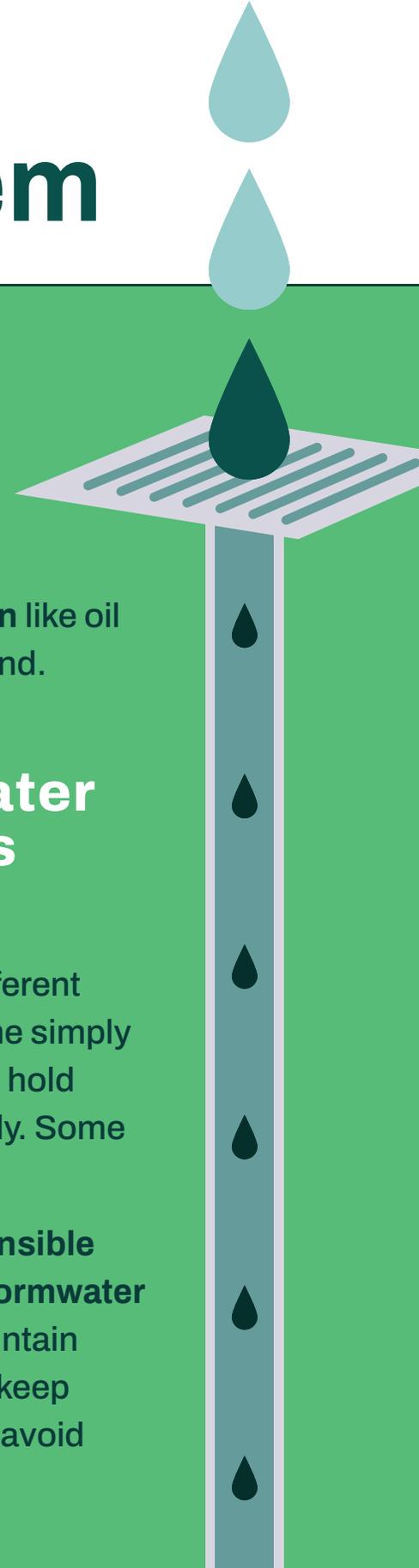


Your business' stormwater system

Stormwater flows from your business to Puget Sound

Stormwater drains through your business' stormwater system and into a nearby stream or river.

As stormwater flows along the ground, it picks up pollution like oil and grease. Eventually, this pollution ends up in Puget Sound.



Your business has a system to prevent flooding and pollution:

- 🔹 **CATCH BASIN**
- 🔹 **VAULT**
- 🔹 **OIL-WATER SEPARATOR**
- 🔹 **BIOSWALE**
- 🔹 **STORMWATER POND**

Maintenance tips on the other side! ➔

Your stormwater system needs maintenance

Every business has a different stormwater system. Some simply drain stormwater. Others hold water and release it slowly. Some help filter pollutants.

Your business is responsible for maintaining your stormwater system. Inspect and maintain your system regularly to keep stormwater draining and avoid expensive clean-ups.



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How to maintain your stormwater system



OIL-WATER SEPARATOR

Inspect quarterly

- Check accumulated oil — there should be less than 1"
- Look at the water draining — it should not have a sheen
- Inspect vault and baffles or coalescing plates for damage
- Remove litter and sediment over 6" deep

STORMWATER POND

Inspect biannually and after storms

- Mow grass to 4-9" in dry season (remove clippings)
- Clear sediment from pond control structure within 1' of outlet or filling more than a quarter of its depth
- Look for erosion, rodent holes, and bare patches
- Check sediment in pond
- Pull noxious weeds and maintain access

VAULT

Inspect annually

- Remove litter and soil
- Make sure manhole cover is properly seated
- Visually confirm ladder is in good condition
- Check for cracks

CATCH BASIN

Inspect annually and after storms

- Clear around grate
- Remove litter and debris
- Clean out sediment — it should be at least 6" below the lowest pipe
- Check for cracks and separated grout fillet

BIOSWALE

Inspect before winter and after storms

- Remove litter, debris, and sediment (if 2" or more)
- Hand-pull weeds — do not use pesticides
- Check for erosion and blockages
- For grassy swales: reseed bare areas and mow grass to 4"
- For vegetated swales: replace dead plants and apply mulch to 3" depth

Follow these best practices:

- Never get inside vaults
- Wear gloves for cleaning up oil
- Sweep floors regularly
- Keep maintenance records
- Follow a maintenance schedule



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