



Are your stormwater treatment assets a ticking time bomb, waste of money or fantastic resource?

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Abstract Overview:

Stormwater quality assets which are not loved and not maintained can become ticking pollution time bombs. They are designed to be a fantastic solution to protecting our environment, and inadvertently can become a money sink and cause more problems than they solve.

The new state guidelines on the monitoring and cleaning of stormwater quality treatment devices has just been released and it's the intent of these guidelines to provide accurate advice on the cleaning requirements for ALL stormwater treatment devices, including all the proprietary solutions.

This paper will provide a summary on the guideline contents and then several real life examples, where Councils were spending lots of money cleaning, but in reality getting no outcome. The multiple reasons behind this will be investigated and discussed, along with how the guidelines can be used to prevent this from happening in the future.

Objectives:

Stormwater quality managers need a condition assessment audit in order to get accurate information on their devices as one can't manage one's assets adequately unless one knows all about them. Stormwater quality managers need a specification for the monitoring and regular/annual/comprehensive cleaning of stormwater quality devices and a Data Sheet to allow the regular monitoring of the device, in order to adequately manage the cleaning of stormwater quality assets.

This paper/presentation provides stormwater quality managers a guide for how to do this, based on the most recent state guidelines for the monitoring and cleaning of stormwater treatment assets.

Method:

In many cases, devices are being "cleaned" but have been found to be non-operational before cleaning and non-operational after cleaning, which is wasting Councils maintenance budget, wasting the initial asset money to install it and not achieve environmental objectives.

The reasons behind this may be structural/hydraulic or maintenance related, however without knowing this, and the reason behind it, a pollution time bomb can keep ticking away. This paper will outline recommended Council Cleaning Tender content, in order to eliminate this problem.

Results:

Examples of stormwater quality assets which have been identified to be ticking time bombs, examples of wastes of money as well as examples performing fantastically will be presented on during this paper and presentation.

Readers will also be informed on how to eliminate this “hidden problem” and get full value for their money.

Conclusion:

Murray Powell is one of the authors of the new state guidelines dealing with the monitoring and cleaning of Stormwater Treatment Measures and will be providing a summary on this during the paper/presentation as well as this guide to assist stormwater quality asset managers, to get the best out of their assets.