Standard Practice 2-17-02 Excavation and Backfilling , Backfill instructions timeline

Since at least 1972 the standard procedure for backfilling required care be taken for the damage of the pipe due to rocks. It required that rocks in the backfill be of maximum 1” in diameter, or use of sand or clean dirt must be used and loosed rocks below the pipe be cleared away or replaced with clean dirt of sand.

1972

- If backfill material is rocky or contains material which might damage the pipe, provide a cover of rock free dirt or sand at least 4 inches thick before the backfill is started. Assure that the pipe rests only on clean dirt or sand.

1974, 1982, 1987, 1990,

- Provide firm support firm support under the pipe on undisturbed or compacted soil.
- If backfill material is rocky or contains material which might damage the pipe or pipe coatings, provide a cover of rock free dirt or sand at least 4 inches thick before the backfill is started. Assure that the pipe rests only on clean dirt or sand.

1991, 1994

- Provide firm support under the pipe on undisturbed or compacted soil, clearing away all loose or projecting rock 1 inch diameter and greater that might damage the pipe and /or pipe coating.
- If backfill material is rocky or contains material which might damage the pipe or pipe coatings, shade the pipe with at least 4 inches dirt or sand, which will include no rocks greater than 1 inch in diameter.

2003

- Rocky backfill material that contains a substantial quantity of rock of a size larger that would pass through an approximately on-inch screen. No crushed rock will be used in shading material regardless of size. The sharp edges created during crushing damage the coating on steel and the exterior of plastic pipe.
- Clear away all loose or projecting rock that is one inch diameter or greater that might damage the pipe and/or pipe coating.
- If the backfill is rocky or contains material which might damage pipe or pipe coatings, shade pipe with at least 4 inches of dirt or sand, which will include no rocks greater than 1 inch in diameter.

2006

- Rocky backfill material that contains rock later than on-inch diameter, no crushed rock will be used in the shading material, unless tested approved (e.g. 3/8” minus sand mix.) The sharp edges created during crushing may damage the coating on steel pipe and the exterior of plastic pipe.