

SECTION ()
MODULAR SUBSURFACE FLOW WETLAND SYSTEM

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1. The purpose of this specification is to establish generally acceptable criteria for Modular Subsurface Flow Wetland Systems used for biofiltration of stormwater runoff including dry weather flows and other contaminated water sources. It is intended to serve as a guide to producers, distributors, architects, engineers, contractors, plumbers, installers, inspectors, agencies and users; to promote understanding regarding materials, manufacture and installation; and to provide for identification of devices complying with this specification.
- 1.2. Modular Subsurface Flow Wetland Systems (MSFWS) are used for filtration of stormwater runoff including dry weather flows. The MSFWS is a pre-engineered biofiltration system composed of a pretreatment chamber containing filtration cartridges, a horizontal flow biofiltration chamber with a peripheral void area and a centralized and vertically extending underdrain, the biofiltration chamber containing a sorptive media mix which does not contain any organic material and a layer of plant establishment media, and a discharge chamber containing an orifice control structure. Treated water flows horizontally in series through the pretreatment chamber cartridges, biofiltration chamber and orifice control structure.
- 1.3. The manufacturer of the MSFWS shall be one that is regularly engaged in the engineering design and production of systems developed for the treatment of storm water runoff for at least (10) years, and which have a history of successful production, acceptable to the engineer of work. In accordance with the drawings, the MSFWS(s) shall be a device manufactured by:

Contech Engineered Solutions LLC
9100 Centre Pointe Drive
West Chester, OH, 45069
Tel: 1 800 338 1122
<https://www.conteches.com>

1.4. Submittals

- 1.4.1. Shop drawings are to be provided with each order to the contractor and consulting engineer.
- 1.4.2. Shop drawings are to detail the MSFWS and all components required and the sequence for installation, including:
- System configuration with primary dimensions
 - Interior components
 - Any accessory equipment called out on shop drawings
- 1.4.3. Inspection and maintenance documentation submitted upon request.

1.5. Work Included

1.5.1. Specification requirements for installation of MSFWS.

1.5.2. Manufacturer to supply components of the MSFWS(s) Modules:

- Pretreatment chamber components (pre-assembled)
- Concrete Structure(s)
- Biofiltration chamber components (pre-assembled)
- Flow control discharge structure (pre-assembled)

1.6. Reference Standards

ASTM C 29	Standard Test Method for Unit Weight and Voids in Aggregate
ASTM C 88	C 88 Standard Test Method for Soundness of Aggregates by Use of Sodium Sulfate or Magnesium Sulfate
ASTM C131	C 131 Standard Test Method for Resistance to Degradation of Small-Size Coarse Aggregates by Abrasion and Impact in the Los Angeles Machine
ASTM C 136	C 136 Standard Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates
ASTM C 330	C 330 Standard Specification for Lightweight Aggregate for Structural Concrete
ASTM D 698	Test Method for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort (12,400 ft.-lbf/ft ³ (600 kN-m/m ³))
ASTM D 1621	10 Standard Test Method for Compressive Properties Of Rigid Cellular Plastics
ASTM D 1777	ASTM D1777 - 96(2007) Standard Test Method for Thickness of Textile Materials
ASTM D 4716	Standard Test Method for Determining the (In-plane) Flow Rate per Unit Width and Hydraulic Transmissivity of a Geosynthetic Using a Constant Head
ASTM A 615	Standard Specifications for Deformed and Plain Carbon-Steel Bars for Concrete Reinforcement
ASTM A 706	Standard Specifications for Deformed and Plain Low-Alloy Steel Bars for Concrete Reinforcement
AASHTO T 99-01	Standard Method of Test for Moisture-Density Relations of Soils Using a 2.5-kg (5.5-lb) Rammer and a 305-mm (12-in) Drop
AASHTO T 104	Standard Method of Test for Soundness of Aggregate by Use of Sodium Sulfate or Magnesium Sulfate
AASHTO T 260	Standard Method of Test for Sampling and Testing for Chloride Ion in Concrete and Concrete Raw Materials.
AASHTO T 288	Standard Method of Test for Determining Minimum Laboratory Soil Resistivity
AASHTO T 289	Standard Method of Test for Determining pH of Soil for Use in Corrosion Testing
AASHTO T 291	Standard Method of Test for Determining Water Soluble Chloride Ion Content in Soil

