

WISCONSIN CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION

50. Organic Fill for Ditch Fills or Filling

1. SCOPE

The work shall consist of placing the organic fill required by the drawings.

2. MATERIALS

Organic fill includes the classifications of OL, OH, and PT (peat) as defined in ASTM D2488, Description and Identification of Soils (Visual-Manual Procedure).

All organic fill shall be obtained from required excavations and designated borrow areas. The selection, blending, routing, and disposition of materials shall be subject to approval by the Technician. Rubbish and trash is not an acceptable fill material and shall be disposed of in a legal manner.

Organic fill shall contain: 1) minimal sod, brush, roots or frozen material or 2) no stumps or woody vegetation greater than 3” in diameter as approved by the Technician. Stones larger than 9 inches in diameter shall be removed from the materials prior to placement of the fill.

3. FOUNDATION PREPARATION

The foundation area shall be cleared of trees greater than 3” in diameter. Foundations shall be stripped to remove vegetation to the depth shown on the drawings or as approved by the Technician. The materials removed from the foundation shall be disposed of as required by the drawing, or as approved by the Technician. The brush material does not need to be removed if it meets the fill material criteria above.

4. BORROW EXCAVATION

The borrow area shall be cleared of trees greater than 3” in diameter, stumps, and stones having a maximum dimension greater than 9 inches. The borrow area shall be stripped to remove vegetation to the depth shown on the drawings or as approval by Technician. The materials removed from the borrow area shall be disposed of as required by the drawings. The brush and roots do not need to be removed if it meets the fill material criteria above.

This work shall be performed immediately prior to use of the borrow material to reduce the time the area is exposed to erosion.

The extent of excavation and the selection of materials from the borrow area shall be as directed by the Technician. On completion of the excavation, all borrow areas shall be left to contain microtopography features (topography less than 6 inches in height or depth) or as directed by the Technician. All borrow areas shall be graded to blend with existing topography or as shown on the drawings.

5. PLACEMENT

Organic fill shall not be placed until the required excavation and preparation of the underlying foundation is completed, inspected, and approved by the Technician. No organic fill shall be placed upon a frozen surface nor shall snow, ice, or frozen material be incorporated in the organic fill. Organic fill shall be placed to fill the ditch(es) as shown on the construction plan unless otherwise approved by the Technician. The final grade of the ditch fill shall blend in with the existing topography.

The contractor shall furnish and operate the types and kinds of equipment necessary to place and shape the organic fill.

6. CONTROL OF MOISTURE CONTENT

Organic fill shall have a moisture content sufficient to insure the required placement and compaction. When kneaded in the hand, the soil will retain a shape which does not readily separate and will not extrude out of the hand when squeezed tightly. The adequacy of the moisture content will be determined by the Technician.

Organic fill or the top surface of the preceding layer of compacted organic fill that becomes too dry to permit suitable bond shall either be removed or scarified and wetted by sprinkling to an acceptable moisture content prior to placement of the next layer of organic fill.

Organic fill or the top surface of the preceding layer of organic fill that becomes too wet shall be either removed or allowed to dry to an acceptable moisture content before compaction or placement of additional layers of organic fill.

7. COMPACTION

Compaction will be accomplished by pushing and shaping the organic fill unless additional compaction is specified by the construction plans. The Technician shall determine if adequate compaction is being achieved.