



Curb Inlet Protection Solutions for Contractors That Are Easy to Use and Cost Effective

by Dan Cleveland

Keeping pollutants out of curb inlets is a serious responsibility for contractors. Proper inlet protection prevents sediment, debris and oil from entering inlets and ending up in our streams, lakes, rivers and oceans.

If [curb inlet filters](#) are not used, the damage to the environment and to the contractor's profits can be devastating. Stipulations of the Clean Water Act include considerable regulations directing construction site operators to provide inlet protection solutions at all times, from before the ground is disturbed until after the job has been completed. If these regulations are not met, large fines totaling thousands, if not millions, of dollars can result.

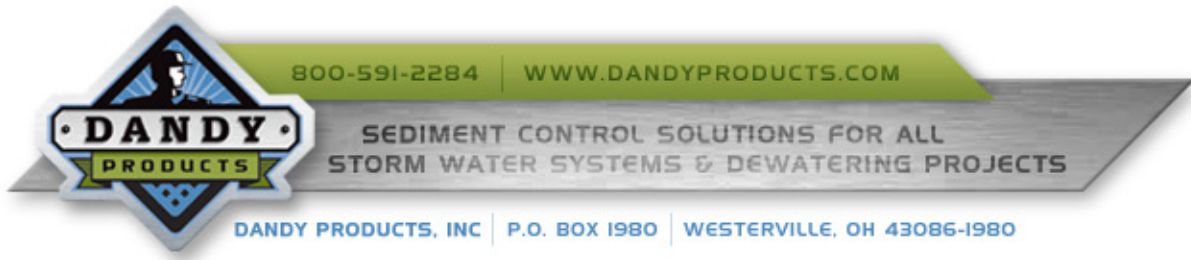
Fortunately, complying with regulations is not difficult or very costly. Simple, affordable inlet protection products are available, and if you deal with the right company, you can get exactly what you need to protect the environment and be compliant with the law in no time at all.

Curb Inlet Roll

Curb inlet rolls are used to protect inlets that don't have storm grates. Made from a durable, porous material, these inlet protection filters simply sit flush against a curb directly in front of an inlet, allowing only water to slowly seep through. Sediment and debris carried in water running off of a site is caught by the roll prior to entering the inlet.

Top quality rolls feature a built-in protective overflow design for reliable performance in even the heaviest of rains, and they are specially designed to conform to the shape of any curb, making it quick and easy to get an impermeable seal. Some also offer the option of adding an oil absorbent filter to safely and securely whisk oil away from water as it passes through the roll.

Maintenance of quality curb inlet rolls couldn't be easier. Simply remove all accumulated sediment and debris from the roll and its vicinity after each rainfall, and it's ready for use again. If optional oil absorbent filters are used, just remove and replace them when they near saturation.



Curb Inlet Bag

[Curb inlet bags](#) are made to be used with curb inlets that have storm grates. These products feature a bag that encases the storm grate and a roll that sits against the curb, providing a double-layer defense against sediment and debris. Water slowly seeps through the bag and into the inlet while pollutants are trapped inside.

Premium quality curb inlet bags install in minutes and are designed to quickly conform to the shape of a curb for a sediment-resistant seal. Sizes to fit any curb and gutter inlet are available, and some models offer the option of adding an oil absorbent filter.

Maintenance on these bags is as easy as sweeping debris and sediment away from them after it rains, and emptying them when sediment and debris accumulates inside of them. If oil absorbent filters have been used in the bag, they should be replaced as they near saturation.

When they are used and maintained correctly, curb inlet bags should last a long time and reduce or completely eliminate the need to flush or clean inlets. This saves contractors a lot of money, while keeping them compliant with the law.

Curb Inlet Sack

Also for use with curb inlets that have storm grates, the [curb inlet sack](#) features a curb roll on top and a sack that hangs below the inlet grate. Water running into the grate enters the sack, where it slowly filters through while sediment and debris become trapped.

The open-top design of the curb inlet sack allows for easy visual inspections and compatibility with any size curb and gutter inlet. The roll conforms to any shape curb, and optional oil absorbent filters allow the curb inlet sack to perform an important double duty.

Quality curb inlet sacks feature handy lifting straps that make them easy to install, remove for maintenance and put back into place. When used properly, they should reduce the need to flush or clean inlets, saving a lot of valuable time and money.

When shopping for [inlet protection solutions](#), ask about the durability, ease of use and reliability of any products you consider. Find out if they're reusable, and if they allow for the addition of oil absorbent filters to take care of two jobs at once.



Make sure you deal with a reputable company that knows the laws, sells only regulation-compliant units, and can answer your questions and get the products you need in a hurry. A little bit of homework now will save you a lot of time and money in the long run and free you up to handle bigger tasks at hand.

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