

STANDARD AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR STORM DRAIN INLET PROTECTION



Definition

A temporary, somewhat permeable barrier, installed around inlets in the form of a fence, berm or excavation around an opening, trapping water and thereby reducing the sediment content of sediment laden water by settling.

Purpose

To prevent heavily sediment laden water from entering a storm drain system through inlets.

Conditions Where Practice Applies

This practice shall be used where the drainage area to an inlet is disturbed, it is not possible to temporarily divert the storm drain outfall into a trapping device, and watertight blocking of inlets is not advisable. **It is not to be used in place of sediment trapping devices.** This may be used in conjunction with storm drain diversion to help prevent siltation of pipes installed with low slope angle.

Types of Storm Drain Inlet Practices

There are four (4) specific types of storm drain inlet protection practices that vary according to their function, location, drainage area, and availability of materials:

- I. Excavated Drop Inlet Protection
- II. Fabric Drop Inlet Protection
- III. Stone & Block Drop Inlet Protection
- IV. Curb Drop Inlet Protection

Design Criteria

Drainage Area – The drainage area for storm drain inlets shall not exceed one acre. The crest elevations of these practices shall provide storage and minimize bypass flow.

Type I – Excavated Drop Inlet Protection

See details for Excavated Drop Inlet Protection in Figure 5A.11 on page 5A.29.

Limit the drainage area to the inlet device to 1 acre. Excavated side slopes shall be no steeper than 2:1. The minimum depth shall be 1 foot and the maximum depth 2 feet as measured from the crest of the inlet structure. Shape the excavated basin to fit conditions with the longest dimension oriented toward the longest inflow area to provide maximum trap efficiency. The capacity of the excavated basin should be established to contain 900 cubic feet per acre of disturbed area. Weep holes, protected by fabric and stone, should be provided for draining the temporary pool.

Inspect and clean the excavated basin after every storm. Sediment should be removed when 50 percent of the storage volume is achieved. This material should be incorporated into the site in a stabilized manner.

Type II – Fabric Drop Inlet Protection

See Figure 5A.12 for details on Filter Fabric Drop Inlet Protection on page 5A.30.

Limit the drainage area to 1 acre per inlet device. Land area slope immediately surrounding this device should not exceed 1 percent. The maximum height of the fabric above the inlet crest shall not exceed 1.5 feet unless reinforced.

The top of the barrier should be maintained to allow overflow to drop into the drop inlet and not bypass the inlet to unprotected lower areas. Support stakes for fabric shall be a minimum of 3 feet long, spaced a maximum 3 feet apart. They should be driven close to the inlet so any overflow drops into the inlet and not on the unprotected soil. Improved performance and sediment storage volume can be obtained by excavating the area.

Inspect the fabric barrier after each rain event and make repairs as needed. Remove sediment from the pool area as

necessary with care not to undercut or damage the filter fabric. Upon stabilization of the drainage area, remove all materials and unstable sediment and dispose of properly. Bring the adjacent area of the drop inlet to grade, smooth and compact and stabilize in the appropriate manner to the site.

If straw bales are used in lieu of filter fabric, they should be placed tight with the cut edge adhering to the ground at least 3 inches below the elevation of the drop inlet. Two anchor stakes per bale shall be driven flush to bale surface. Straw bales will be replaced every 4 months until the area is stabilized.

Type III – Stone and Block Drop Inlet Protection

See Figure 5A.13 for details on Stone and Block Drop Inlet Protection on page 5A.31.

Limit the drainage area to 1 acre at the drop inlet. The stone barrier should have a minimum height of 1 foot and a maximum height of 2 feet. Do not use mortar. The height should be limited to prevent excess ponding and bypass flow.

Recess the first course of blocks at least 2 inches below the crest opening of the storm drain for lateral support. Subsequent courses can be supported laterally if needed by placing a 2x4 inch wood stud through the block openings perpendicular to the course. The bottom row should have a few blocks oriented so flow can drain through the block to dewater the basin area.

The stone should be placed just below the top of the blocks on slopes of 2:1 or flatter. Place hardware cloth of wire mesh with ½ inch openings over all block openings to hold stone in place.

As an optional design, the concrete blocks may be omitted and the entire structure constructed of stone, ringing the outlet (“doughnut”). The stone should be kept at a 3:1 slope toward the inlet to keep it from being washed into the inlet.

A level area 1 foot wide and four inches below the crest will further prevent wash. Stone on the slope toward the inlet should be at least 3 inches in size for stability and 1 inch or smaller away from the inlet to control flow rate. The elevation of the top of the stone crest must be maintained 6 inches lower than the ground elevation down slope from the inlet to ensure that all storm flows pass over the stone into the storm drain and not past the structure. Temporary diking should be used as necessary to prevent bypass flow.

The barrier should be inspected after each rain event and repairs made where needed. Remove sediment as necessary to provide for accurate storage volume for subsequent rains. Upon stabilization of contributing drainage area, remove all materials and any unstable soil and dispose of properly.

Bring the disturbed area to proper grade, smooth, compact and stabilized in a manner appropriate to the site.

Type IV – Curb Drop Inlet Protection

See Figure 5A. 14 for details on Curb Drop Inlet Protection on page 5A.32.

The drainage area should be limited to 1 acre at the drop inlet. The wire mesh must be of sufficient strength to support the filter fabric and stone with the water fully impounded against it. Stone is to be 2 inches in size and clean. The filter fabric must be of a type approved for this purpose with an equivalent opening size (EOS) of 40-85. The protective structure will be constructed to extend beyond the inlet 2 feet in both directions. Assure that storm flow does not bypass the inlet by installing temporary dikes (such as sand bags) directing flow into the inlet. Make sure that the overflow weir is stable. Traffic safety shall be integrated with the use of this practice.

The structure should be inspected after every storm event. Any sediment should be removed and disposed of on the site. Any stone missing should be replaced. Check materials for proper anchorage and secure as necessary.