



DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING SERVICES

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**WATER RESOURCES TECHNICAL POLICY
ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGROUND STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT FACILITIES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

July 1, 2005

1. At all access points to underground stormwater structures where more than nine inches of adjustment rings are required to match final grade, a concrete riser that is a minimum of forty eight inches in diameter must be used. Corrugated metal pipe (CMP) storage systems may have a CMP riser with a minimum of forty eight inches inside diameter.
2. The top of underground stormwater management structures cannot be located more than four feet below proposed grade.
3. All manhole openings must be a minimum of thirty inches in diameter.
4. The following will apply when a concrete riser is required for access. The manhole riser must be pre-cast concrete and may be square or round. It must be at least forty eight inches in diameter. If a round manhole riser is used it must be forty eight inches inside diameter for the entire height, it cannot be necked down to accommodate the manhole frame. A top slab must be used. The opening in the top of the underground structure must match the inside dimensions of the riser.
5. Solid concrete adjustment rings may be used to raise the manhole a maximum of nine inches to match the final grade.
6. Steps in the manhole risers and structures must comply with Standard Details No. MC-520.01 for spacing and No. MD-383.92 for the step material requirements.
7. When the depth from the surface to the bottom of the structure exceeds twelve feet a ladder must be installed. See WSSC Standard Details: Aluminum Ladder M/16.0 and Ladder Extension M/16.1.
8. In addition there should be access openings in each chamber. The openings must provide safe access to all valves and other control devices. Ladders and steps must be located outside of water flows from orifices and valves and must allow inspection and maintenance to the structure without having to cross the water flow paths.