

Technical Note

TN 6.01 Retention/Detention System Maintenance

This document is provided for informational purposes only and is meant only to be a guide. Individuals using this information should make their own decisions as to suitability of this guideline for their individual projects and adjust accordingly.

Introduction

A retention/detention system is comprised of a series of pipes and fittings that form an underground storage area, which retains or detains storm water runoff from a given area. As sediment and debris settle out of the detained stormwater, build up occurs that requires the system to be regularly inspected and cleaned in order for the system to perform as originally designed. The following provides the available fittings and guidelines for inspection and maintenance of an HDPE underground storage system.

System Accessories and Fittings

Concentric Reducers

Concentric Reducers are fittings that transition between two pipes, either in line with one another or at perpendicular angles. The centerlines of the two pipes are at the same elevation. When a concentric reducer is used to connect the manifold pipe to the lateral pipes, most debris will be trapped in the manifold pipe.



Eccentric Reducers

Eccentric Reducers are fittings that transition between two pipes, either in line with one another or at perpendicular angles. The inverts of the two pipes are at the same elevations. When an eccentric reducer is used to connect the manifold pipe to the lateral pipes, most debris will follow the flow of the storm water into the lateral pipes.



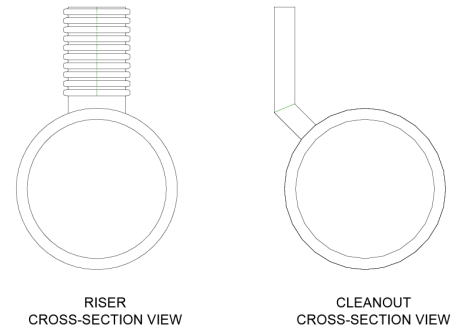
Riser

Each retention/detention system typically has risers strategically placed for maintenance and inspection of the system. These risers are typically 24" (600 mm) in diameter or larger and are placed on the manifold fittings.

Cleanouts

Cleanout ports are usually 4" (100 mm), 6" (150 mm), or 8" (200 mm) in diameter pipe and are placed on the manifold fittings. They are used for entrance of a pipe from a vacuum truck or a water-jetting device.

For a complete listing of available fittings and components please refer to the *ADS Fittings Manual*.



Maintenance Overview of a Retention/Detention System

Maintaining a clean and obstruction-free retention/detention system helps to ensure the system performs the intended function of the primary design. Build up of debris may obstruct flow through the laterals in a retention system or block the entranceway of the outlet pipe in a detention system. This may result in ineffective operation or complete failure of the system. Additionally, surrounding areas may potentially run the risk of damage due to flooding or other similar issues.

Inspection/Maintenance Frequency

Concentric Reducers are fittings that transition between two pipes, either in line with one another or at perpendicular angles. The centerlines of the two pipes are at the same elevation. When a concentric reducer is used to connect the manifold pipe to the lateral pipes, most debris will be trapped in the manifold pipe.

Pre-Inspection

A post-installation inspection should be performed to allow the owner to measure the invert prior to accumulation of sediment. This survey will allow the monitoring of sediment build-up without requiring access to the retention/detention system.

The following is the recommended procedure for pre-inspections:

1. Locate the riser section or cleanouts of the retention/detention system. The riser will typically be 24" (600 mm) in diameter or larger and the cleanouts are usually 4" (100 mm), 6" (150 mm) or 8" (200 mm) in diameter.
2. Remove the lid of the riser or clean outs.
3. Insert a measuring device into the opening and make note to a point of reference on the stick or string. (This is done so that sediment build up can be determined in the future without having to enter the system.)

Inspection/Maintenance

A retention/detention system should be inspected at a minimum of one time a year or after major rain events if necessary.

The following is the recommended procedure to inspect system in service:

1. Locate the riser section of the retention/detention system. The riser will typically be 24" (600 mm) in diameter or larger. Remove the lid of the riser or clean outs.
2. Remove the lid from the riser.
3. Measure the sediment buildup at each riser and cleanout location. Only certified confined space entry personnel having appropriate equipment should be permitted to enter the retention/detention System.
4. Inspect each manifold, all laterals, and outlet pipes for sediment build up, obstructions, or other problems. Obstructions should be removed at this time.
5. If measured sediment build up is between 5% - 20% of the pipe diameter, cleaning should be considered; if sediment build up exceeds 20%, cleaning should be performed at the earliest opportunity. A thorough cleaning of the system (manifolds and laterals) shall be performed by either manual methods or by a vacuum truck.



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800-821-6710