AASHTO T 290	T 290 Standard Method of Test for Determining Water Soluble Sulfate Ion Content in Soil
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2.0 MATERIALS

2.1. The Modular Subsurface Flow Wetland Systems (MSFWS) and all of its components shall be self-contained within a concrete structure constructed of concrete with a minimum 28 day compressive strength of 5,000 psi, with reinforcing per ASTM A 615 or ASTM A 706, Grade 60, and supports and H2O loading as indicated by AASHTO. Each Chamber shall have appropriate access hatches for easy maintenance and sized to allow removal of all internal components without disassembly. All water transfer system components shall conform with the following:

- Filter netting shall be 100% Polyester with a number 16 sieve size, and strength tested per ASTM D 3787.
- Drainage cells shall be manufactured of lightweight injection-molded plastic and have a minimum compressive strength test of 6,000 psi and a void area along the surface making contact with the filter media of 75% or greater. The cells shall be at least 2” in thickness and allow water to freely flow in all four directions.

2.2. PRETREATMENT CHAMBER COMPONENTS

2.2.1. Filter Cartridges shall operate at a loading rate not to exceed 3 gallons per minute per square foot surface area.

2.2.2. Drain Down System shall include a pervious floor that allows water to drain into the underdrain pipe that is connected to the discharge chamber.

2.3. BIOFILTRATION CHAMBER COMPONENTS

2.3.1. Media shall consist of ceramic material produced by expanding and vitrifying select material in a rotary kiln. Media must be produced to meet the requirements of ASTM C330, ASTM C331, and AASHTO M195. Aggregates must have a minimum 24-hour water absorption of 10.5% mass. Media shall not contain any organic material. Flow through media shall be horizontal from the outer perimeter of the chamber toward the centralized and vertically extending underdrain. The retention time in the media shall be at least 3 minutes. Downward flow filters are not acceptable alternatives. The thickness of the media shall be at least 19” from influent end to effluent end. The loading rate on the media shall not exceed 1.1 gallons per minute per square foot surface area. Media must be contained within structure that spaces the surface of the media at least 2” from all vertically extending walls of the concrete structure.

2.3.2. Planting shall be native, drought tolerant species recommend by manufacturer and/or landscape architect.

2.3.3. Plant Support Media shall be made of a 3" thick moisture retention cell that is inert and contains no chemicals or fertilizers, is not made of organic material and has an internal void percentage of 80%.

2.4. DISCHARGE CHAMBER

2.4.1. The discharge device shall house a flow control orifice plate that restricts flows greater than designed treatment flow rate. All piping components shall be made of a high-density polyethylene.

3.0 PERFORMANCE

3.1. Function - The MSFWS has no moving internal components and functions based on gravity flow, unless otherwise specified. The MSFWS is composed of a pretreatment chamber, a biofiltration chamber and a discharge chamber. The pretreatment device houses cartridge media filters, which consist of filter media housed in a perforated enclosure. The untreated runoff flows into the system via subsurface piping and or surface inlet. Water entering the system is forced through the filter cartridge enclosures by gravity flow. Then the flow contacts the filter media. The flow through the media is horizontal toward the center of each individual media filter. In the center of the media shall be a round slotted PVC pipe of no greater than 1.5" in diameter. The slotted PVC pipe shall extend downward into the water transfer cavity of the cartridge. The slotted PVC pipe shall be threaded on the bottom to connect to the water transfer cavity. After pollutants have been removed by the filter media the water discharges the pretreatment chamber and flows into the water transfer system and is conveyed to the biofiltration chamber. Once runoff has been filtered by the biofiltration chamber it is collected by the vertical underdrain and conveyed to a discharge chamber equipped with a flow control orifice plate. Finally the treated flow exits the system.

3.2. Pollutants - The MSFWS will remove and retain debris, sediments, TSS, dissolved and particulate metals and nutrients including nitrogen and phosphorus species, bacteria, BOD, oxygen demanding substances, organic compounds and hydrocarbons entering the filter during frequent storm events and continuous dry weather flows.

