

THIS IS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD DETENTION POND

Who maintains these ponds...? You!

As a member of your Homeowners Association (HOA), you do! In order for the detention pond to work correctly, it needs regular maintenance. The City will regularly inspect public and private drainage facilities like this to determine whether it meets performance standards.

What is a detention pond?

This bowled section of land is a helpful stormwater treatment system that helps prevent flooding and polluted stormwater runoff from entering the Puget Sound. Most of the stormwater treatment system is underground, but the detention pond is a very important part of the system.

How does this pond work?

Some of the pollutants in stormwater are like superfoods for plants, but in a natural stream or wetland, they can cause problems by encouraging too much algae growth. By capturing stormwater, fewer of these nutrients enter natural streams and wetlands and instead go to plants in the detention pond. Bugs and microorganisms living in the mud then help cleanse the stormwater of pollutants.

Maintenance Hazards

Maintaining a stormwater pond has significant risks and may result in injury if not done properly. Please work with your local municipal stormwater authority and a licensed contractor to carry out maintenance!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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To know more about your next steps, visit snohomishcd.org/city-of-granite-falls and watch our recorded Detention Pond webinar!

WHY IS MAINTENANCE SO IMPORTANT?

CONTROL STRUCTURES

Control structures are manholes at the pond outlet. They control how fast water leaves the pond, so that nearby creeks do not get flooded during a storm. Control structures need to be maintained by an expert, to make sure the complicated pipe system inside does not become plugged.

OVERGROWING PLANTS

Plant control, including weeding, mowing, and other maintenance, can ensure that the pond works as intended. Poor management can result in clogged pipes, stagnant water, and overgrowth.

UNCLEAN SOILS

Detention pond soils are designed to clean and soak in water. If the soils are not cared for, they can become clogged with pollutants.