

## Pipe Slope Drains

### Plan Symbol



### Description

Pipe slope drains reduce the risk of erosion by discharging concentrated runoff from the top to the bottom of slopes. Pipe slope drains is temporary or permanent depending on installation and material used.

### When and Where to Use It

Use pipe slope drains when it is necessary for water to flow down a slope without causing erosion, especially before a slope has been stabilized or before permanent drainage structures are installed. Install temporary pipe slope drains prior to construction of permanent drainage structures. Bury permanent slope drains beneath the ground surface. Stabilize the inlets and outlets of pipe slope drains with flared end sections, Erosion Control Blankets (ECBs), Turf Reinforcement Mats (TRMs) or riprap. Fully compact the soil around the pipe entrance to prevent bypassing and undercutting of the structure. Stabilize the discharge end of the pipe and along the bottom of any swales that lead to sediment trapping structures.

### General Design Requirements

Typical pipe slope drains are made of non-perforated corrugated plastic pipe and are designed to pass the peak flow rates for the 10-year 24-hour storm event.

The maximum drainage area per pipe is two acres.

### Installation

Secure and fasten slope drain sections together with gasket watertight fittings. Securely anchor slope drains to the soil with wooden stakes or steel posts.

Direct runoff to slope drains with diversion berms, swales, or dikes. The minimum depth of these dikes or berms should be 1.5-feet. The height of the berm around the pipe inlet should be a minimum of 1.5-feet high and at least 0.5-feet higher than the top of the pipe. The berm at the pipe inlet shall be compacted around the pipe. The area around the inlet shall be properly stabilized with ECBs, TRMs, riprap or other applicable stabilization techniques.

The area below the outlet must be properly stabilized with ECBs, TRMs, riprap or other applicable stabilization techniques.

If the pipe slope drain is conveying sediment-laden water, direct all flows into the sediment trapping facility.

Permanent slope drains should be buried beneath the soil surface at minimum depth of 1.5-feet.

### Inspection and Maintenance

- Inspect pipe slope drain inlet and outlet points every 7 calendar days and within 24-hours after each rainfall event that produces ½-inches or more of precipitation.
- Inspect the inlet for undercutting, and water bypassing the point of entry. If there are problems, reinforce the headwall with compacted earth or sandbags.

- Inspect the outlet point for erosion and appropriate outlet protection.
- Remove temporary pipe slope drains within 30 days after final site stabilization is achieved or after the temporary BMP is no longer needed.
- Permanently stabilize disturbed soil areas resulting from slope drain removal.



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**Preventive Measures and Troubleshooting Guide**

Field Condition	Common Solutions
Pipe separates.	Reconnect pipe sections. Securely anchor and stabilize pipe into soil. Ensure that pipe connections are watertight.
Pipe outlet erodes.	Repair the damage and stabilize outlet with a flared end section, riprap, TRM or velocity dissipation device. If necessary, reduce flows being discharged.
Pipe becomes clogged.	Flush out pipe. Place a screen or grate at inlet to capture trash and large particles.
Erosion occurs around inlet.	Compact soil and stabilize area with flared end section, TRM or filter fabric and riprap. Re-grade around inlet to reduce the gradient angle.
Excessive sediment accumulates around inlet/outlet.	Remove accumulated sediment and stabilize upstream area.
Slope drain overtops.	Limit drainage area and flow velocity. Check pipe diameter to ensure that it is sized properly to accept flow. Add additional pipes to carry flows as necessary.