Stormwater Management: Operations and Maintenance

Best Practices White Paper Summary

- Adjacent land use and road size/ADT are several factors, along with weather, topography, and catch basin sump size, affecting how frequently catch basins need to be cleaned. Optimal frequency for inspection and cleaning of catch basins cannot be determined based on land use or road size/type alone.

- Land use is a major factor, but shouldn’t be the sole factor, in determining maintenance frequency of catch basins. Other factors include weather, topography, particle size, erodibility of soils, whether the streets have curbs, catch basin sump size, surrounding construction activities, and whether the catch basin is on a snow route.

- More heavily traveled roads such as commercial streets have higher sediment accumulation rates than lesser traveled roads such as residential streets.

- Land use surrounding a catch basin does influence the rate of sediment accumulation in catch basins, with industrial areas having the highest accumulation rates followed by commercial areas and residential areas.

*Summary prepared by AWC staff, June 2013*