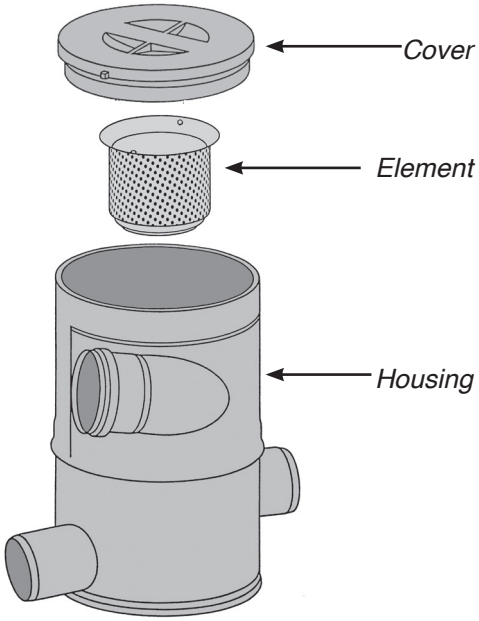
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Vortex Filter unit (type WFF100 or 150)

The filter is the key component in the system, serving to eliminate debris that gets washed down from the roof and thus ensuring that only clean water enters the tank. This is very important, as it is the presence of decaying organic matter within the water that potentially causes problems with water clarity and quality.

Vortex filter type WFF100, cutaway view

Vortex filter type WFF150, cutaway view. Shown here with extension tube fitted



The housing of the filter unit is manufactured from polypropylene and is maintenance-free. The filter element is high-grade stainless steel and is to a large extent cleaned by the water flowing over and through the mesh but over time a residue will form that reduces the filter efficiency so that regular cleaning is required. Please note that this residue is usually difficult to see without close inspection.

Location

The vortex filter unit will be found outside the property near to the rainwater storage tank, and can be identified by its cover which is approximately 30cm diameter and is embossed with the name of the manufacturer; WISY. The cover is removed by twisting a few degrees anti- clockwise.

Please bear in mind that the filter is connected to the pipes that lead from the buildings' rainwater downpipes. Where these downpipes discharge into open gullies (rather than sealed connectors), there is a potential for contamination to take place. Therefore do not pour anything but water down any drain gullies connected to the system. Cement washings, paint slops, garden chemical residues etc. could all lead to problems of water contamination or permanent filter blockage. Ideally open gullies should be changed for direct connections.

Cleaning the filter element

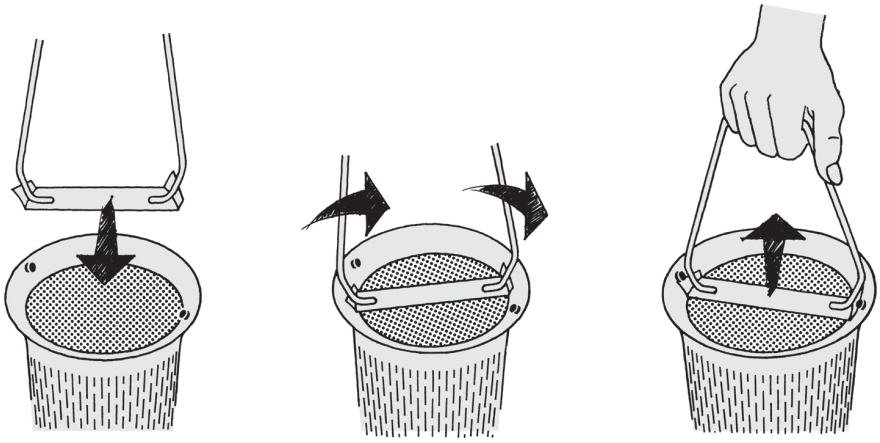
The filter element should be cleaned at least every three months; however every situation is different and in some extreme situations it may be necessary to clean the filter more frequently.

We recommend that initially the filter should be cleaned six times per year. The filter can be cleaned using either a pressure washer or by hand using a brush and clean water (a little washing up liquid may assist). Excellent results also from cleaning in a dishwasher.

The inspection cover can be removed by first rotating it so that the locating pins align with the notches in the frame and then lifting the cover.

The filter element can be removed and replaced using the handle supplied with the unit as shown below. The handle is inserted on to the filter element and then rotated clockwise until located beneath the two locking pins. The element can now be safely lifted up.

REMOVING THE FILTER ELEMENT



When replacing the element in the filter body, ensure that it seats correctly onto the rubber seal inside:-

CORRECT

INCORRECT

<u>Do not</u> leave the lifting handle in place; it must be removed for optimum filter efficiency.

Note: In some cases where one or more extension tubes have been fitted above the filter unit, it may be necessary to reach down with the handle in order to remove the element. If required, longer handles are available; either 63cm or 100cm length.

The unit should not be left for any time during rainfall without the filter element in place otherwise debris will enter the rainwater storage tank. If it is required to completely prevent water from entering the tank, a blank insert piece is available which can be used to direct all the rainwater to the surface water drainage system.