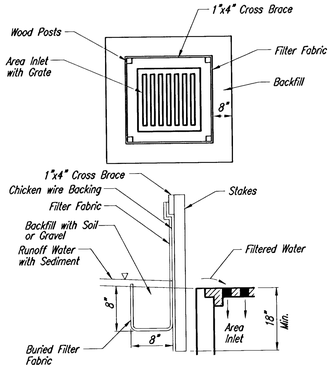


SILT FENCE BARRIERS FOR AREA INLETS
(INLET PROTECTION)

Material Specification:

Silt fence fabric should conform to the AASHTO M288 96 silt fence specification.
The wire or polymeric mesh backing used to help support the silt fence fabric should conform to the AASHTO M288 96 silt fence specification.
The posts used to support the silt fence fabric should be a hardwood material with the following minimum dimensions: 2" square (nominal) by 4' long.
The material used to frame the tops of the posts should be 1" by 4" boards.
Silt fence fabric and support backing should be attached to the wooden posts and frame with staples, wire, zip ties, or nails.

Placement:

Place a silt fence drop inlet barrier in a location where it is unlikely to be overtopped.
Water should flow through silt fence, not over it. Silt fence barriers for area inlets often fail when repeatedly overtopped.
When used as a barrier for area inlets, silt fence fabric and posts must be supported at the top by a wooden frame.
When a silt fence barrier for area inlets is located near an inlet that has steep approach slopes, the storage capacity behind the barrier is drastically reduced. Timely removal of sediment must occur for a barrier to operate properly in this location.

Proper installation method:

Excavate a trench around the perimeter of the area inlet that is at least 8" deep by 8" wide.
Drive posts to a depth of at least 18" around the perimeter of the area inlet.
The distance between posts should be 4' or less. If the distance between two adjacent corner posts is more than 4', add another post(s) between them.
Connect the tops of all the posts with a wooden frame made of 1" by 4" boards. Use nails or screws for fastening.
Attach the wire or polymeric-mesh backing to the outside of the post/frame structure with staples, wire, zip ties, or nails.
Roll out a continuous length of silt fence fabric long enough to wrap around the perimeter of the area inlet. Add more length for overlapping the fabric joint. Place the edge of the fabric in the trench, starting at the outside edge of the trench. Line all three sides of the trench with the fabric. Backfill over the fabric in the trench with the excavated soil and compact. After filling the trench, approximately 24" to 36" of silt fence fabric should remain exposed.
Attach the silt fence to the outside of the post/frame structure with staples, wire, zip ties, or nails. The joint should be overlapped to the next post.

Note: When a silt fence barrier for area inlet is placed in a shallow median ditch, make sure that the top of the barrier is not higher than the paved road. In this configuration, water may spread onto the roadway causing a hazardous condition.

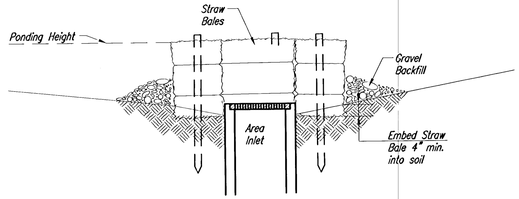
List of common placement/installation mistakes to avoid:

Water should flow through a silt fence barrier for area inlet-not over it. Place a silt fence barrier for area inlet in a location where it is unlikely to be overtopped. Silt fence barrier for area inlets often fail when repeatedly overtopped.
Do not place posts on the outside of the silt fence barrier for area inlet. In this configuration, the force of the water is not resisted by the posts, but only by the staples (wire, zip ties, nails, etc.). The silt fence will rip and fail.
Do not install silt fence barrier for area inlets without framing the top of the posts.
The corner posts around area inlets are stressed in two directions whereas a normal silt fence is only stressed in one direction. This added stress requires more support.

Inspection and Maintenance:

Silt fence barrier for area inlets should be inspected every 7 days and within 24 hours of a rainfall of 1/2" or more. The following is a list of questions that should be addressed during each inspection:

Does water flow under the silt fence?
Does the silt fence sag excessively?
Has the silt fence torn or become detached from the posts?
Does sediment need to be removed from behind the area inlet barrier?



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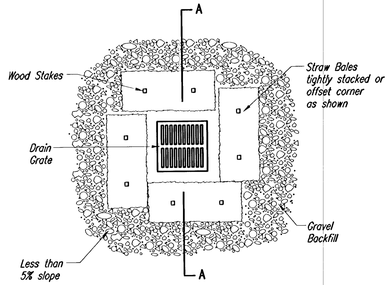


STRAW BALE BARRIERS FOR AREA INLETS
(INLET PROTECTION)

Material Specification:

Bale area inlet barriers should be constructed of wheat straw, oat straw, prairie hay, or bromegrass hay that is free of weeds declared noxious by the Kansas State Board of Agriculture.
The stakes used to anchor the bales should be a hardwood material with the following minimum dimensions: 2" square (nominal) by 4' long.
Twine should be used to bind bales. The use of wire binding is prohibited because it does not biodegrade readily.

