

4430203 FRENCH DRAINS
COMMENTS FROM INDUSTRY REVIEW

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Comments:

Would it be possible to update the measurement and payment articles along with this specification? In the past, I have recommend using the 443 pay item, per lenght of French Drain, and eliminate all of the other items. For different cross sections, the details would be shown in the plans, and payment would continue to be made with the 443 pay item. The Standards would also need to be updated in agreement. Please let me know if this should be submitted as a separate change. Thanks, Missy

Response: (From the Specifications Office 8-13-09) This needs to be a separate issue. This needs to be a c-team issue to make sure everyone agrees.

(Reply from MH 8-17-09: Sounds good. I've talked with Drainage about this before. They will probably want to go back through the Dist Drainage Engineers. I'll put it on the C-Team agenda.)

Cleo Marsh
D4 Maintenance Engineer
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Comments:

I have a concern on the use of coarse aggregate over the french drain under pavement. When we allow the use of coarse aggregate, we also require that it be wrapped with filter fabric to insure the fines don't infiltrate the rock and then create a void under the pavement. This is expecially prevelent over french drain because the water level will rise into the rock and as it recedes, it will then carry the fines back with it.

Response: The Specification states that the filter fabric shall be folded over the coarse aggregate. It does not differentiate between the coarse aggregate in the standard cross section and the extra that the contractor chooses to use. However, if Construction is having a problem with this, we will add: In this case, the filter fabric shall be extended to wrap the additional coarse aggregate. The top of the coarse aggregate shall not be higher than the bottom of the base, unless shown in the plans.

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Comments:

1. 443-5.1 French Drains Under Pavement & 443-5.2 French Drains not Under Pavement:
Should there be a reference within the proposed specification that the French Drain should be built in accordance with Standard Index 285?

2. 443-5.1 French Drains Under Pavement:

The sentence syntax is in not correct in the second paragraph. I suggest it be changed to read as follows: After placing the pipe and without disturbing the pipe, carefully place the coarse aggregate, around the pipe to the depth shown in the plans. Fold the filter fabric over the coarse aggregate. Backfill and compact as described below

Response:1. I will add it to the description with the next revision..

2. Agreed. We will move the phrase “without disturbing the pipe” in Section 443.5 (not 5.1), as requested.
