work?

Stormwater enters the cartridge chamber, passes through the filtration media and begins filling the cartridge center tube. When water reaches the top of the cartridge the float valve opens and filtered water is allowed to drain at the designed flow rate. Simultaneously, a one-way check valve closes activating a siphon that draws stormwater evenly throughout the filter media and into the center tube. Treated stormwater is then able to discharge out of the system through the underdrain manifold pipework.



As the rain event subsides, the water level outside the cartridge drops and approaches the bottom of the hood, air rushes through the scrubbing regulators releasing the water column and breaking the siphon. The turbulent bubbling action agitates the surface of the cartridge promoting trapped sediment to drop to the chamber floor. After a rain event, the chamber is able to drain dry by way of an imperfect seal at the base of the float valve.

Maintenance Procedures

To ensure optimal performance, it is advisable that regular maintenance is performed. Typically, the StormFilter requires an inspection every 6 months with a minor service at 12 months. Additionally, as the StormFilter cartridges capture pollutants the media will eventually become occluded and require replacement (expected media life is 1-3 years).

Primary Types of Maintenance

The table below outlines the primary types of maintenance activities that typically take place as part of an ongoing maintenance schedule for the StormFilter.

	Description of Typical Activities	Frequency
Inspection	Visual Inspection of cartridges & chamber Remove larger gross pollutants Perform minimal rectification works (if required)	Every 6 Months
Minor Service	Evaluation of cartridges and media Removal of accumulated sediment (if required) Wash-down of StormFilter chamber (if required)	Every 12 Months
Major Service	Replacement of StormFilter cartridge media	As required

Maintenance requirements and frequencies are dependent on the pollutant load characteristics of each site. The frequencies provided in this document represent what the manufacturer considers to be best practice to ensure the continuing operation of the device is in line with the original design specification.

Inspection

The purpose of the inspecting the StormFilter system is to assess the condition of the StormFilter chamber and cartridges. When inspecting the chamber, particular attention should be taken to ensure all cartridges are firmly connected to the connectors. It is also an optimal opportunity to remove larger gross pollutants and inspect the outlet side of the StormFilter weir.

Minor Service

This service is designed to ensure the ongoing operational effectiveness of the StormFilter system, whilst assessing the condition of the cartridge media.

1. Establish a safe working area around the access point(s)
2. Remove access cover(s)
3. Evaluate StormFilter cartridge media (if exhausted schedule major service within 6 months)
4. Measure and record the level of accumulated sediment in the chamber (if sediment depth is less than 100 mm skip to step 9)
5. Remove StormFilter cartridges from the chamber
6. Use vacuum unit to removed accumulated sediment and pollutants in the chamber
7. Use high pressure water to clean StormFilter chamber
8. Re-install StormFilter cartridges
9. Replace access cover(s)

Major Service (Filter Cartridge Replacement)

For the StormFilter system a major service is reactionary process based on the outcomes from the minor service, specifically the evaluation of the cartridge media.

Trigger Event	Maintenance Action
Cartridge media is exhausted ^[1]	Replace StormFilter cartridge media ^[2]

[1] Multiple assessment methods are available, contact Ocean Protect for assistance

[2] Replacement filter media and components are available for purchase from Ocean Protect.

This service is designed to return the StormFilter device back to optimal operating performance

1. Establish a safe working area around the access point(s)
2. Remove access cover(s)
3. By first removing the head cap, remove each individual cartridge hood to allow access to the exhausted media.
4. Utilise a vacuum unit to remove exhausted media from each cartridge
5. Use vacuum unit to remove accumulated sediment and pollutants in the chamber
6. Use high pressure water to clean StormFilter chamber
7. Inspect each empty StormFilter cartridges for any damage, rectify damage as required
8. Re-fill each cartridge with media in line with project specifications
9. Re-install replenished StormFilter cartridges
10. Replace access cover(s)

Additional Types of Maintenance

Occasionally, events on site can make it necessary to perform additional maintenance to ensure the continuing performance of the device.

Hazardous Material Spill

If there is a spill event on site, the StormFilter unit should be inspected and cleaned. Specifically, all captured pollutants and liquids from within the unit should be removed and disposed in accordance with any additional requirements that may relate to the type of spill event. Additionally, it will be necessary to inspect the filter cartridges and assess them for contamination, depending on the type of spill event it may be necessary to replace the filtration media.

Blockages

In the unlikely event that flooding occurs upstream of the StormFilter system the following steps should be undertaken to assist in diagnosing the issue and determining the appropriate response.

1. Inspect the upstream diversion structure (if applicable) ensuring that it is free of debris and pollutants
2. Inspect the StormFilter unit checking the underdrain manifold as well as both the inlet and outlet pipes for obstructions (e.g. pollutant build-up, blockage), which if present, should be removed.

Major Storms and Flooding

In addition to the scheduled activities, it is important to inspect the condition of the StormFilter after a major storm event. The focus is to inspect for damage and higher than normal sediment accumulation that may result from localised erosion. Where necessary damaged components should be replaced and accumulated pollutants should be removed and disposed.

Disposal of Waste Materials

The accumulated pollutants found in the StormFilter must be handled and disposed of in a manner that is in accordance with all applicable waste disposal regulations. When scheduling maintenance, consideration must be made for the disposal of solid and liquid wastes. If the filter media has been contaminated with any unusual substance, there may be additional special handling and disposal methods required to comply with relevant government/authority/industry regulations.

Maintenance Services

With over a decade and a half of maintenance experience Ocean Protect has developed a systematic approach to inspecting, cleaning and maintaining a wide variety of stormwater treatment devices. Our fully trained and professional staff are familiar with the characteristics of each type of system, and the processes required to ensure its optimal performance.

Ocean Protect has several stormwater maintenance service options available to help ensure that your stormwater device functions properly throughout its design life. In the case of our StormFilter system we offer long term pay-as-you-go contracts, pre-paid once off servicing and replacement media for cartridges.

For more information please visit www.OceanProtect.com.au