



In order to reduce the long-term impact of your home on your downstream neighbors, an **INFILTRATION TRENCH** was installed when your home was constructed.

What is an Infiltration Trench?

An Infiltration Trench is a small trench filled with stone that collects runoff from sidewalks, driveways, roofs and yards and stores it so that the water has time to absorb into the underlying soil.



How does it work?

An Infiltration Trench receives stormwater either via direct runoff across the ground surface or from a perforated pipe just beneath the surface of the stone. During small rain events, stormwater flows across the ground or out of the perforated pipe into the stone and then slowly seeps into the soil. During larger storms, stormwater will be stored in the stone trench, but water may also flow through an overflow pipe or over land to another feature, such as a pond or swale. Any runoff that is absorbed into the soil helps to recharge groundwater and the soil acts like a filter, removing impurities and contaminants from water. This means more water in drinking water wells and streams that can better support large populations of fish and wildlife.

Maintenance of an Infiltration Trench is the responsibility of the property owner. How should it be maintained?

- Keep grass mowed along the Infiltration Trench to no shorter than 3 inches. Use a bagged mower or manually remove any grass clippings.
- Remove vegetation, litter, debris, leaves, and sediment at least once a month and as needed after a heavy storm to prevent clogging.
- Check for erosion and bare spots regularly and repair as needed.
- Be careful not to regularly drive over the trench so as not to cause compaction or crush the perforated pipe.
- Check the access pipe (typically 3-4" pipe sticking up out of the trench) annually or as needed to make sure that it isn't clogged and water drains within 72 hours of rainfall.

The continued maintenance of your Infiltration Trench is your responsibility in order to reduce environmental impacts and to protect those downstream.

Please refer to Greenville County Land Development for more information.