FACTSHEET

Public Works Engineering

Dry Wells

Dry Wells Installation – La Crescenta Rehabilitation Project

An important component of the project is the scheduled installation of dry wells. View the video: https://youtu.be/ElKXPO4T0OQ

Dry wells, also known as underground injection control (UIC) systems, are stormwater infiltration devices typically constructed of a pipe approximately 3 feet wide and 20 to 50 feet deep, containing perforation at various locations along the pipe and/or at the bottom. Drywells can be used in a variety of situations but are especially useful in areas with clay soils to help facilitate the movement of stormwater runoff below the constricting clay layers.

Environmental & Health Benefits of Dry Wells

Dry wells can be used to reduce the adverse effects of stormwater runoff on streams and rivers. They are a stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to infiltrate water into the ground; are relatively easy to construct; and require little land area. Capturing urban stormwater prevents the runoff from entering streams and lakes where contaminants could cause pollution and erosion could damage aquatic habitats. Dry wells can also be used to return water to aquifers: a single dry well can transmit up to 5 acre-feet of water per year to underlying aquifers, equivalent to the water needs of about 10 households. This ability to recharge local groundwater supplies can help increase water resource security by mitigating the effects of drought or excessive groundwater extraction.

Why Install Dry Wells on the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project?

During the design stage of the La Crescenta Avenue Rehabilitation Project, the stretch of La Crescenta between Montrose Avenue and Verdugo Road was identified as a great candidate for dry well installations. Based on a hydrology study, La Crescenta carries ample storm water that eventually ends up in existing stormdrain systems at Montrose Avenue, Piedmont Avenue, Honolulu Avenue, Arlington Avenue, Las Palmas Avenue, and Paloma Avenue. Installation of a dry well at each of the six blocks of La Crescenta Avenue slated for improvement will ensure that portion of stormwater, which would otherwise be wasted, will now be captured and released underground, eventually recharging the groundwater table.

LEARN MORE

Visit: bit.ly/OEHHADryWells

Keep up to date with the La Crescenta Rehab Project, visit:
Glendaleca.gov/LACrescenta

Public Works Engineering (818) 548-3945

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