



# Smart Soaker Maintenance Guide

Your Smart Soaker pit will need occasional maintenance. This typically involves cleaning out the accumulated materials, cleaning the filters occasionally and replacement of the filters should they become damaged.

## ***Why do I need to maintain the Smart Soaker?***

Smart Soaker is designed to filter out particles in the stormwater and hold them in the pit. This is to prevent the sub-surface drainage watering the tree or landscape becoming clogged.

The pit will slowly fill over time will reduces the capacity to hold and filter stormwater over time

## ***What if I don't maintain it?***

There are examples where the filtering is working very well with the pit being half full of sediment. However it would be typical that there will be a decline in passive watering effectiveness over time if maintenance was not undertaken. This means that less water will be filtered and delivered to the tree or landscape. More stormwater flows will bypass the pit into the existing drainage system (typically Council pit and pipe system).

## ***How do I maintain Smart Soaker?***

Task	Description	Frequency
<b>Remove sediment/litter</b>	Lift the grate to gain access. Remove material with a vacuum truck or by hand.	Typically yearly. This will depend on the catchment.
<b>Clean filters</b>	In situ by jet spray. Alternatively remove filters and clean at depot by soaking and jet spray. Ensure the Smart Soaker always has the filters in place to prevent sediment entering the sub-surface drainage.	Every 1 to 3 years
<b>General Inspections</b>	Check the Smart Soakers regularly until an appropriate maintenance interval is established for that catchment.  Check the Smart Soakers after an unusual event such as an accident where oils may have been spilt, a construction or maintenance nearby or a large storm.	Say every 3 months. Schedule maintenance when pit is 1/3 full.  When an event occurs.
<b>Inspect filters</b>	Check the filters for damage and replace if necessary.	Inspect on cleaning (typically yearly)

## ***Hints and tips***

For time efficiency in cleaning, some owners choose to order spare filters where they can easily be swapped at site and the cleaning process can occur back at depot.

Carparking may hinder access to the grate. Plan ahead to ensure access can be gained.