

Construction Specification 44—Corrugated Polyethylene Tubing

1. Scope

The work consists of furnishing and installing tubing and the necessary fittings and appurtenances as shown on the drawings and as outlined in this specification.

2. Material

Corrugated polyethylene tubing and fittings shall conform to the material requirements as outlined in Material Specification 548, Corrugated Polyethylene Tubing.

When perforations are specified, the water inlet area shall be a minimum of 1 square inch per lineal foot of tubing. The inlets either shall be circular perforations or slots equally spaced along the length and circumference of the tubing. Unless otherwise specified, circular perforations shall not exceed 3/16 inch in diameter, and slot perforations shall not be more than 1/8 inch wide.

Geotextile filter socks, when required, shall meet the material requirements outlined in section 9 of this specification.

Granular bedding material, when specified, shall conform to the requirements specified in section 9 of this specification.

The tubing shall be appropriately marked with ASTM or AASHTO designation.

3. Handling and storage

Tubing shall be delivered to the job site and handled by means that provide adequate support to the tubing and do not subject it to undue stresses or damage. When handling and placing corrugated polyethylene tubing, care shall be taken to prevent impact blows, abrasion damage, and gouging or cutting (by metal edges and/or surface or rocks). The manufacturer's special handling requirements shall be strictly observed. Special care shall be taken to avoid impact when the pipe must be handled at a temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit or less.

Tubing shall be stored on a relatively flat surface so that the full length of the tube is evenly supported. Unless the tube is specifically manufactured to withstand exposure to ultraviolet radiation, it shall be covered with an opaque material when stored outdoors for 15 days or longer.

4. Excavation

Unless otherwise specified or approved by the engineer, excavation for and subsequent installation of each tube line shall begin at the outlet end and progress up grade. The trench or excavation for the tubing shall be constructed to the lines, depths, cross sections, and grade shown on the drawings, specified in Section 9 of this specification, or as approved by the engineer.

Trench shields, shoring and bracing, or other suitable methods necessary to safeguard the contractor's employees and the works of improvement and to prevent damage to the existing improvements shall be furnished, placed, and subsequently removed by the contractor.

5. Preparing the tubing bed and blinding the tubing

When a granular filter or envelope is specified, the filter or envelope material shall be placed in the bottom of the trench just before the tubing is laid. The tubing shall then be laid and the filter and envelope material placed to a depth over the top of the tubing of not less than that shown on the drawings or as specified in section 9 of this specification.

When a granular filter or envelope is not specified, the bottom of the trench shall be shaped to form a semicircular or trapezoidal groove in its center. This groove shall provide support for not less than a fourth of the outside circumference of the tubing. After the tubing is placed in the excavated groove, it shall be capped with friable material from the sides of the trench. The friable material shall be placed around the tubing, completely filling the trench to a depth of at least 3 inches over the top of the tubing. For material to be suitable, it must not contain hard clods, rocks, frozen soil, or fine material that will cause a silting hazard to the drain. Tubing placed during any day shall be blinded (place required soil material around and over pipe) and temporarily capped before construction activities are completed for that day.

6. Placement and joint connections

All tubing shall be installed to grade as shown on the drawings. After the tubing is placed in the trench and blinded, allow sufficient time for the tubing to adapt to the soil temperature before backfilling.

Maximum allowable stretch of the tubing is 5 percent. Special precautions must be implemented on hot, bright days to ensure that the stretch limit is not exceeded and excessive deflection does not occur as a result of installation procedures, including backfill operations.

Unless otherwise specified in section 9 of this specification or shown on the drawings, connections are made with manufactured junctions comparable in strength with the specified tubing. All split fittings shall be securely fastened with nylon cord or plastic zip ties before any backfill is placed. All buried ends shall be supplied with end caps unless otherwise approved by the engineer.

7. Backfilling

Unless otherwise specified in section 9 of this specification, the backfilling of the trench shall be as shown on the drawings and completed as rapidly as is consistent with the soil conditions. Automatic backfilling machines may be used only when approved by the engineer. Backfill shall extend above the ground surface and be well rounded and centered over the trench.

8. Measurement and payment

Method 1—For items of work for which specific unit prices are established in the contract, the quantity of each kind and size of tubing is determined to the nearest foot of length measured along the centerline of the installed tubing. Payment for each kind and size of tubing is made at the contract unit price for that kind and size of tubing. Such payment constitutes full compensation for all labor, equipment, tools, and all other items necessary and incidental to furnishing, transporting, and installing the tubing, including excavation, shoring, geotextile or granular filter (when specified), backfill and all fittings, appurtenances, and other items required to complete the work. Payment for appurtenances listed separately in the bid schedule is made at the contract unit price(s) for the size and type of appurtenance listed.

Method 2—For items of work for which specific unit prices are established in the contract, the quantity of each kind, size, and class of tubing is determined to the nearest foot by measurement of the laid length along the crown centerline of the tubing. Payment for each kind, size, and class of tubing is made at the contract unit price for the kind, size, and class. Such payment constitutes full compensation for furnishing, transporting, and installing the tubing, including shoring, all fittings, thrust blocks, appurtenances, and other items necessary and incidental to the completion of the work. Payment for appurtenances listed separately in the bid schedule are made at the contract prices for those items.

Compensation for any item of work described in the contract, but not listed in the bid schedule, is included in the payment for the item of work to which it is made subsidiary. Such items and the items to which they are made subsidiary are identified in section 9 of this specification.

9. Items of work and construction details