

ILLINOIS URBAN MANUAL  
PRACTICE STANDARD

## BACK CUT CURB

CODE 801



(Source: Casey Perry)

### DEFINITION

A temporary sediment trap formed by excavation behind the back of curb, sidewalk or road edge.

### PURPOSE

To intercept and trap sediment laden runoff from a small drainage area.

### CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On an active construction sites where sheet flow may enter a roadway.

### CRITERIA

Excavate soil behind the curb, sidewalk or edge of pavement 6" down minimum from finish grade and 5 feet behind the barrier.

The distance and depth required behind the back of curb shall be large enough to handle the expected flow volume.

Access through the trap area during construction shall be avoided.

Discharge of sediment laden water from the trap shall not be allowed into the rear of the curb inlets.

If a stabilized construction entrance is installed in the trap area, additional storage will be required to compensate for the volume taken up by the entrance.

This practice does not take the place of inlet protection.

Site deliveries shall be diverted away from this practice

Portable toilets and dumpsters shall not be stored in the area used for this practice.

The excavation depth should not be deeper than the base material for the curb, sidewalk or roadway to prevent undermining.

Avoid constructing this practice in areas where trees are present.

## CONSIDERATIONS

If a concrete washout is installed in this area it must meet the IUM standard for concrete washout. The area taken up by the concrete washout should not be counted for storage volume for this standard.

If possible, avoid creating the trap behind areas of the curb line containing expansion joints.

Street cleaning may still be required to prevent tracking offsite.

If there are trees in the area immediately outside the trap, refer to the [IUM Tree Protection Standard 990](#) to avoid damaging trees with standing water, etc.

Sizing of back cut area at a 1% slope with a 5' wide sediment trap

Maximum Drainage (ac)	Length of trap (feet)	Depth of trap (feet)
.25	42	.5
	28	.75
	21	1.0
.50	83	.5
	56	.75
	42	1.0
.75	125	.5
	83	.75
	63	1.0
1.0	167	.5
	111	.75
	83	1.0

## PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications for installing Back Cut curb practice shall be in keeping with this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose. At a minimum include the following items:

1. Locations of the back cut curb.

2. The depth of the excavation needed.
3. Direction of flow to the area
4. The maximum drainage area allowed.
5. Installation, removal and disposal of sediment guidelines.

Refer to [Standard Drawing IUM-501](#)

All plans shall include the installation, inspection, and maintenance schedules with the responsible party identified.

### **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Inspect after each rain event and prior to forecasted rain.

Remove sediment when it reaches  $\frac{1}{2}$  the height of the excavation.

Removal or dissipation of ponded water in the excavation may occur through infiltration, evaporation, and/ or pumping. See IUM Standards- [Dewatering 813](#) and/or [Sump Pit 950](#).