

FAUQUIER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
29 ASHBY STREET, 3RD FLOOR
WARRENTON, VIRGINIA 20186
(540) 347-8660
FAX (540) 341-3444

PLANNING
(540) 347-8632

TECHNICAL
(540) 341-8268

ZONING ADMINISTRATION
(540) 347-8789

BUILDING
AND ZONING PERMITS
(540) 347-8646
(540) 347-8647
(540) 347-8674
FAX (540) 347-2043

Technical Policy Bulletin

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Stormwater Management – Policy Notification on BMP Catch Basin Inserts

From: Frederick P. D. Carr, Director of Community Development

Fauquier County accepts all BMP types identified in the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook (VSMH) in the evaluation of structures and facilities for SWM compliance of development projects. The County also recognizes that new products are introduced into the markets that did not exist or have been improved since the publishing of the VSMH.

When a BMP system is proposed that is not included in the VSMH, research is conducted to determine if other governmental agencies have tested or have experience the proposed technology. Agencies such as EPA (including their Environmental Technology Verification Program), Federal Highway Administration, and other governmental entities often have experience and sometimes have even tested these technologies. This information is used to determine whether the proposed system will meet the requirements and intent of the Fauquier stormwater criteria.

FINDINGS on CATCH BASIN INSERTS

Catch basin inserts are not identified as a BMP in the VSMH. Based on published findings of both EPA and FHA and a trial case in Fauquier County, it has been determined that catch basin inserts are not an acceptable BMP treatment. This determination was made in 2007 and has been the standard practice in plan review since then. Catch basin inserts can, however, be an effective practice if used as a pretreatment to other BMP systems as outlined in the EPA Stormwater Menu of BMPs.

POLICY on CATCH BASIN INSERTS

Catch basin inserts are not recognized as a method of providing BMP treatment. Catch basin inserts can only be utilized as a stormwater pretreatment to the actual BMP systems serving a site, as outlined in the EPA Stormwater Menu of BMPs.