Pervious Paver Maintenance

*Pervious paver surfaces* require maintenance to ensure that water can soak in between the pavers and function properly. The following are general guidelines for maintaining your pavers. Check with your installer for recommendations specific to your paver. In the context of this fact sheet, gravel refers to #8 stone.

Preventative maintenance: Keep the pavers free of any debris such as leaves, seeds or grass clippings. Use a blower to keep your pavers clear. Sweeping the pavers will not do as good of a job removing small debris from between the pavers. If your pavers become clogged, the additional steps below are necessary.

Clogged pavers. Note the leaves, mulch and dirt between the pavers. Perform maintenance when the gravel between the pavers is completely dry. Wait three or four days after recent rains.

Step 1: Using a shop-vac or wet/dry vac, suck up the debris and gravel from the space between the pavers. A shop-vac with 5 HP and 160 MP blower is sufficient for this task.
The clogged gravel has been sucked out from between the pavers (left). Gravel and debris inside the shop-vac (right).

Step 2: Retrieve the gravel from the shop-vac, sift and wash it to remove the dirt and debris (left). Or purchase new washed gravel (right). The gravel must be washed whether you are re-using, or buying new.

Step 3: Sweep the gravel into the spaces between the pavers. The gravel should be flush with the top of the paver.

You are done! Notice the difference between the “cleaned” pavers and the clogged pavers.