

# GRAVELLESS TRENCH SYSTEM GUIDANCE

**Description:** A gravelless trench system meets all the requirements of a standard trench system except that the drainrock is replaced by an approved gravelless trench component (see section 5.6 of the Idaho TGM for a list of approved components). Typical components include gravelless chambers, large diameter nylon fabric wrapped piping of varying dimensions, and drainrock substitution systems. Approved gravelless products are granted a reduction in disposal area square footage. Reduction is only allowed in trench designs up to 36 inches in width. **No reduction is allowed for installation widths greater than 36 inches, or for installation in sand mound or absorption bed designs.** 

#### **General Requirements:**

- 1. System must be installed according to manufacturer's requirements/recommendations.
- 2. Reduction in square footage cannot be in addition to other allowable disposal area reductions (i.e., drainfield reductions due to increased application rates for treatment).
- 3. Components must be approved for subsurface sewage disposal in Idaho.

#### Installation:

- 1. The trench should follow the contour of the land.
- 2. Trench excavations should not be less than 8 inches wide and no more than 36 inches wide (3 feet). Width dimensions will depend on the manufacturer's installation instructions.
- 3. Pipe must be installed level. A transit, engineer's level, or surveying station is required.
- Effluent piping entering gravelless chambers must be installed into <u>the highest inlet</u>
   <u>hole</u> available on the chamber end cap. (see diagrams below)
- 5. An inspection port should be installed at the end of each line.
- 6. Large diameter gravelless pipe products should be covered with geotextile fabric, untreated building paper, or a 3-inch layer of straw unless the product has a built-in filter fabric in the design. Gravelless chambers are not required to be covered with geotextile fabric, untreated building paper, or straw unless specifically required by the manufacturer.
- 7. Care must be taken not to over-excavate trench width wider than the product width. If over-excavation is unavoidable hand backfilling of trench should be performed up to the product height and fill should be walked in to ensure sidewall support of the product.
- 8. Make sure endcaps are rated to fit the gravelless components you are using. Do not mix and match components.

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## **Common Gravelless Drainfield Products**



Infiltrator Quick4 Plus All-In-One Endcap



ARC 36 Endcap



Infiltrator Quick5 Multiport Endcap

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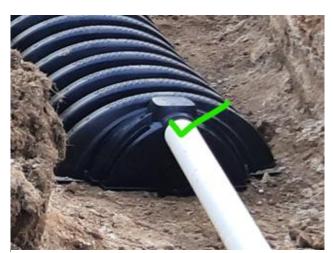
### **Installation Photos**



Not approvable



Not approvable



Approvable - can receive 25% reduction.



Approvable - can receive 25% reduction.



Can be approved, however, cannot receive 25% reduction. Would need to add more chambers to achieve full square footage.

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