

**PRIMARY USE:** Reduction of solid waste and organic matter in stormwater runoff.  
**ADDITIONAL USES:** Maintenance of effectiveness of existing structures.

## DEBRIS REMOVAL

**What is it?** A non-structural practice to reduce pollutant content in stormwater.

### Purpose

Stormwater control and conveyance structures require frequent debris removal to maintain proper function. Litter and yard wastes can clog channel inlets, catch basins, and outlets, lead to overflows, erosion and unintended flooding, and make these devices ineffective in stormwater pollutant removal.



**Removing Debris at a Catch Basin  
Section View**

### Limitations

Small particles removal depends on grate size and/or nature of the particle.

### Materials

This is a non-structural practice.

### Installation

Grates on inlets and outlets must prevent entry by children but should be easily cleaned by maintenance crews. Municipal facilities maintenance programs and commercial, and industrial stormwater permittees should be required to regularly clean inlets, catch basins, clean-out access points, and outlets. Forebays can be installed where feasible prior to entry into ponds. Forebays are very useful in promoting proper maintenance and cleaning. They are easily cleaned and separate much of the sediment, associated pollutants, and trash and floatables from the main pond. Paving portions of the forebay allows easy access for maintenance equipment. Hard bottoms can also be made permeable through the use of turf blocks or flexible revetment.

**Source:** Watershed Science Institute.