

City of Fitchburg
Requirements for New Public Stormwater Facilities
 January 8, 2020

This document outlines requirements for new public stormwater facilities to be maintained by the City of Fitchburg (R-20-20).

Requirement	Justification
If stormwater facilities are not easily accessible from a City street (as determined by the City Engineer), an access easement and indemnification agreement will be required for City maintenance of the facilities.	Staff must be able to access the facilities for maintenance purposes.
Underground facilities will not be accepted unless space restraints make aboveground facilities technically infeasible (for example in redevelopment areas), as determined by the City Engineer.	Underground facilities are much more costly to maintain than aboveground facilities.
Stormwater facilities must have a maximum 4:1 slope.	A milder slope ensures that City crews can safely mow the area with riding lawn mower equipment. Steeper slopes may be possible to mow safely with push mowers; however, this is not a task the City is appropriately staffed or equipped to do.
Stormwater facilities must be located on an outlot dedicated to the City for public stormwater management or a permanent public stormwater easement.	The City must be able to access the stormwater facility for maintenance without needing to coordinate efforts with other entities.
Terrace rain gardens / bioretention basins are not permissible in front of single-family homes or duplexes.	Homeowners feel a sense of pride and ownership over the areas directly in front of their homes. Homeowners may not like the look of rain gardens in the terrace in front of their homes, which may cause future difficulty in maintaining those facilities.
Stormwater facilities must follow DNR design guidance.	Following the DNR's design criteria ensures facilities are built according to best practices in the State of Wisconsin.
Bioretention basins located on the median will only be permitted by the City Engineer on a case-by-case basis.	Safety is a concern for the maintenance of bioretention basins located in the median of well-traveled streets.
Inlet sumps are will only be permitted by the City Engineer on a case-by-case basis.	Sumps require a significant manpower to maintain and pose a safety concern.
Other utilities cannot be collocated within a stormwater facility.	Aboveground utilities may cause a safety concern for maintenance. Underground utilities may create an obstacle for maintenance if earthwork is required (for example, dredging ponds, replacing engineered soil for bioretention basins, or deep-tilling infiltration basins).