CONSTRUCTION SITE

Gully Maintenance Guide



green rhino®

Best Practice Maintenance Schedule



DAILY INSPECTIONS

- Visual check of all gully filters during morning site walkthrough
- Check for visible displacement, damage, or bypass gaps
- Verify water is flowing through filters, not around them

WEEKLY MAINTENANCE

- Check capacity markers (if equipped) to assess sediment levels
- Remove and clean filters showing 70-80% capacity
- Record inspection findings in maintenance log
- Replace any damaged filters immediately

AFTER HEAVY RAINFALL

- Inspect all gullies within 24 hours of rainfall exceeding 10 mm
- Check for filter displacement or overflow
- Empty filters approaching capacity before next forecast rainfall

DURING PEAK CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- Increase inspection frequency to twice daily during earthworks
- Position additional filters in areas with active excavation
- Brief groundworks teams on filter locations and importance

green rhino®

Safe Removal and Cleaning Procedures

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Heavy-duty gloves (protect against sharp objects and bacteria)
- Safety boots with steel toe caps
- High-visibility clothing
- Eye protection (if using pressure washing equipment)

REMOVAL PROCESS

Two-Person Lift →

Filters at or near capacity (50kg+) require two people using extended handles

Controlled Extraction →

Lift slowly and steadily to prevent tearing or sediment spillage

Immediate Transfer →

Place directly into wheelbarrow or waste container; do not set on ground

Drainage Period

Allow filter to drain in container before emptying (if reusable)

DISPOSAL OF CAPTURED SEDIMENT

- Sediment must be disposed of at authorised facilities
- Do NOT discharge captured sediment back into drains or watercourses
- Keep waste transfer notes for audit purposes
- Consider designated sediment storage area on site for collection

green rhino®

Documentation and Audit Trail

Environment Agency inspectors increasingly require evidence of proactive maintenance, not just the presence of filters. Your maintenance log should include:

ESSENTIAL LOG INFORMATION

- Date and time of inspection
- Gully location (reference number or grid coordinate)
- Inspector name and signature
- Filter capacity assessment (e.g., 25%, 50%, 75%)
- Actions taken (e.g., emptied, replaced, no action required)
- Recent weather conditions (particularly rainfall)
- Any issues or anomalies noted

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- Take photos of filters at installation and during key maintenance activities
- Include date stamps on photographs
- Store digitally with corresponding maintenance records

RETENTION PERIOD

- Maintain all gully maintenance records for a minimum of 6 years after project completion. These may be requested during EA investigations or in response to pollution incidents downstream.



Warning Signs: When Your System is Failing

Warning Sign		Immediate Action Required
Water pooling around gullies instead of draining	→	Filter likely at capacity or blocked. Remove and clean/replace immediately.
Filter hanging from grate (not in water)	→	Total bypass Water flowing unfiltered. Reinstall correctly.
Visible muddy water entering drain	→	Filter failure or bypass. Stop work and investigate immediately.
Site flooding during moderate rainfall	→	Multiple gullies likely blocked. Emergency cleaning required.
No maintenance log entries for >7 days	→	Conduct immediate inspection of all gullies and update records.



green rhino®

Inspection Readiness Checklist

During unannounced inspections, officers will assess your site's drainage management. Ensure you can demonstrate:

- ⊕ All gullies have appropriate filtration installed
- ⊕ Filters are correctly positioned (in water, not hanging from grates)
- ⊕ No visible bypass gaps or damaged filters
- ⊕ Maintenance log is current
- ⊕ Log includes evidence of proactive capacity monitoring
- ⊕ No standing water or flooding around gullies
- ⊕ Spare filters available on site for emergency replacement
- ⊕ Waste transfer notes available for sediment disposal
- ⊕ Staff can identify responsible person for drainage management
- ⊕ Site drainage plan available for inspector review



About Green Rhino



Green Rhino is a leading provider of pollution prevention solutions for the construction, utilities, energy, and rail sectors. Specialising in hydrocarbon and spill management, sediment and oil dewatering filtration, drain and gully protection, and transformer bund filtration, we protect ecosystems through engineering excellence.

Proud recipients of the King's Award for Enterprise in Innovation, our solutions are trusted on five continents – from Hinkley Point C and HS2 to Scott Base in Antarctica.

Visit www.greenrhinoglobal.com or contact our specialists to discuss your site challenges.

THE KING'S AWARDS FOR ENTERPRISE 2025 INNOVATION

WEBSITE	www.greenrhinoglobal.com
PHONE	+44 (0)1206 299388
LINKEDIN	@greenrhinoglobal

green rhino®