



4.9 Inspections and Maintenance During Construction

4.9.1 Permittee Responsibilities

During construction, the permittee(s) (i.e., persons responsible for grading and or building permit conditions) must perform documented routine inspections and conduct maintenance to ensure that the stormwater system and erosion prevention and sediment control best management practices are functioning properly, and that no off-site sedimentation is occurring. This section of the Knox County Stormwater Management Manual describes the responsibilities of a permit holder (permittee) to perform inspections and maintenance during active construction, as well as Knox County's role in inspections and maintenance. For more information on inspection content, frequency and documentation, refer to Volume 2, Chapter 9 of this manual.

While the construction site is active, the permittee (or his/her designee) is responsible for conducting inspections on all components of the stormwater system within the development. The inspection should document the functionality of each component, including the component's ability to convey or treat runoff, as well as any maintenance needs. It is recommended that the stormwater system be inspected after every rainfall event that produces stormwater runoff to assess the functionality of the system.

The permittee (or his/her designee) is also responsible for performing maintenance on the stormwater system during construction. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, removing blockages, removing accumulated sediment, replacing stone, repairing silt fence, and cleaning sediment out of catch basins, pipes, and check dams. Maintenance activities should focus on maintaining the functionality of each component as well as preventing pollutants from being discharged from the development site.

4.9.2 County Authority and Responsibilities

4.9.2.1 Inspections

The Knox County Stormwater Management Ordinance gives the Director (or his/her designated representative) the authority and right to enter private property to inspect for compliance with approved plans. During the normal course of the property development process, this is a common occurrence. County inspectors will document activities at the site and note any corrective actions needed at the site. The permittee may be required to provide the County inspector with copies of inspection reports and permit documentation to verify that inspections and maintenance are being performed as necessary. In the event that a maintenance need or concern is identified during an inspection by Knox County, the County will require the permittee to perform the maintenance activity and will establish a completion date in writing. Failure to perform the maintenance by the completion date set by Knox County could result in further enforcement action.

Failure of a property owner to allow entry by the Director or his/her designee for purposes of an inspection shall be cause for the issuance of a stop work order, withholding of a certificate of occupancy, and/or civil penalties and/or damage assessments.



4.9.2.2 Corrective Actions

The Director has the authority to order corrective actions to EPSC measures, stormwater management facilities, and/or the stormwater system as necessary to properly maintain the stormwater systems within Knox County. Further, the Director can perform the corrective action. If the property owner(s) fails to perform corrective actions, the Director shall have the authority to order corrective action, to be performed by the County or others. The property owner or permittee is responsible for providing funding for corrective actions that are performed by the County (or designee), either through revocation of the performance bond or reimbursement for double the cost of the corrective action. Knox County has the authority to file a lien for failure to reimburse a corrective action.