

# 5 Drainage control

## Stormwater diversions

### Diverting roof stormwater and groundwater

Without downpipes, rainwater gushes from the roof onto bare dirt which increases erosion on your site.

Installing downpipes could remove around 50% of the water that falls on your site. This means less erosion and less mud, so you get back onto site quicker after rain.

Stormwater entering a site from outside the lot boundary can increase soil erosion on your site and increasing sediment that must be cleaned up.

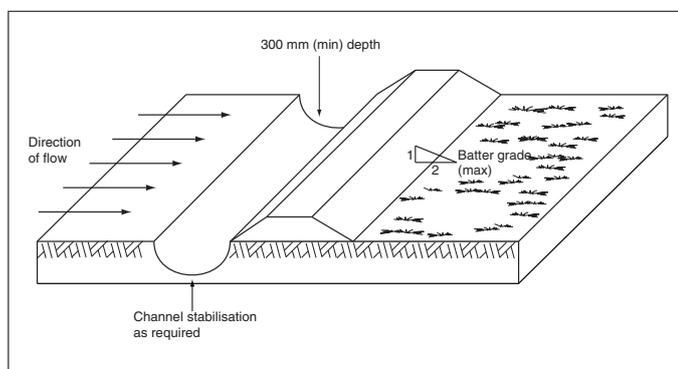
If the area of land upslope of your site is greater than 1,500m<sup>2</sup> (approximately three typical house lots), or if run-off becomes an erosion problem, divert this water away from your site by using a lined Catch Drain.

When diverting upslope stormwater run-off, ensure that Catch Drains are adequately stabilised to prevent erosion (i.e. by lining the drain).

The Catch Drain should:

- Be lined with geotextile fabric, UV resistant builders plastic or turf to minimise erosion.
- Be located within your site, not your neighbour's.
- Be a minimum of 300mm in depth.
- Be discharged safely to the roadside gutter or a stormwater drain (not neighbouring properties), without causing erosion.

Refer to the diagram below for a typical Catch Drain detail.



Typical Catch Drain detail.  
(Source: Catchments and Creeks Pty Ltd)

### Did you know...

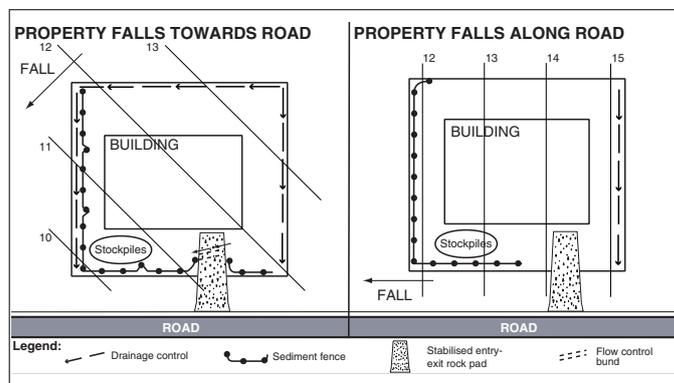
If water flows onto your site, then you are responsible for managing it.

This includes any erosion or sediment it produces. That is why diverting stormwater around your site can save you time and money over the duration of the build.

### ESC tip

The diagram below shows typical locations for drainage controls. In situations where water is entering your site

If water is entering your site from one concentrated point, instead of using a Catch Drain, you could use a PVC pipe laid horizontally across the ground to collect and convey stormwater to the road or drain.



(Source: Catchments and Creeks Pty Ltd)

### How

As soon as the roof goes on, connect either permanent or temporary downpipes securely to the gutter-drops and the underground stormwater system.

### Maintenance

If you see a downpipe not connected – connect it back up or report it to the site supervisor.

Find out more at [waterbydesign.com.au/esc](http://waterbydesign.com.au/esc)