3.3. Treatment Flow Rate and Bypass - The MSFWS operates in-line. The MSFWS will treat 100% of the required water quality treatment flow based on a minimum filtration capacities listed in section 3.4. The size of the system must match those provided on the drawing to ensure proper performance and hydraulic residence time.

3.4. System must be capable of treating flows to the specified treatment flow rate on the drawings. The flow rate shall be controlled by an orifice plate.

4.0 EXECUTION

4.1. The installation of the MSFWS shall conform to all applicable national, state, state highway, municipal and local specifications.

4.2. Installation

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, equipment, materials and incidentals required to install the MSFWS modules and appurtenances in accordance with the drawings and these specifications.

- 4.2.1. Grading and Excavation site shall be properly surveyed by a registered professional surveyor, and clearly marked with excavation limits and elevations. After site is marked it is the responsibility of the contractor to contact local utility companies and/or DigAlert to check for underground utilities. All grading permits shall be approved by governing agencies before commencement of grading and excavation. Soil conditions shall be tested in accordance with the governing agencies requirements. All earth removed shall be transported, disposed, stored, and handled per governing agencies standards. It is the responsibility of the contractor to install and maintain proper erosion control measures during grading and excavation operations.
- 4.2.2. Compaction – All soil shall be compacted per registered professional soils engineer’s recommendations prior to installation of MSFWS components. Compaction shall be to 95% of Standard Proctor or 90% of Modified Proctor.
- 4.2.3. Backfill shall be placed according to a registered professional soils engineer’s recommendations, and with a minimum of 6” of gravel under all concrete structures.
- 4.2.4. Concrete Structures – After backfill has been inspected by the governing agency and approved the concrete structures shall be lifted and placed in proper position per plans.
- 4.2.5. Subsurface Flow Wetland Media shall be carefully loaded into area so not to damage the Wetland Liner or Water Transfer Systems. The entire wetland area shall be filled to a level 9 inches below finished surface.
- 4.2.6. Planting layer shall be installed per manufacturer’s drawings and consist of a minimum 3” grow enhancement media that ensures greater than 95% plant survival rate, and 6” of wetland media. Planting shall consist of native plants recommended by manufacturer and/or landscape architect. Planting shall be drip irrigated for at least the first 3 months to insure long term plant growth. No chemical herbicides, pesticides, or fertilizers shall be used in the planting or care and maintenance of the planted area.

4.3. Shipping, Storage and Handling

- 4.3.1. Shipping – MSFWS shall be shipped to the contractor’s address or job site, and is the responsibility of the contractor to offload the unit(s) and place in the exact site of installation.
- 4.3.2. Storage and Handling– The contractor shall exercise care in the storage and handling of the MSFWS and all components prior to and during installation. Any repair or replacement costs associated with events occurring after delivery is

accepted and unloading has commenced shall be born by the contractor. The MSFWS(s) and all components shall always be stored indoors and transported inside the original shipping container until the unit(s) are ready to be installed. The MSFWS shall always be handled with care and lifted according to OSHA and NIOSA lifting recommendations and/or contractor's workplace safety professional recommendations.

5.0 INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- 5.1. Inspection – After installation, the contractor shall demonstrate that the MSFWS has been properly installed at the correct location(s), elevations, and with appropriate components. All components associated with the MSFWS and its installation shall be subject to inspection by the engineer at the place of installation. In addition, the contractor shall demonstrate that the MSFWS has been installed per the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations. All components shall be inspected by a qualified person once a year and results of inspection shall be kept in an inspection log.
- 5.2. Maintenance – The manufacturer recommends cleaning and debris removal maintenance of once a year and replacement of the Cartridge Filters as needed. The maintenance shall be performed by someone qualified. A Maintenance Manual is available upon request from the manufacturer. The manual has detailed information regarding the maintenance of the MSFWS. A Maintenance/Inspection record shall be kept by the maintenance operator. The record shall include any maintenance activities performed, amount and description of debris collected, and the condition of the filter.
- 5.3. Material Disposal - All debris, trash, organics, and sediments captured by the MSFWS shall be transported and disposed of at an approved facility for disposal in accordance with local and state requirements. Please refer to state and local regulations for the proper disposal of toxic and non-toxic material.

END OF SECTION