Structures such as hydrodynamic separators and baffle boxes are installed in stormwater systems to capture debris from water before it discharges into lakes. These units are cleaned using vacuum trucks to remove the solid debris. Some of the water is discharged back into the stormwater system to be treated again.
Stormwater Pollutant Removal Structures

- One hydrodynamic separator or baffle box can remove more than 100,000 pounds of material each year!
- Units are designed to allow water to bypass in case heavy rain saturates the system.
- Units are cleaned using vacuum trucks one to four times per year, depending on rainfall and debris accumulation.
- Baffle Boxes use a series of vertical baffles to trap sediment as water flows through.
- Hydrodynamic separators create a vortex of water to separate solid materials from flowing water.

The combined flow from many storm drains receives treatment at the pollutant removal structure before entering the lake.

Report dumping of oil, soaps, fertilizer, paint, grease, litter, grass clippings or other contaminants.

Environmental Protection Division
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