

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION**

IA-45 PLASTIC (PVC, PE) PIPE

1. SCOPE

The work shall consist of furnishing and installing plastic pipe and the necessary fittings specified herein or as shown on the drawings. This specification does not cover subsurface drainage systems.

2. MATERIALS

Corrugated Polyethylene (PE) Tubing. Corrugated PE tubing and fittings shall conform to the requirements of the applicable specification listed below:

<u>Kind of Pipe</u>	<u>Specification</u>
Corrugated Polyethylene(PE) Tubing and Fittings, Nominal Sizes 3 to 6 inch, inclusive	ASTM F 405
Large Diameter Corrugated Polyethylene Tubing and Fittings, Nominal Sizes 8 to 24 inch, inclusive	ASTM F 667
Polyethylene (PE) Large Diameter Profile Wall Sewer and Drain Pipe	ASTMF 894

Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Pipe. PVC pipe and fittings shall conform to the requirements of the applicable specification listed below:

<u>Kind of Pipe</u>	<u>Specification</u>
PVC Plastic Pipe, Schedules 40, 80 and 120.....	ASTM D 1785
PVC Pressure-Rated Pipe (SDR Series)	ASTM D 2241
PVC Pressure Pipe, 4 in. through 12 in., for Water Distribution	AWWA C900
PVC Water Transmission Pipe, Nominal Diameters 14 in through 36 in.	AWWA C905

PVC and PE Plastic Pipe. Plastic pipes meant for non-potable, livestock water supply shall conform to the requirements of the applicable specification listed below:

<u>Kind of Pipe</u>	<u>Specification</u>
Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe, (SIDR-PR) Based on Controlled Inside Diameter.....	ASTM D 2239
PVC Pressure-Rated Pipe (SDR Series)	ASTM D 2241

3. FITTINGS AND JOINTS

Pipe joints shall conform to the details shown on the drawings. Pipe shall be installed and joined in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Joints may be bell and spigot type with elastomeric gaskets, coupling type with elastomeric gasket on each end, or solvent cemented. Gaskets shall conform to ASTM D 1869. Solvent cemented joints shall not be used for pond spillway pipes. Solvent cemented joints for PVC pipe and fittings shall be in accordance with ASTM D 2855. When a lubricant is required to facilitate joint assembly, it shall be a type having no detrimental effect on the gasket or pipe material.

Mechanical joints (split couplings and snap couplings) may be used when joining PE pipe and fittings when the pipe is used for non-pressure flow and a free draining sand or gravel bedding material is provided. Elastomeric-sealed mechanical joints shall be used when joining PE pipe and

fittings under pressure flow or where seepage cannot be tolerated. Where non-pressure pipe is specified, the fittings shall be of the same or similar materials as the pipe and shall provide the same durability and strength as the pipe.

A special case of livestock water supply involves pipes through a dam or embankment. Only PE pipe meeting the above specification may be used. PE pipe, of 1 ¼, 1 ½, or 2-inch diameter shall be installed so that there are no joints within the embankment area.

Where pressure pipe is specified, fittings shall have a design capacity equal to or exceeding that specified for the pipe to which it is attached. Fittings shall be cast iron, steel, one piece injection molded plastic fitting or fabricated from plastic pipe and one piece injection molded plastic fittings. Pressure pipe fittings shall conform to the requirements of the applicable specification listed below.

<u>Kind of Fitting</u>	<u>Specification</u>
Threaded PVC Plastic Pipe Fittings, Schedule 80.....	ASTM D 2464
PVC Plastic Pipe Fittings, Schedule 40.....	ASTM D 2466
PVC Plastic Pipe Fittings, Schedule 80.....	ASTM D 2467
Butt Heat Fusion (PE) Plastic Fittings for PE Plastic Pipe and Tubing	ASTM D 3261
Joints for Plastic Pressure Pipes Using Flexible Elastomeric Seals	ASTM D 3139
PVC Pressure Pipe, 4 in. through 12 in., for Water Distribution	AWWA C900
PVC Water Transmission Pipe, Nominal Diameters 14 in through 36 in.	AWWA C905

4. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Pipe shall be delivered to the job site and handled by means which provide adequate support to the pipe and does not subject it to undue stresses or damage. When handling and placing plastic pipe, care shall be taken to prevent impact blows, abrasion damage, and gouging or cutting (by metal surfaces or rocks). All special handling requirements of the manufacturer shall be strictly observed. Special care shall be taken to avoid impact when the pipe must be handled at temperatures of 40 degrees F (4.4 degrees C) or less.

