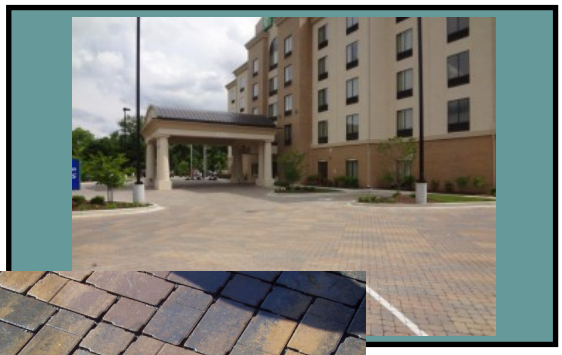
CITY OF OAK RIDGE

Stormwater Management

Permeable Paver Maintenance

So you've installed your permeable pavers. Congratulations! You are already reducing the potential for flooding, pooling, and pollution in waterways. But what now? Let's look at some ways to maintain permeable pavers and reap the benefits of increased stormwater infiltration for years to come!



Things to look for:

⇒ **Condition of pavers**– Are any of your pavers cracked, tilted, or otherwise damaged?

⇒ **Joints** (spaces between pavers)– Do you have weeds or grass growing in the joints? Is there an appropriate amount of gravel in the joints or are they filled with dirt?

⇒ **Water penetration**– When it rains, is there pooling or runoff?

⇒ **Erosion**– Do you see sediment on or between pavers? Is there uncovered ground nearby that could cause sediment to clog your paver joints?

⇒ **Outflow pipes**– Are they clogged by natural debris or sediment? Are they cracked?

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Permeable pavers are susceptible to clogging by organic matter, sediment, and other debris. They therefore need to be occasionally inspected, cleaned, and maintained to ensure desired infiltration rates.

DO	DON'T
Replace cracked/damaged pavers (upon failure)	Leave broken pavers (will prevent desired infiltration)
Pull weeds/grasses growing in joints (annually, as needed)	Use weed killers (can infiltrate into groundwater)
Clean/unclog joints with street sweepers/vacuums (2-3 times/year, or when clogged)	Power wash, sand, reseal, or resurface pavers (Etches pavers, clogs joints, displaces joint material)
Remove trash, sediment, grass clippings, leaves, etc. (as soon as possible)	Store piles of dirt/mulch/snow on pavers or use pavers for construction staging
Replace joint filler material to the top of paver (when dislodged/clogged, check every 3-6 months)	Conduct activities on or near pavers that generate excess sediment/contaminants
Use environmentally friendly deicers or gravel for traction that is the same type/size as the joint material	Use sand, chemical deicers, or excessive salt in winter (sand can clog joints and salt/chemicals can pollute groundwater)