



TRENCH TERMINOLOGY

FOUNDATION: A FOUNDATION IS NECESSARY ONLY WHEN NATIVE SOILS ARE UNSTABLE. FOR SUCH CONDITIONS, THE TRENCH IS OVER-EXCAVATED AND A LAYER OF SUPPORTIVE MATERIAL IS PLACED AND COMPACTED TO PROVIDE A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR THE SUBSEQUENT PIPE EMBEDMENT MATERIALS. MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER PRIOR TO OVER-DIG.

EMBEDMENT: THIS ZONE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF PIPE PERFORMANCE. IT IS DIVIDED INTO THE FOLLOWING SUB ZONES:

- **BEDDING:** TYPICALLY SIX INCHES OF SUPPORTIVE, COMPACTED MATERIAL. THIS ZONE PROVIDES EVEN SUPPORT FOR THE PIPE AND BRINGS IT TO GRADE.
- **HAUNCHING:** EXTENDS FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE PIPE TO THE CENTERLINE OF THE PIPE. IT PROVIDES THE MOST RESISTANCE TO PIPE DEFLECTION. SPECIFYING PROPER MATERIALS AND COMPACTION ARE MOST IMPORTANT FOR THIS ZONE.
- **INITIAL BACKFILL:** EXTENDS FROM THE SPRINGLINE TO A POINT ABOVE THE TOP OF THE PIPE. THIS ZONE PROVIDES SOME PIPE SUPPORT AND HELPS TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE PIPE DURING PLACEMENT OF THE FINAL BACKFILL. THE COVER EXTENDS FROM THE TOP OF THE PIPE TO THE TOP OF THE INITIAL BACKFILL. THE DEPTH OF COVER SHOULD BE AS MUCH AS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PIPE DURING PLACEMENT OF THE FINAL BACKFILL. TWELVE INCHES IS A COMMON DEPTH OF COVER.

FINAL BACKFILL: THIS ZONE EXTENDS FROM THE TOP OF THE INITIAL BACKFILL TO THE TOP OF THE TRENCH. THIS ZONE HAS LITTLE INFLUENCE ON PIPE PERFORMANCE, BUT CAN BE IMPORTANT TO THE INTEGRITY OF ROADS AND STRUCTURES.
SEE SPECIFICATION SECTION 2210 FOR DESCRIPTION OF BACKFILL AND BEDDING MATERIAL.

REVISIONS

MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER STANDARD CIVIL PIPE TRENCH TERMINOLOGY DETAIL

MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63141

MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER ENGINEERING
727 CRAIG ROAD
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AMERICAN WATER

DRAWN BY KKM
PROJECT ENG'R
APPROVED

DATE 11-13-08
PROJECT IP

USE DIMENSIONS ONLY
SCALE N.T.S.

USE APPROVED DRAWINGS ONLY
FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES

0201-0601-SD53