The Arc 18 chamber is an economical, easy-to-install alternative to conventional on-site leachfield systems. In a conventional on-site leachfield system, 4-inch pipe and gravel are used to fill in the excavation. The Arc chamber units eliminate the need for gravel, thereby reducing many of the problems inherent in gravel systems, including compaction, loss of storage, and fines. The open bottom design of the Arc chamber maximizes infiltrative surface area, while its structural design ensures long-term trench integrity. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has authorized the use of chambers either in gravity-fed or pressure-dosed applications, as a replacement for the traditional 18-24-inch wide gravel trench.

**Trench Installation Guidelines**

1. **Excavate trench to proper width and depth as described in the design and as required by state and local code.** Excavation and proper elevation should be set according to a permit formulated from a soil evaluation by the local Health Department, soil scientist, or engineer. The Arc 18 shall be installed into an 18-24 inch wide excavation. The requisite separation distance between the center line of adjacent trenches is 10 feet. For any traffic condition up to an H-10 (16,000 lbs/axle) maximum load limit, the minimum cover over the crown of the chamber shall be 12 inches.

2. **Smooth irregularities in the excavation and trench bottom, then clear any large rocks or debris from the bottom of the trench.** Scarify the soil if smearing is present. The drainfield trench bottom or absorption bed should be prepared level. Any allowed slope or fall should be determined and based on your state or local codes.

3. **Chamber Assembly**
   a. **Install the first chamber onto the prepared drainfield.** Place dome end first. Each chamber end is marked either Dome (B) or Post (A) on the round observation / vent knockout ports.

   ![B](image)

   ![A](image)

   b. **Assemble the Arc chambers in the trench excavation by laying the chamber dome over the post.** Raise the post end of the incoming chamber and slightly pull the chamber back until the dome stops at the underlying post.

   ![C](image)

   c. **As the incoming chamber is laid flat in the trench,** position the lower base flanges of the incoming chamber under the raised base flanges (C) of the previously-installed chamber. The trench area in front of the raised base flange should be free of rocks, soil clumps or other obstructions to ensure proper base flange engagement.
d. Arc 18 chamber is designed with an articulating joint that allows for a free-range horizontal rotation of 20 degrees, with a maximum of 10 degrees in either direction. Do not over-rotate the joint beyond 10 degrees.

e. Each chamber is equipped with a swivel lockout feature (D) located at the base flange of the post end. While the swivel lockout is left in place, the chambers are designed to align in a straight pattern. With the swivel lockout removed, the chamber is free to rotate. The swivel lockout may be removed by cutting along the two sides of the perforation of the lockout and then either moving or removing the remaining piece of plastic from its original position.

f. As each chamber is placed in the trench, adjust the trench direction accordingly by removing the appropriate swivel lockout. The incoming chamber base flange will now ride in the removed lockout gap, allowing up to ten degrees of rotation per five-foot chamber.

4. Prior to installing end caps, remove the appropriate knockouts for pipe connections (refer to pages 5-8) by placing the end cap face down on a hard surface and cutting with a hole saw or utility knife. Trim any burs or excess material with a utility knife. Where a hole saw is used to create a pipe opening, centering dimples are placed in the middle of each knockout for the hole saw pilot bit. The knockout will accept 4” SDR 35, 4-inch Schedule 40, or 4-inch ADS-3000 Triplewall® pipe. Receiving pockets for 6” x 8” splash plates are incorporated into every end cap.

5. Place lip of end cap over the end of the chamber unit and snap into place. Secure in place with backfill. The universal end cap is designed to fit both ends of the Arc 18 chamber. The end cap shall be placed so that the Arc logo faces outward.
6. Where required by local code, a splash plate shall be placed under the inlet end of the chamber. Each end cap is equipped with splash plate receiving pockets. Place the splash plate into the positioning fins prior to end cap assembly.

7. The post end has small knockouts located on the roof of each chamber. When removed, these knockouts allow for the use of zip ties or straps in order to hang pressure-dosing pipe. Where pressure-dosing pipe is used, end caps should be prepared with a hole saw to adequately accommodate the outside diameter of the PVC dosing pipe.

8. An easy-knockout inspection port is provided in each Arc 18 and 24 chamber. Once the knockout is removed, the resulting opening will accept 4-inch SDR 35 (4.215” O.D.) or 4-inch Schedule 40 (4.5” O.D.) pipe. The Schedule 40 pipe may require moderate coaxing with a rubber mallet.

9. Fill sidewall area to top of chambers with native soil (or select fill where required). Fill shall be compacted to the minimum requirements necessary for the soil type used. "Walking in" the soil is one acceptable means for achieving the compaction level along the sides of the chamber.

10. Complete the backfill of the system with native soil or select fill to the depth specified in the system design and as required by state and local codes. Avoid large rocks and debris in backfill material, as they may eventually impinge on the chamber. As common practice, avoid driving any equipment over the Arc chambers prior to final backfill. Where vehicular loading will be anticipated, all Arc 18 chambers are approved for H-10 (16,000 lbs/axle) loading when installed with a minimum of 12 inches to a maximum depth as permitted.

11. When preparing the final grade, grading shall be such that stormwater is diverted away from the drainfield. System final grade should be crested or sloped, never left flat or concave. Channel storm and downspout water away from the drainfield.

* Cover height and live loading limits are impacted by both soil type and compaction requirements. Advanced Drainage Systems should be contacted when poor soils are encountered or, if unknown, when fill heights exceed 2 feet.
**Arc 18 System Sizing Chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Arc 18 Chambers</th>
<th>Linear Feet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Installation Configurations:
Equal Gravity Distribution Trench Cross Section

Equal Gravity Distribution Plan View
Installation Configurations:
Same-End (Drop Box) Serial Distribution Trench Cross Section

![Cross-Section View](image)

Same-End (Drop Box) Serial Distribution Plan View

![Plan View](image)

Drop Box Cross-Section View

![Cross-Section View](image)

Septic Tank
Drop Box
(see cross-section view below)

Inspection Port Knockouts or Effluent Top Load Location

Backfill

12" Min

18"-24"

4" Diameter Pipe Inlet Invert = 6.24"

Minimum Length 4’ and Level

Septic Tank
Drop Box
(see cross-section view below)

Effluent will fill to above sidewall louvers before advancing

10’ Center to Center Spacing

4" Diameter Pipe Inlet Invert = 6.24"

Inlet Invert

9.25” min.

Arc 18 Chamber
Installation Configurations:
Alternating-End Inlet Serial Distribution Trench Cross Section

Alternating-End Inlet Serial Distribution Plan View

Drop Box Cross-Section View

Inlet / Outlet Pipe Cross Section View

Effluent will fill to above sidewall louvers before advancing
Installation Configurations:

Pressure Distribution Trench Cross Section

Pressure Distribution Plan View

Valve Box or Irrigation Box Side View

Pipe Type and Size Specified by Designer or Per Local Regulation (Installed in Upper Knockouts)

Valve Box or Irrigation Box (Typical per Lateral)

90° Long Sweep