

Maintain open drainage systems

Overview

This standard is about the maintenance of open drainage systems to a given specification.

This specification includes the route, profile, depth and grade of the drain together with the acceptable tolerances and the treatment of excavated material. The specification also includes the requirements of both relevant legislation and the employing or client organisation.

When working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained, and hold current certification where required, in line with relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risk associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. select, prepare and use the appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
5. confirm all equipment has been checked and is fit for purpose
6. maintain the security of the machinery and equipment on site
7. maintain open drainage systems to the given specification
8. make effective use of the available resources
9. follow environmental good practice set by your organisation and the industry, and identify and protect environmental features
10. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively in line with the manufacturer's recommendations
5. the legal requirements for checking equipment
6. emergency planning and procedures relevant to the site
7. how to interpret plans and specifications for the maintenance of open drainage systems
8. how to clear open drains and re-dig collapsed sections of open drains
9. how to maintain open drains in a range of soils
10. how to excavate material among standing trees
11. the techniques that can be used for de-bogging
12. how to recognise specified aspects of the site that should be preserved
13. the implications of terrain, soil texture and structure, season, weather and plant species
14. the implications of flow rate in open drainage systems
15. the potential impact of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
16. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Specification covering:

- route
- profile
- depth
- grade
- flow rate
- treatment of excavated material
- tolerance of specification
- measurement of work achieved

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