

Infiltration Trench Operation & Maintenance Requirements

Regular inspection and maintenance is important for the effective operation of trenches as designed.

Adequate access should be provided to the trench surface and maintenance points for inspection and maintenance, including for appropriate equipment and vehicles. Operation and maintenance requirements for trenches are described below.

Trenches operation and maintenance requirements

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Frequency
Regular maintenance	Litter and debris removal from trench surface, access chambers and pre-treatment devices	Monthly (or as required)
	Removal and washing of exposed stones on the trench surface	Annual (bi-annual the first year) or when silt is evident on the surface
	Trimming of any roots that may be causing blockages	Annual(semi-annual the first year)
	Remove weeds on the trench surface	Monthly (at start, then as required)
Occasional maintenance	Removal of sediment from pre-treatment devices	Six monthly
	Remove tree roots or trees that grow close to the trench	As required
	At locations with high pollution loads, remove surface geo-textile and replace, and wash or replace filter media	Five yearly
Remedial actions	Clear perforated pipework of blockages	As required
	Rehabilitate infiltration or filtration surfaces	As required
	Replace geo-textiles and clean and replace filter media, if clogging occurs	As required
	Excavate trench walls to expose clean soils if infiltration performance reduces to unacceptable levels	As required
	Inspect inlets, outlets and inspection points for blockages, clogging, standing water and structural damage	Monthly
Monitoring	Inspect pre-treatment systems, inlets, trench surfaces and perforated pipework for silt accumulation. Establish appropriate silt removal frequencies	Half yearly

Sediments excavated from upstream pre-treatment devices that receive runoff from residential or standard road and roof areas are generally not toxic or hazardous material and can be safely disposed of by either land application or land filling. However, consultation should take place with the environmental regulator to confirm appropriate protocols. Sediment testing may be required before sediment excavation to determine its

classification and appropriate disposal methods. For industrial site runoff, sediment testing will be essential. In the majority of cases, it will be acceptable to distribute the sediment on-site if there is an appropriate safe and acceptable location to do so.

Maintenance activities should be detailed in the health and safety plan and a risk assessment should be undertaken.