

Tree/Shrub Site Preparation Guidelines

Contour Berm Construction Guidelines

1. Utilize contour strip tilling on slopes greater than 3 percent.
2. Delineate the rows by staking or spray painting areas to be disturbed.
 - Rows should be 12-20 feet apart.
 - Row width should be 5 feet (with berms being 3 feet and swales being 2 feet).
3. Grade rows into soiled berms with associated swales.
 - Various grading implements and equipment can be used.
 - It is important to minimize the amount of disturbance and compaction of soil.
 - A 7-foot minimum width of fescue should be left undisturbed in order to deter erosion and provide access to rows.



Contour Berm/Swale Construction

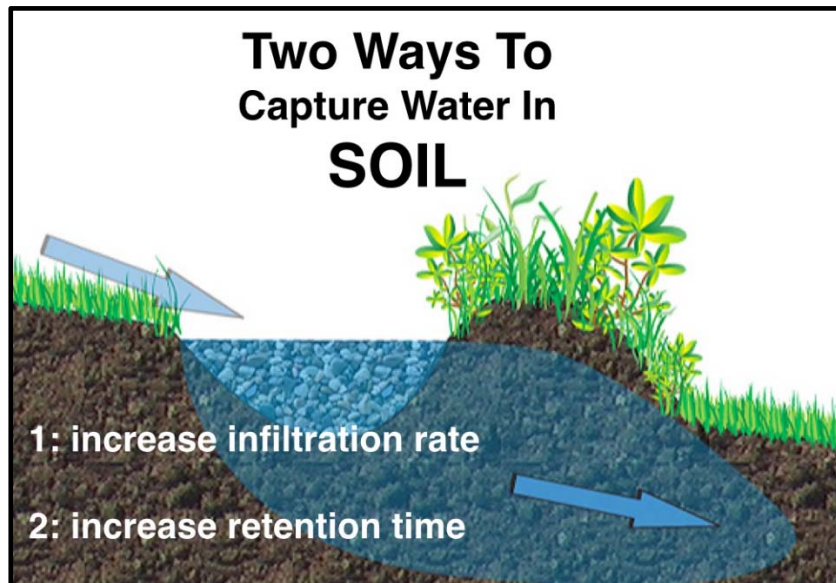


Swale & Berm after Construction (not mulched)

4. Amend berms with soil amendments.
 - Berms should be amended with compost, peat moss or other amendments to increase porosity and absorption for root growth.
 - Berms and swales should also be mulched to suppress weed growth and competition while allowing for water infiltration. Utilize the *Mulching Standard* for more information.



Example of Contoured Berm/Swale System (mulched)
(note the width and dimensions of berms, swales and fescue breaks)



Example of Gravel Infiltration Swale