Pipe shall be stored on a relatively flat surface so that the barrels are evenly supported. Unless the pipe is specifically coated to withstand exposure to ultraviolet radiation, it shall be covered with an opaque material when stored outdoors for a period of 15 days or longer.

5. TRENCHING

Plastic pipe conduits shall be installed in trenches or plowed in according to the following methods:

- A. **Trencher Constructed** - When conditions permit, trenching for pipelines, which are buried from 5 to 6 feet deep, are usually done with a narrow 4 to 6 inch wide chain trencher. Where there is little gravel and the ground is not too wet, these trenchers bring up well pulverized soil that makes good backfill material. Where rocks are not present, any of this material may be backfilled directly around the pipe. There is no practical way to compact the fill in these narrow trenches. The owner must be made aware that this material normally consolidates to its maximum extent in two to five years, but depressions or low spots can be hazards to livestock, humans and equipment.
- B. **Backhoe Constructed Trench** – Backhoe trenches are usually a minimum of 12 inches wide. The material frequently comes out of the trench as clods, large chunks, and rocks. Immediately backfill over the pipe with 4 to 6 inches of soil that is free of these clods, large chunks, and rocks. If adequate excavated material is not available, then material such as sand or fine gravel should be imported and placed around the pipe to a depth of 4 to 6 inches over the top of the pipe. Fill the trench with the remaining excavated material.

- C. **Plowing** – Plowing, or ripping, is a trenchless method for installing plastic pipe. It is a multi-stage process consisting of positioning a vibrating or static (non-vibrating) plow equipped with a trailing product guide which feeds pipe to the depth setting of the plow as it moves forward. The pipe is inserted into the ground continuously along a predetermined path and depth. The vertical depth of installation is controlled by hydraulic adjustment of the plow shear head and the surface contours. The depth of insertion must be continually adjusted to compensate for changes in terrain.

6. LAYING AND BEDDING THE PIPE

Plastic pipe conduits and fittings shall be installed as shown on the drawings and specified herein. The pipe shall be laid so that there is no reversal of grade between joints, unless otherwise shown on the drawings. The pipe shall be placed with the bell end upstream, unless otherwise specified. The pipe shall be carefully placed on the bedding or into the pipe trench.

Care shall be taken to prevent distortion and damage during unusually hot (over 90 degrees F) or cold weather (under 40 degrees F). After the pipe has been assembled in the trench, it shall be allowed to reach ground temperature before backfilling to prevent pull out of joints due to thermal contraction.

The pipe ends and the couplings shall be free of foreign material when assembled. During the placement of the pipe, each open end of the pipeline shall be closed off by a suitable cover or plug at the end of work on the pipeline each day and until work resumes or installation is complete.

Perforated pipe shall be laid with the perforations down and oriented symmetrically about the vertical centerline. Perforations shall be clear of any obstructions when the pipe is laid.

Pipe shall be firmly and uniformly supported throughout the entire length. Bell-holes shall be made in the bedding under bells or couplings and other fittings to prevent the pipe from being supported by fittings.

- a. Earth Bedding. When bedding is specified, the pipe shall be firmly and uniformly bedded in a shaped bedding groove that closely conforms to the bottom of the pipe for a depth equal to a minimum of 1 inch or 5 percent of the diameter of the pipe, whichever is greater. The bedding material shall be free of rocks or stones greater than 0.5 inch diameter and earth clods greater than 2 inch diameter.
- b. Sand or Gravel Bedding. When sand or gravel bedding is specified, the pipe shall be firmly and uniformly placed on a sand or gravel bed. Sand or gravel fill shall be carefully placed and compacted as specified herein and as shown on the drawings.

A few installations of above ground pipelines have been noted. These installations are normally laid directly on the ground and very close to an existing fence line for protection. Only those pipelines designed to withstand exposure to ultraviolet radiation may be utilized for these installations. Adequate thrust control shall be incorporated in these installations.

7. BACKFILL

The pipe shall be held down during backfilling to the top of the pipe to prevent its being lifted from its original placement.

Within 2 feet of the pipe, backfill shall be carefully placed and compacted by means of hand tamping or manually directed power tampers or plate vibrators to form a continuous uniform support around the pipe. Maximum thickness of layers before compaction within 2 feet of the pipe shall be 4 inches and at more than 2 feet from the pipe a maximum thickness before compaction shall be 9 inches. Unless otherwise specified, the initial backfill shall be compacted to a density equivalent to that of the adjacent fill or foundation materials.

The water content of cohesive backfill material shall be such that, kneaded in the hand, the soil will form a ball which does not readily separate. For non-cohesive sand and gravel backfill material, water content is not a concern for thin lifts.

8. SPECIAL SPECIFICATIONS