Other Bulletins Available

"Drainage Practices for Oregon"—Station Bulletin 492

"Farm Drainage"—USDA Farmers Bulletin 2046

"Septic Tanks for Oregon Rural Homes"—Extension Bulletin 670

Your County Extension Agent can supply other information on landscaping, gardening, and lawn care.

Federal Cooperative Extension Service
Oregon State College, Corvallis

This leaflet was prepared by Marvin N. Shearer, Extension Irrigation Specialist, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Extension Circular 607 May 1956


For most current information:
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog
Surface water around your house can be messy, unsanitary, injurious to plants and to the building itself. This problem can be solved to a great extent by collecting the surface water and directing it into drainage channels before it gets into the soil.

Soil drainage often is limited by inadequate outlets such as storm sewers, ditches, paved streets, etc.

Many ditches are plugged with brush, grass, and debris. During periods of high rainfall these ditches overflow.

What to Do About It

- Locate and improve the outlets. In many cases this will require community action.
- Grade your lawn so that water drains away from the house to an outlet.
- Drain eaves, driveways, and other covered areas into storm sewers or other outlets.
- Tile your lawn if necessary. Place tile lines not more than 15 feet apart in clay soil, or 50 feet apart in loam soil, at a depth of 18 to 36 inches.
- Tile around house at a depth just below the foundation. If the soil is clay, cover the tile with coarse sand or fine gravel.
- If the septic tank drainage field becomes "waterlogged," place an interceptor tile drain on the upper side of drainage field to divert seepage water moving toward the drainage field. When homes are built close together, community cooperation in sewage disposal usually is necessary.

All tile should be laid on a grade of about 1 inch in 10 feet and terminated at a storm sewer, ditch, or other outlet. Space the tile 1/16 to 1/8 inch apart.
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DRAINAGE
Around Homes
ON LEVEL GROUND

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