

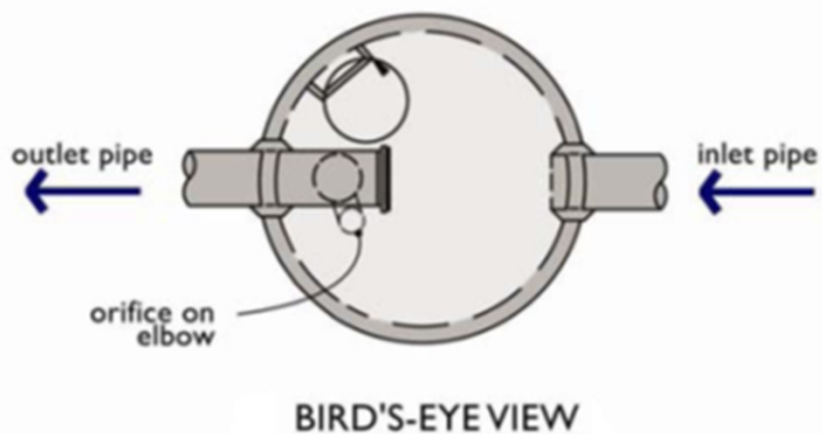
## Control Structure/Flow Restrictor

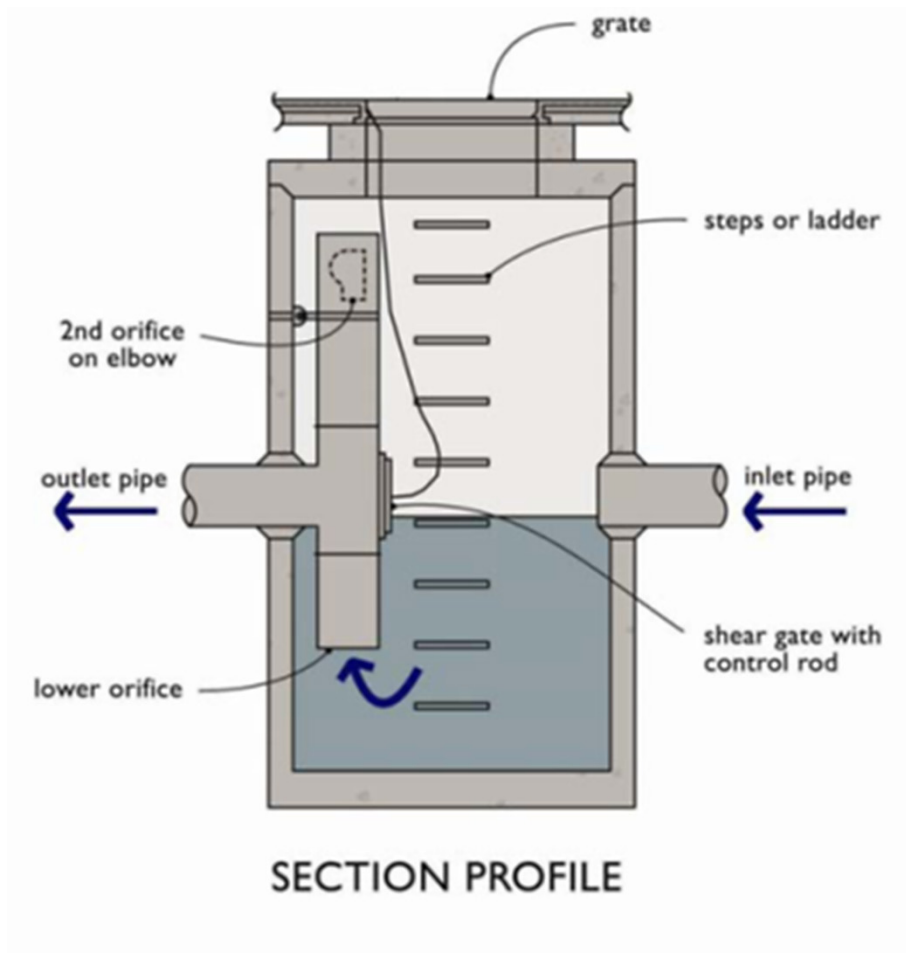
Flow control structures and flow restrictors direct or restrict flow in or out of facility components. Outflow controls on detention facilities are a common example where flow control structures slowly release stormwater at a specific rate. The flow is regulated by a combination of orifices (holes with specifically sized diameters) and weirs (plates with rectangular or “V” shaped notch). Lack of maintenance of the control structure can result in the plugging of an orifice. If these flow controls are damaged, plugged, bypassed, or not working properly, the facility could overtop or release water too quickly.

