



**Snohomish County
Public Works**

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October 2, 2009

Subject: Information on the inspection of your storm drainage facility

Dear property owner,

A recent inventory completed by the Snohomish County Department of Public Works (DPW) shows that you are the owner of a property that contains a storm drainage facility, such as a detention and/or water quality facility. As a result, sometime within the next two years, a DPW staff member will contact you to schedule an inspection of the facility. The main purpose of the inspection is to:

- Check the performance of your storm drainage facility;
- See if the facility needs to be cleaned or repaired; and
- Help you understand and meet your maintenance responsibilities.

Under state and federal laws, Snohomish County must inspect certain types of storm drainage facilities on public and private properties, determine whether the facilities meet performance standards, and require facility owners to correct any problems or deficiencies. This letter, and the enclosed brochure, will provide you with additional information on stormwater regulations, the County inspection process, and your legal obligations.

In response to state and federal mandates, Snohomish County has revised Chapter 7.53 of the Snohomish County Code (SCC) to include responsibilities for individual property owners. If you would like to view the code in its entirety, please visit the Snohomish County home page at www.snoco.org and type "Chapter 7.53 SCC" in the search box.

Snohomish County will inspect your storm drainage facility at least once before February 2012, and at least once every five years after that. During the inspection process, the inspector will:

- Check your storm drainage facility to determine if it is in good working order;
- Send you a notice that tells you whether your facility meets County maintenance requirements, and if not, provide you with a list of deficiencies to be corrected; and
- Conduct a follow-up inspection to determine if required maintenance and repair work was completed.

DPW staff will hold two informational meetings on the new County inspection process. You are strongly encouraged to attend one of the meetings on October 15.

If you would like additional information, please visit the main web page for Snohomish County Surface Water Management (www.surfacewater.info) and type "Drainage Inspection and Maintenance Program" in the search box. Alternatively, you may contact us at 425-388-3464.

It is important that you regularly maintain your storm drainage facility so that it performs as designed. By keeping your facility well-maintained, you not only satisfy County regulations, but you also reduce the chance of flooding on your property and downstream properties and help to protect important stream and wetland habitat. In addition, maintaining your storm drainage facility may qualify you for a reduction in your Surface Water Management service charge.

Thank you for doing your part to protect Snohomish County's valuable water resources.

Snohomish County Public Works Department
Surface Water Management Division

Public Meetings

- **Daytime Meeting:**
October 15, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Public Meeting Room
1st Floor, Robert Drewel Bldg.
3000 Rockefeller, Everett
- **Evening Meeting:**
October 15, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Public Meeting Room,
1st Floor, Robert Drewel Bldg.
3000 Rockefeller, Everett