SD1
Managing Northern Kentucky's Wastewater and Storm Water

Rule of thumb

The best maintenance is usually preventative. Most problems with storm water control structures can be avoided with one simple step: keep trash, leaves and other debris away from storm water control structures. Debris leads to clogging, which makes storm water structures less effective at limiting flooding and erosion.

Inlet, outlet and catch basin maintenance

- ☐ Regularly inspect inlets, outlets, catch basins and the surrounding area for erosion and clogging.
- ☐ Keep grass clippings and other debris away from storm water control structures.
- ☐ Mow surrounding grass frequently and maintain other vegetation as needed.
- ☐ Call a professional to clean out underground or enclosed structures.
- ☐ Do not dump oil, paint or other pollutants near a storm water control structure. These structures send water directly to nearby waterways, where pollutants can harm water quality and destroy wildlife habitats.

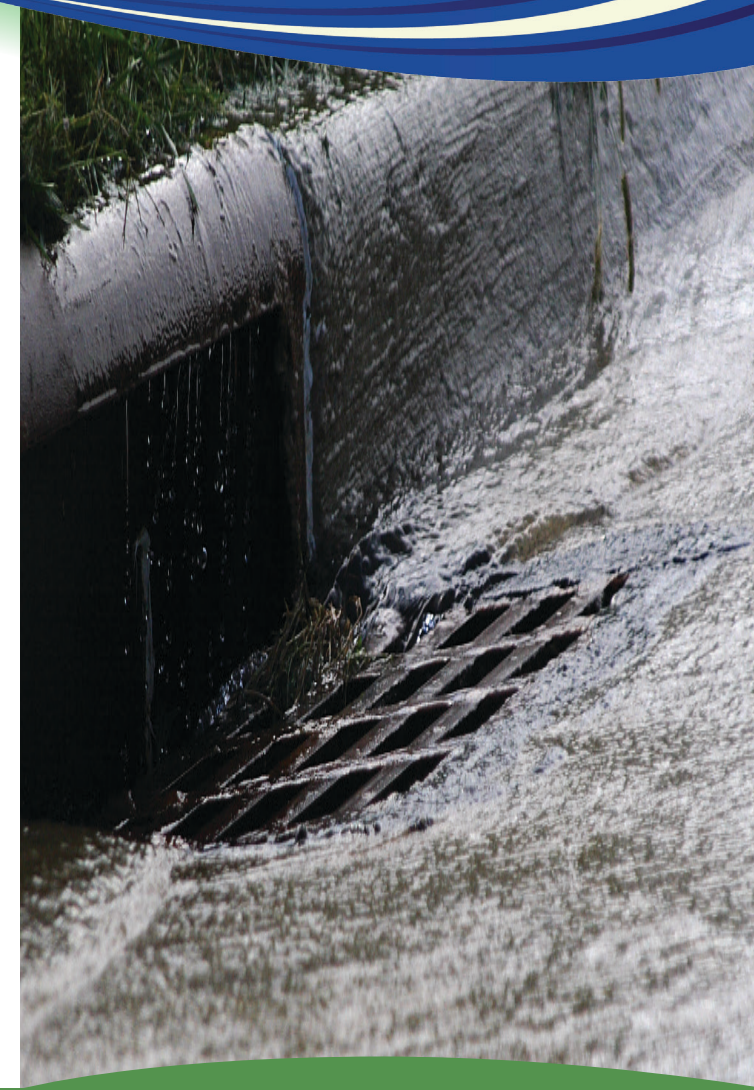
Important notice

While catch basins, inlets and outlets are important tools for managing storm water, they can be dangerous during heavy rainstorms. Never allow children to play near these storm water structures, as there is a risk of injury or drowning.

Get help

If significant erosion, sediment accumulation or other damage is evident near storm water structures, contact SD1 at 859-578-7450 or info@sd1.org to have the structures inspected. SD1 staff may be able to help determine the cause of the problem and the individual or entity responsible for maintenance.

For more information about properly maintaining storm water control structures on private property, call a local engineer or landscape architect.



For more information about storm water, please visit our website, sd1.org.

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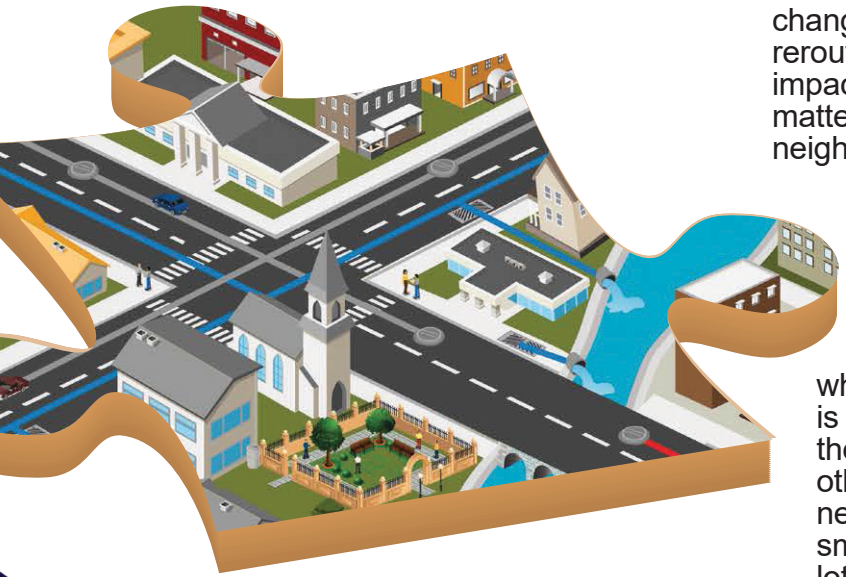
Maintaining Inlets, Outlets and Catch Basins

Storm water, SD1 and you

As our communities grow, our neighborhoods include an increasing number of buildings, roads and parking lots. This growth is important for our local economy, but the additional impervious, hard surfaces prohibit rain and snow melt from soaking into the ground. This creates storm water runoff which can lead to erosion and flooding that may damage homes and landscaping, make travel difficult and affect recreation and wildlife habitats.

To control storm water runoff, SD1 maintains an expansive system of storm sewer pipes and other structures, but it is only one piece of the storm water puzzle-cities, counties and individual property owners also play an important role.



Your role

When new homes, businesses and neighborhoods are built, developers often install storm water control structures at individual project sites to manage runoff. These storm water control structures sometimes interconnect with neighboring property or with infrastructure under SD1's control, but responsibility for structures on private property often lies with property owners, homeowner associations, or property management companies.

It is essential that private property owners properly maintain storm water control structures on their property to ensure the entire system runs smoothly.

Private property owners should also be careful when adding new structures, like a shed, or making major landscaping changes to your property. If a change reroutes storm water and has a negative impact on properties downstream, the matter could become a legal issue among neighbors.

Good neighbors

While individual property owners are required to maintain some storm water control structures, they also can take voluntary steps to help the whole community. Even if a structure is publicly owned, citizens can protect their community from flooding and other problems by simply clearing away nearby debris as they see it. It's one small, preventative step that can do a lot of good.

Infrastructure 101

The most common storm water control structures private property owners may interact with are swales, drainage inlets and outlets, catch basins, detention and retention basins. In addition to limiting flooding and erosion by slowing down water movement, many of these structures also help filter the water before it reaches streams and rivers.

Inlets, outlets and catch basins

Inlets, outlets and catch basins are common storm water control structures, sometimes covered by heavy grates or screens, which allow water into or out of another storm water structure. In addition to limiting flooding and erosion, inlets help filter litter and debris from water before it reaches streams and rivers.