MINNESOTA WATER STEWARDS

Community Leadership for Clean Water

Pervious Pavement Maintenance Guide

Inspection Checklist	Y/N		If yes, perform the following maintenance.
Are weeds growing on the pavement surface?	Yes ☐	No ☐	Carefully pull small weeds out by the roots to prevent them from returning. Do not use herbicide as it may soak in and reach the groundwater.
Has sediment accumulated within the surface spaces?	Yes ☐	No ☐	Pervious pavement should be vacuum swept twice a year, once in the spring, and once in the fall, to remove sediment from the spaces in the pavement. This can be done with a power lawn vacuum or a vacuum sweeper.*
Is trash, excessive leaves, grass clippings, or other debris present?	Yes ☐	No ☐	Remove any debris present and dispose of appropriately. Leaves and grass clippings can be composted. Make sure pavement is not located underneath trees or near mulch or soil piles, and be sure salt and sand are not used on the pavement.
Are ruts, cracks, potholes, or sinkholes present?	Yes ☐	No ☐	Repair damage as needed. If problems persist, contact your local engineer/the company who installed the pavement.
Are the areas surrounding the pavement sections not stabilized or showing evidence of erosion?	Yes ☐	No ☐	Replace mulch where it has been depleted. Make sure mulch is not set on top of pavement. Mulch will clog the pavement. Replant surrounding vegetation if necessary. If the addition of vegetation and mulch does not solve the erosion, contact your watershed district's district inspector for guidance on additional erosion control methods.
Is ponding visible on the pavement surface 48 hours or more after a rainfall?	Yes ☐	No ☐	This is an indication that your pervious pavement is not functioning as designed, likely due to an accumulation of sediment or debris. Make sure to remove any debris present, confirm mulch, leaves, or exposed soil aren't nearby getting into the pavement, and vacuum the area. If ponding persists after vacuuming and cleaning out the area, there could be a structural or gravel problem. If this is the case, contact the company who installed the pavement or a representative from an engineering firm for help.

Importance of Pervious Pavement

The pervious pavement on your property makes a positive impact on the water quality of nearby lakes and streams. It is designed to reduce water runoff by allowing water to drain directly through it into the ground. Water moves through the pavement surface to a layer of coarse stone underneath. It is temporarily stored in spaces between these stones until it moves into the surrounding soil. The soil naturally removes pollutants such as phosphorus, nitrogen, and heavy metals from the water. This will prevent pollutants from entering our lakes and streams where they can cause unwanted algae and degraded water quality. Thank you for your help in protecting our water resources by keeping your pervious pavement looking great and functioning properly.

*A vacuum sweeper is a piece of equipment that removes sediment and other types of debris from the spaces on the pavement surface so water is able to soak into the ground as designed.

Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District

FRESHWATER

RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT