

INFORMATION BULLETIN / PUBLIC - BUILDING CODE

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P/BC 2017-002 Previously Issued As:

RETAINING OR SLOUGH WALL (4'-0" HIGH OR LESS)

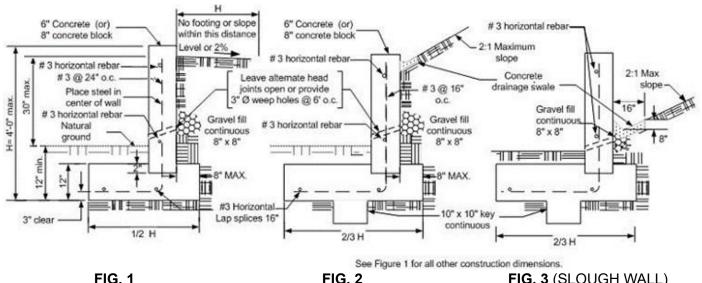


FIG. 2 FIG. 3 (SLOUGH WALL)

(NO BUILDING PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR FIG. 1(a) (b)(c)) (PERMIT IS REQUIRED FOR FIG. 2 AND FIG. 3)

These walls are designed for the average condition and may not be suitable in all cases. Where the proposed wall construction is extensive, a licensed civil or structural engineer should be consulted.

Notes:

- a) The wall shown in Figure 1 shall not be constructed where the existing slope below or beneath the wall is steeper than 1 vertical to 5 horizontal (20 percent slope) per code section 101.5 (4). The 30" maximum in Figure 1 applies when there is a walkway behind the retaining wall.
- b) In the case of Figure 1, if more than one wall is constructed to replace an existing slope, a building permit will be required if the existing slope is steeper than 1 vertical to 5 horizontal (20 percent).
- c) A Grading permit shall be required for any excavation or fill which exceeds 50 cubic yards or which changes the existing drainage pattern per section 106.1.2.

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

- 1. All footings to be 12" into natural ground.
- 2. Concrete mix for footing and concrete wall shall be 2,500 psi minimum, or if site mixed: 1 part Portland cement, 2 parts sand, 3 parts 1" rock with a maximum of 7 gallons of water per sack of cement.
- 3. Grout mix for concrete block wall shall be 2,000 psi, 1 part Portland cement, 3 parts sand to which may be added not more than 1/10 part lime. Sufficient water to be added to produce consistency for pouring

without segregation of the constituents. Grout may contain pea gravel to a maximum size of 3/8".

- 4. Mortar mix for concrete blocks shall be 1 part cement to 1/4 lime putty or hydrated lime to 3½ parts damp loose sand.
- 5. Concrete block units shall be standard 8"x8"x16" units conforming to ASTM C55.
- 6. Reinforcing steel shall be deformed steel conforming to ASTM Specification A-615, Grade 40. Lap all steel 16".
- 7. Concrete block units shall be staggered (running bond).
- 8. Concrete block units shall have vertical continuity of the cells unobstructed. All cells containing reinforcing shall be filled solid with grout.
- 9. All surface drainage that is concentrated or re-directed by the walls shall be directed to the public street via non-erosive devices. No cross-property drainage is permitted.
- 10. The walls and the required subdrains shall be within the property and they shall not encroach into the adjacent properties. No grading work is permitted on the adjacent properties.
- 11. Walls constructed using alternate methods or materials, such as wood, rubble or stacked blocks, including pre-manufactured blocks that are stacked upon each other, are not allowed unless they have a current Research Report from the Engineering Research Section of the Department of Building and Safety.