Placement:

Bale area inlet barriers should be placed directly around the perimeter of a drop inlet.
When a bale area inlet barrier is located near an inlet that has steep approach slopes, the storage capacity behind the barrier is drastically reduced. Timely removal of sediment must occur for a barrier to operate properly in this location.

Proper Installation Method:

Excavate a trench around the perimeter of the area inlet that is at least 4" deep by a bale's width wide.
Place the bales in the trench, making sure that they are butted tightly. Some bales may need to be shortened to fit into the trench around the area inlet. Two stakes should be driven through each bale, approximately 6" to 8" in from the bale ends.
Stakes should be driven at least 12" into the ground.
Once all the bales have been installed and anchored, place the excavated soil against the receiving side of the barrier and compact it. The compacted soil should be no more than 3" to 4" deep.
Note: When a bale area inlet barrier is placed in a shallow median ditch, make sure that the top of the barrier is not higher than the paved road. In this configuration, water may spread onto the roadway causing a hazardous condition.

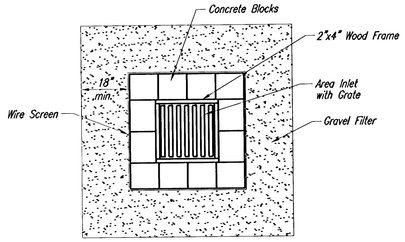
List of common placement installation mistakes to avoid:

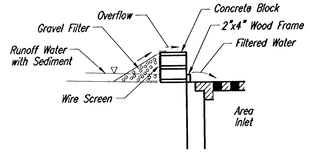
Bales should be placed directly against the perimeter of the area inlet. This allows overtopping water to flow directly into the inlet instead of onto nearby soil causing scour.
Bale area inlet barriers must be dug into the ground. Bales at ground level do not work because they allow water to flow under the barrier.

Inspection and Maintenance:

Bale area inlet barriers should be inspected every 7 days and within 24 hours of a rainfall 1/2" or more. The following is a list of questions that should be addressed during each inspection:

Does water flow under the area inlet barrier?
Does water flow through spaces between abutting bales?
Are any bales dislodged?
Are bales decomposing due to age and/or water damage?
Does sediment need to be removed from behind the area inlet barrier?





CONCRETE BLOCK FILTER FOR AREA INLETS
(INLET PROTECTION)

Gravel barriers provide little filtering of large inflow waters. However, when installed correctly and maintained, they can effectively treat low runoff flows.

Placement of gravel filters around area drains must be completed in a manner that will not cause local flooding.

Gravel filters can be used if the immediate and adjacent area to the area drain consists of soil or pavement.

Only gravel filters are to be installed on top of the pavement.

Instructions for Installing:

STEP 1: Place concrete blocks around the grate. The blocks can be stacked one or two high and should be supported by a 2"x4" board.
STEP 2: Wrap 1/2" mesh wire screen around the concrete blocks.
STEP 3: Place 1" to 1-1/2" diameter rock around the blocks and wire screen. Be sure the rock extends down from the top of the concrete block.
STEP 4: To prevent damage to vehicles, signs warning drivers about the structures may be necessary.

An alternative method is use of gravel bags that are supported to prevent collapsing.

Use of rock having diameters smaller than 1" may result in clogging of pores and reduce the amount of water flowing into an inlet.

Maintenance:

All gravel filters installed around area drains should be inspected and repaired after each runoff event. Sediment should be removed when material is within 3" of the top of any block. Periodically, the gravel should be raked to increase infiltration and filtering of runoff waters. Accumulated sediment is to be removed immediately from roads and streets after every runoff event.

CITY OF WICHITA

SOIL EROSION BMPs

AREA INLET BARRIERS

SCOTT LINDEBAK, P.E.
STORM WATER ENGINEER

PROJECT NUMBER	OCA NO.
472-83430	765969
DATE: SEPT. 2003	SHEET 72 OF 78

No.	Date	By	Approved	Revision

EQUESTRIAN ESTATES ADDITION - PHASE 2
STREET IMPROVEMENTS
SOIL EROSION BMPS
CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS
JAMES L. ARMOUR, P.E. - CITY ENGINEER
C.O.W. Project # 472-83430 O.C.A. # 765969

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FINAL

Designed By: JMU./JPD
Drawn By: JPD
Poe Job No.: 16944
Date: January 2006

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