Surface Water Management System Operation and Maintenance Requirements

1. In accordance with Section 373.416(2), F.S., unless revoked or abandoned, all stormwater management systems, dams, impoundments, reservoirs, appurtenant works, or works permitted under Part IV of Chapter 373, F.S., must be operated and maintained in perpetuity. The operation and maintenance shall be in accordance with the designs, plans, calculations, and other specifications that are submitted with any amendment or modification and approved by the Department.

2. A registered professional must perform inspections annually after conversion of the project to the operation and maintenance phase to identify if there are any deficiencies in structural integrity, degradation due to insufficient maintenance, or improper operation of the stormwater management system or other surface water management systems that may endanger public health, safety, or welfare, or the water resources, and to insure that systems are functioning as designed and approved. Within 30 days of the inspection, a report shall be submitted electronically or in writing to the Department using Form 62-330.311(1), "Operation and Maintenance Inspection Certification".

3. If deficiencies are found, the SWA will be responsible for correcting the deficiencies so that the project is returned to the operational functions as designed and approved. The corrections must be done a timely manner to prevent compromises to flood protection and water quality.

4. If the operational maintenance and corrective measures are insufficient to enable the systems to meet the performance standards of this chapter, the SWA must either replace the systems or construct an alternative design.

5. The SWA shall provide for periodic inspections in addition to the annual inspections, especially after heavy rain. It must maintain a record of each inspection, including the date of inspection, the name and contact information of the inspector, whether the system was functioning as designed and approved, and make such record available upon request of the Department. Within 30 days of any failure of any system or deviation from the permit, a report shall be submitted electronically or in writing to the Department using Form 62-330.311(1), "Operation and Maintenance Inspection Certification," describing the remedial actions taken to resolve the failure or deviation.

6. The SWA shall immediately notify the Department by telephone whenever a serious problem occurs at this facility. Notification shall be made to the Northeast District Office at (904) 256-1700. Within 7 days of telephone notification, a report shall be submitted electronically or in writing to the Department using Form 62-330.311(1), "Operation and Maintenance Inspection Certification," describing the extent of the problem, its cause, the remedial actions taken to resolve the problem.

7. The following operational maintenance activities shall be performed on approved systems on a regular basis or as needed:

(1) Removal of trash and debris from the surface water management systems;

(2) Inspection of culverts, culvert risers, pip es and screwgates for damage, blockage, excessive leakage or deterioration, if applicable,

(3) Inspection of stormwater berms, if applicable,

(4) Inspection of pipes for evidence of lateral seepage,

(5) Inspection of flapgates for excessive backflow or deterioration, if applicable,

(6) Removal of sediments when the storage volume or conveyance capacity of the surface water management system is below design levels,

(7) Stabilization and restoration of eroded areas,

(8) Inspection of pump stations for structural integrity and leakage of fuel or oil to the ground or surface water, if applicable, and

(9) Inspection of monitoring equipment, including pump hour meters and staff gauges, for damage and operational status, if applicable.

8. In addition to the practices listed above, specific operational maintenance activities are required, if applicable, depending on the type of approved system, as follows:

(1) Overland flow systems shall include provisions for:

a. Mowing and removal of clippings, and

b. Maintenance of spreader swales and overland flow areas to prevent channelization.

(2) Spray irrigation systems for reuse/disposal shall include provisions for:

a. Inspection of the dispersal system, including the sprayheads or perforated pipe for damage or clogging, and

b. Maintenance of the sprayfield to prevent channelization.

(3) Treatment systems which incorporate isolated wetlands shall include provisions for:

a. Stabilization and restoration of channelized areas, and

b. Removal of sediments which interfere with the function of the wetland or treatment system