

Saginaw County Road Commission Procedure for inspecting and maintaining other storm water structural controls

Open Channels/ Roadside Ditches

The Saginaw County Road Commission currently has 144 miles of open channels/roadside ditches within the urbanized area that function as vegetated swales. Once per permit cycle, the roadside ditches will be inspected by trained Saginaw County Road Commission personnel to determine if maintenance is required. The inspection will be conducted during the second calendar quarter. The Roadside Ditch Maintenance form will be used during the inspections. Information from the form will be saved to a location to be determined upon reissuance.

Starting in April 2020, trained Saginaw County Road Commission personnel will begin inspections of the open channels/roadside ditches within the urbanized area. The schedule for maintenance will be based on the criteria in Table 1. The Saginaw County Road Commission is an Authorized Public Agency and has procedures for active construction projects so the schedule in Table 1 will not apply to active construction projects.

Areas of Open Channels/Roadside Ditches designated with low priority will be addressed when that section of road is scheduled for maintenance. Areas of Open Channels/Roadside Ditches designated with medium priority will be scheduled for maintenance during the next construction season. Areas of Open Channels/Roadside Ditches designated with high priority will be scheduled for maintenance within 60 days of the inspection.

Materials removed when a ditch is cleaned will be given to adjacent landowners for beneficial reuse or hauled to the land application sites on Geddes Road or Curtis Road. Material that is taken to the land application sites will be screened on site to remove litter so the sediment can be used for beneficial reuse. The screened liter will be hauled to the Waste Management Landfill in Birch Run within 90 days of being screened. Other solid waste materials removed from the roadside ditch will be taken to the land application sites for temporary storage. Solid waste materials that cannot be used for beneficial reuse will be removed from the site and taken to the Waste Management Landfill in Birch Run within 90 days of arrival at the land application site.

During maintenance, a 50-foot vegetated buffer will be maintained between the area where sediment is being removed and any surface waters of the state. If the vegetative buffer cannot be maintained, appropriate structural storm water controls, such as check dams, will be installed and maintained until the bed and banks of the roadside ditch have been stabilized with vegetation or other materials.

If new structural storm water controls are added, these procedures will be revised within 1 year of installing the new structural storm water controls.

Table 1: Prioritization and Maintenance Schedule for Open Channels/Roadside Ditches

Condition of Roadside Ditch	Priority	Maintenance Schedule
Erosion on banks or bottom but not within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance
Erosion on banks or bottom within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Evidence of sediment deposition or accumulation of sediment but not within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance
Evidence of sediment deposition or accumulation of sediment within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Evidence of sediment deposition in the stream or accumulation of sediment at the stream crossing	High	Within 60 days of inspection
Rip rap at stream crossing: evidence of sediment deposition in the voids between the rock below the ordinary high-water mark	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance
Rip rap at stream crossing: voids between the rock below the ordinary high-water mark is filled with sediment	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Rip rap at stream crossing: below the ordinary highwater mark covered with sediment	High	Within 60 days of inspection
Standing water after storm events	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Sediment accumulation behind check dams is up to ½ the height of the check dam	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance
Sediment accumulation behind check dams is up to ½ the height of the check dam and it is within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Sediment accumulation behind check dams is up to the height of the check dam but not within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Sediment accumulation behind check dams is up to the height of the check dam and the check dam is within 100 feet of a stream crossing	High	Within 60 days of inspection
Vegetation on the bottom and sides is not well established in areas not within 100 of the stream crossing	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance

Vegetation on the bottom and sides is not well established in areas within 100 of the stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Accumulation of trash and debris not within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Low	Scheduled Road Maintenance
Accumulation of trash and debris within 100 feet of a stream crossing	Medium	Addressed during the next construction season
Accumulation of trash and debris at the stream crossing	High	Within 60 days of inspection