



Frequently Asked Questions about Stormwater:



Infiltration Trench and Swale FAQs



INFILTRATION TRENCH FAQ'S

Is there any maintenance associated with infiltration trenches?

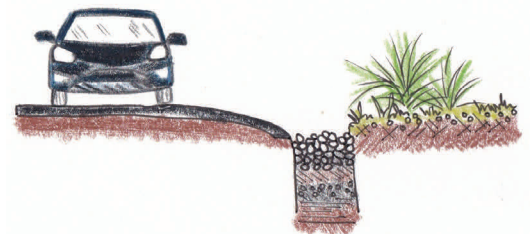
You may need to remove accumulated leaves or debris periodically. After many years, if you find your infiltration trench is very slow to drain, it may be clogged with sediment and debris, and will need to be washed or replaced.

Where can infiltration trenches be used?

Infiltration Trenches are shallow channels filled with small stones or gravel, which absorb and infiltrate stormwater runoff while preventing erosion. They are often found around the perimeter of non-guttered roofs or driveways.

References

https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/docs/2018-06-14%20VT_Guide_to_Stormwater_for_Homeowners.pdf





Should a swale fill up with water during a rainfall?

With a heavy rainfall there may be water filling up the swale, and it is designed to do so to give some of the stormwater time to infiltrate. This process allows for the water to be filtered by the soil and provide a natural recharge to ground water.

Are there different types of swales?

Yes, the main types are a grass swale, wet swale, bio-swale, and dry swales. The grass swale is a broad and shallow drainage channel used along roads and highways. The wet swale is an open drainage channel that retains water and is routinely used in areas where the water table is high. The bio-swale includes an underdrain beneath filtering media. The dry swale promotes infiltration through underlying soil media.

What are some signs that my swale needs maintenance?

The swales are moving trash into our local streams instead of filtering it out. The water pools in the swale for many days causing a mosquito breeding ground. This pooling time depends on the frequency of rain events and the amount of litter and debris in the swale.

References

<https://www.baycountyfl.gov/Faq.aspx?QID=136>

<https://www.annapolis.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9597/Swales-Fact-Sheet-PDF?bidId=>

