

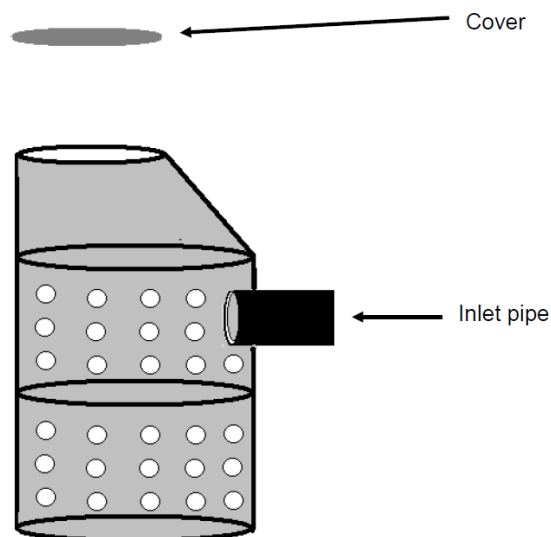
## Drywell

A drywell is a perforated, open-bottomed manhole used to infiltrate stormwater into the ground. Drywells temporarily store stormwater runoff during rain events. Drywells do not discharge to a downstream conveyance system or nearby surface water. Instead, drywells rely on the ability of the site's soils to infiltrate the stormwater into the ground.

While not the intended use, drywells trap sediment and some of the oily pollutants in runoff. They are more likely to fill with oily sediment in areas that lack swales or other treatment facilities. Fine soil sediment can clog drywells and lead to localized street flooding. Also, pollutants discharged into drywells can migrate into groundwater. Drywells were often installed in closed topographic depressions, areas with well-drained soils, or areas having inadequate storm sewers. Because drywells can be easily clogged and tend to concentrate pollutants in one place; pollution and sediment control practices should be used to protect them.

Facility objects that are typically associated with a drywell include:

- access road or easement
- fence, gate, and water quality sign
- infiltration trench
- catch basin
- field inlet
- bioswale
- media cartridge filter





**Drywell with Accumulated Trash**

### Key Operations and Maintenance Considerations

- The most common tool for cleaning drywells is a truck with a tank and vacuum hose (Vactor® truck) to remove sediment and debris from the facility.
- If water remains in a drywell after extended dry periods, that suggests the drywell is in direct contact with groundwater and must be retrofitted to meet state water quality standards and the requirements of the state Underground Injection Control rules. Contact Clark County Environmental Services or the Washington Department of Ecology for more information.

Drywell			
Drainage System Feature	Potential Defect	Conditions When Maintenance Is Needed	Minimum Performance Standard
General	Does Not Dissipate Stormwater	Does not dissipate stormwater.	Replace or repair.
	Opening Clogged	Openings are clogged, reducing capacity.	Openings have been cleared (e.g. by water-jetting); or Convert existing, clogged drywell to a sediment trap and install a new drywell or drainage trench. To convert to a sediment trap, required are grouting holes, covering the base with concrete, and adding piping.
	Standing Water	Standing water indicates the drywell is into the water table.	Rebuild drywell to prevent stormwater from going directly into groundwater.
	Trash and Debris	Trash, debris, or floatables that may exit through pipes.	No trash or debris in drywell.
		Trash or debris in any inlet or outlet pipe.	Inlet and outlet pipes free of trash or debris.
	Sediment	Sediment in drywell exceeds 60 percent of the depth below the inlet pipe.	No sediment in drywell.
	Structure Damage	Maintenance person judges that structure is unsound.	Drywell replaced or repaired to design standards.
Contaminants and Pollution	Any evidence of oil, gasoline, contaminants or other pollutants.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and remove source, AND</li> <li>• Report to Clark County Clean Water Program Illicit Discharge and Detection Elimination Program.</li> </ul>	No contaminants or pollutants present.	
Drywell Manhole	Cover Not in Place	Cover is missing or only partially in place. Any open catch basin requires maintenance.	Catch basin cover is closed
	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 by one maintenance person.
Metal Grates (If Applicable)	Grate opening Unsafe	Grate with opening wider than 7/8 inch.	Grate opening meets design standards.
	Trash and Debris	Trash and debris that is blocking more than 20% of grate surface inletting capacity.	Grate free of trash and debris.
	Damaged or Missing	Grate missing or broken member(s) of the grate.	Grate is in place and meets design standards.