

How to Properly Clean a Catch Basin

What is a catch basin? A catch basin, or storm drain is a particular kind of drainage system. Its collects debris and surface water from our yard or street before it can enter the sewer system. They are often installed on your property or in the roadway near the curb line.



How often should you clean a catch basin? Basins need to be cleaned or pumped out at least once, but preferably twice a year to prevent back-ups and flooding. Monthly inspections will ensure that any you stay ahead of any problems. A catch basin can fill up with some debris and hold about 1/3 of its volume and still operate properly.

To clean a catch basin located on your property:

1. Get a shovel, trash can, a crow bar and some work gloves.
2. Clean off the grate that sits atop of the basin.
3. Using the crow bar, carefully lift the basin grate and scoop out debris with your gloved hands and place debris in the trash can.
4. Once you remove as much debris as you can, use the shovel to remove any compacted debris.
5. Make sure the basin is free of roots and other vegetative debris.
6. Replace grate on top of the basin.
7. Properly dispose of the removed debris.

