

# FACT SHEET- FLOW THROUGH PLANTER

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## FLOW THROUGH PLANTER

Also known as: Above Ground Bioretention, Filter Planter, and Water Quality Planter



## DESCRIPTION

Flow Through Planters function as a soil and plant-based filtration feature that removes pollutants through a variety of natural physical, biological, and chemical treatment processes. Flow Through Planters are usually installed next to buildings or common open areas to treat storm water from rooftops.

## ADVANTAGES

- Provides water quality treatment.
- Can be used as part of a treatment train with other BMPs.
- Used in urban areas where space is limited or infiltration is not acceptable.
- Used on sloped sites.
- Provides habitat for birds and attracts pollinators like butterflies and bees.

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## LIMITATIONS

- Do not achieve Delta Volume Capture or Hydromodification Control requirements.
- Impacts to adjacent buildings and overflow requirements need to be considered in design.
- Plant selection needs to consider effects of fast draining soils.

## KEY DESIGN FEATURES

- Bottom shall be impervious to protect adjacent structures and slope stability, unless otherwise approved by a licensed Geotechnical Engineer. If designed to allow infiltration, the underlying soil should not be compacted.
- Shall be planted with plants from the approved **Plant List** and **Tree List** included in Appendix F and shall be planted to achieve 51% cover.
- Install a designated high flow bypass inlet or route.
- Underdrain required.
- All surface water must drain within 72 hours to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Select non-floatable surface mulching material to prevent clogging of downstream inlets.
- Downspouts to incorporate splash blocks and/or other dissipation methods to prevent erosion.

## SIZING DESIGN- GOAL AND REQUIREMENTS

- **For all projects:** The **treatment** component requires that all of the runoff generated by this water quality design storm from impermeable surfaces must be treated on site for the pollutants of concern.
- All calculations shall be completed using the “Storm Water Calculator” available at [www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID](http://www.srcity.org/stormwaterLID).

## INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

A maintenance plan shall be provided with the Final SWLID Submittal. The maintenance plan shall include recommended maintenance practices, identify the parties responsible for maintenance and upkeep, specify the funding source for ongoing maintenance with provisions for full replacement when necessary and provide site specific inspection checklist.

At a minimum inspection and maintenance shall include the following:

- Inspect twice annually for ponded water. If ponded water is observed, the perforated pipe shall be cleaned.
- If ponded water remains, further grading and replacement may be necessary to prevent mosquito breeding.

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- The high flow inlet should be inspected and cleaned as necessary to remove any obstructions.
- Pesticides and fertilizers shall not be used in the rain garden area.
- Plants should be pruned, weeds pulled and dead plants replaced as needed.
- Check downspout splash blocks for proper location and fill/regard any washouts.
- Evaluate mulching around plants. Add/replace as needed.