



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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July 18, 2019

Chris Cunningham  
Cedar Grove  
7343 E Marginal Way S  
Seattle, WA 98108

**RE: VIS System for Stormwater Runoff Filtration**

Dear Chris Cunningham:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) finds the VIS Systems functionally equivalent to a bioretention planter or planter box. The media specifications for VIS System must adhere to the guidelines for Bioretention found in BMP T7.30 of the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW) or BMP T5.31 in the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW). The sizing procedure must also adhere to the procedure outlined in the Bioretention design criteria of the manuals mentioned above or the procedure described in the attached document.

Contractors may use the VIS System BMP at project sites without seeking additional Ecology approval to meet Minimum Requirement #6 or Core Element #5. The VIS System is not equivalent to bioretention when using the list option of Minimum Requirement #5 in the SWMMWW.

Ecology does not endorse this product or its manufacturer. Users of the VIS must follow the manufacturer's installation, operation, and maintenance recommendations.

For more information, contact me at [douglas.howie@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:douglas.howie@ecy.wa.gov), or (360) 407-6444.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. Howie, P.E.  
Senior Stormwater Engineer  
Water Quality Program

cc: Carla Milesi, TAPE Technical Lead, Washington Stormwater Center

Enclosure