Control structures have a history of maintenance-related problems and it is imperative to establish a good maintenance program for them to function properly. Sediment typically builds up inside the structure, which blocks or restricts flow to the outlet. To prevent this problem, routinely clean out these structures and conduct regular inspections to detect the need for non-routine cleanout.

Facility objects that are typically associated with a control structure/flow restrictor include:

- detention ponds
- media cartridge filters
- closed detention system
- conveyance stormwater pipe





### Key Operations and Maintenance Considerations

- Conduct regular inspections of control structures to detect the need for non-routine cleanout, especially if construction or land-disturbing activities occur in the contributing drainage area.
- The most common tool for cleaning control structures/flow restrictors is a truck with a tank and vacuum hose (Vactor® truck) to remove sediment and debris from the sump.
- A control structure is an enclosed space where harmful chemicals and vapors can accumulate. Therefore, if the inspection and maintenance requires entering a control structure, it should be conducted by an individual trained and certified to work in hazardous confined spaces.

*Stormwater Treatment, Flow Control, and Conveyance Facility Components*

<b>Control Structure/Flow Restrictor</b>			
<b>Drainage System Feature</b>	<b>Potential Defect</b>	<b>Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed</b>	<b>Minimum Performance Standard</b>
General	Trash and Debris (Includes Sediment)	Material exceeds 25% of sump depth or 1 foot below orifice plate.	Control structure orifice is not blocked. All trash and debris has been removed.
	Structural Damage	Structure is not securely attached to manhole wall.	Structure securely attached to wall and outlet pipe.
		Structure is not in upright position (allow up to 10% from plumb).	Structure in correct position.
		Connections to outlet pipe are not watertight and show signs of rust.	Connections to outlet pipe are water tight; structure repaired or replaced and works as designed.
	Any holes--other than designed holes--in the structure.	Structure has no holes other than designed holes.	
Cleanout Gate	Damaged or Missing	Cleanout gate is not watertight or is missing.	Gate is watertight and works as designed.
		Gate cannot be moved up and down by one maintenance person.	Gate moves up and down easily and is watertight.
		Chain/rod leading to gate is missing or damaged.	Chain is in place and works as designed.
		Gate is rusted over 50% of its surface area.	Gate is repaired or replaced to meet design standards.
Orifice Plate	Damaged or Missing	Control device is not working properly due to missing, out of place, or bent orifice plate.	Plate is in place and works as designed.
	Obstructions	Any trash, debris, sediment, or vegetation blocking the plate.	Plate is free of all obstructions and works as designed.
Overflow Pipe	Obstructions	Any trash or debris blocking (or having the potential of blocking) the overflow pipe.	Pipe is free of all obstructions and works as designed.
Manhole	Cover Not in Place	Cover is missing or only partially in place. Any open manhole requires maintenance.	Manhole is closed.
	Locking Mechanism Not Working	Mechanism cannot be opened by one maintenance person with proper tools. Bolts into frame have less than 1/2 inch of thread (may not apply to self-locking lids).	Mechanism opens with proper tools.
	Cover Difficult to Remove	One maintenance person cannot remove lid after applying normal lifting pressure. Intent is to keep cover from sealing off access to maintenance.	Cover can be removed and reinstalled by one maintenance person.
	Ladder Rungs Unsafe	Ladder is unsafe due to missing rungs, misalignment, not securely attached to structure wall, rust, or cracks.	Ladder meets design specifications. Allows maintenance person safe access.
Catch Basins	<b>See "Catch Basins"</b>		