

Inspection and Maintenance Certification for Stormwater Control Measures in Ohio

As development occurs, communities across Ohio require stormwater control measures (SCMs) to be installed to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff and mitigate flooding. These facilities are often installed and forgotten. Due to the lack of maintenance, SCMs will:

- * not provide their intended benefits
- * potentially flood urban areas
- * contribute to stream bank erosion and loss of real estate
- * allow pollutants to enter our waterways without treatment

More importantly, these failures cost landowners more to repair than if they had performed consistent inspections and maintenance. Most communities rely heavily on the private sector to maintain stormwater practices. This course will provide an overview about how SCMs function and the maintenance required to ensure safety and functionality over the long-term.

Recently, there is a push to educate and certify landscapers, property managers and other service providers to build a knowledgeable workforce that can confidently inspect and perform maintenance on stormwater facilities. Additionally, municipal employees from service and park departments are expected by the regulators to inspect and maintain their own SCMs. These staff typically have the foundational skills and equipment necessary to transition to providing SCM inspection and maintenance services.



The Ohio State University and Summit Soil and Water Conservation District have developed a curriculum based on Ohio's maintenance standards and design specifications for SCMs. This course was developed to educate a workforce to fill this growing niche. This certifying course will give your employees the required knowledge to confidently identify the SCM, inspect the facility, develop reports, make recommendations to solve common maintenance issues, and carry out the maintenance.

This 2-day course involves classroom modules on each SCM approved for use in Ohio, conducting realistic inspections of SCMs in a field-learning portion, and an exam. Participants will receive resources to assist with the classroom modules, and learn the basics about Ohio SCM specifications and their inspections.

Course Objectives: Attendees will be able to...

- * identify different SCMs and how they function
- * identify common deficiencies or issues and make corrective measures
- * document issues and maintenance activities performed
- * monitor vegetation and manage undesirable vegetation
- * identify appropriate maintenance frequency
- * communicate with the local agency and provide proficient reports
- * identify ways to lessen maintenance cost

Upon completion of the course and successfully passing the exam, the attendee will be awarded a certification and a personal certification number from The Ohio State University. The certification will be good for 3 years, expiring on December 31st of the third year. Refresher courses will be offered to maintain certification and provide updates to the certified professional on changes to Ohio standards and new developments in maintenance techniques. The cost of this course and three-year certification is \$350.00 for consultants, contractors or companies listed on the certified contractors list or \$250.00 for governmental or non-profit organizations who will not be listed as a certified contractor. To learn more about this certification, please check out the website at www.summitswcd.com/im-certification.html. A list of certified individuals and their companies will be available on the website. To promote your credentials, knowledge, and skills, you may direct your customers to this website to learn more.



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