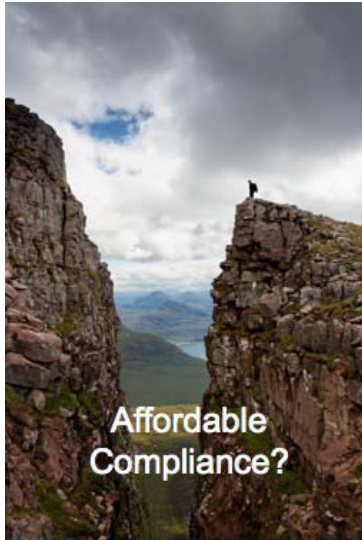


# Affordable Compliance



## An Ounce of Preventative Maintenance Equals...

Could it be that Benjamin Franklin's famous quote applies to savings on Stormwater Compliance? Here's a bold idea, what if we eliminated the Corrective Action List? Does that sound crazy? Obviously, we are obligated to conduct inspections and remedy any items found. But wouldn't it be better to manage our projects so that fewer items appeared on the list to begin with? To reduce risk and cost at the same time we must also reduce the number of chances for us to fail. Summit recommends using a highly proactive maintenance program to shorten the repair list, and we are confident it will reduce costs, risk, and complexity. Let's explore how a focused and proactive maintenance program can yield results on your projects.

**Old School:** To understand the benefits of a proactive maintenance program (PM) it will help to compare it to the current industry practices. When it comes to BMP repairs most companies use a "Report, then Repair" process (see diagram). The industry has developed a pattern of waiting for items to appear on the Corrective Action List (CAL) before authorizing a repair. Only then do we engage a contractor to perform the work. If we are honest, sometimes communication is slow or we just get too busy, leading to risky omissions or expensive last minute repairs. And with regulators putting more emphasis on the speed of repair we are exposed to more risk. A lag in communication can lead to confusion by the contractor when they visit the site planning on fixing 3 items, only to find double the amount to be fixed. Which items get fixed? Do you ignore the new items until the next inspection? Reactionary approaches can also place a great deal of pressure on your budget, or should we say "unplanned budget", which might lead to poor choices at the job site. Is there a better way?



**New School:** Summit recommends a shift in thinking about how to manage sites. We designed a team-oriented proactive solution we call SiteFORCE. The result is a smarter way to control erosion, sediment, and related costs on your project. Three simple yet fundamental principles underpin this new process:

1. Coordination of well-trained resources
2. Clear and timely communication of activities
3. Commitment to excellence and teamwork.

Summit uses a proactive divide-and-conquer strategy to save you time and money. SiteFORCE is actually two separate, yet well coordinated teams. Team 1 is a specialized crew that performs routine maintenance of common BMP issues, immediately prior to Team 2's compliance inspection.



Why does this approach matter? As the diagram at left shows, several important benefits are realized by using this sequence and service. First, fewer items appear on your corrective action list (CAL) after a SiteFORCE visit, making it easier to get your list completed. Second, transaction costs are reduced. Writing POs and scheduling crews can sometimes cost more than the repairs themselves. SiteFORCE is designed to reduce these costs. Third, you've now achieved "Same Day Compliance" on those items completed by SiteFORCE. This means that the amount

of time your site was out of compliance has been dramatically reduced. Finally, clean sites are more productive to work on and are certainly more attractive to prospective buyers.

**New Tools:** While a proactive approach to BMP maintenance is always a good idea, changing the sequence alone will not resolve all your issues. You also need to get your arms around the paperwork and decision making process. Timely and accurate communication is critical. The SiteFORCE team uses a proprietary technology to "connect and synch up" the maintenance team with the inspection team. The same tool links both SiteFORCE teams with your team, taking "proactive" to a new level. The outcome of streamlining the decision making process will be reduced complexity, which reduces errors, which in turn reduces risk, cost and stress. This technology (SiteGUIDE) will be discussed in a future Compliance Connection issue.

**Bottom Line Impact:** I can already hear the skeptics among you asking "How does an additional service reduce my cost?". The answer, of course, is that a SiteFORCE crew does not complete additional work. Instead the crew performs work that would have been done post-inspection anyway. However, by being proactive about maintenance the transaction costs are reduced, the CAL is more manageable, and Same Day Compliance is achieved. Everyone wins.

Looking ahead: Our next fill concentrate on curbing the amount of expense that results from needless damage to BMPs. If you just can't wait, call to set an appointment with one of our consultants. Otherwise, stay tuned to save, secure and simplify your stormwater program.



For more information on this topic as well as solutions to affordable compliance give a call at 303-500-2454 or visit us at [www.summitservicesgroup.co](http://www.summitservicesgroup.co)