



**CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION FOR ADJUSTING OR
REBUILDING MAINTENANCE HOLES, CATCH BASINS,
DITCH INLETS, AND VALVE CHAMBERS**

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408.01 SCOPE

This specification covers the requirements for adjusting or rebuilding maintenance holes, catch basins, ditch inlets, valve chambers and the installation of safety platforms.

408.01.01 Specification Significance and Use

This specification is written as a municipal-oriented specification. Municipal-oriented specifications are developed to reflect the administration, testing, and payment policies, procedures, and practices of many municipalities in Ontario.

Use of this specification or any other specification shall be as specified in the Contract Documents.

408.01.02 Appendices Significance and Use

Appendices are not for use in provincial contracts as they are developed for municipal use, and then, only when invoked by the Owner.

Appendices are developed for the Owner's use only.

Inclusion of an appendix as part of the Contract Documents is solely at the discretion of the Owner. Appendices are not a mandatory part of this specification and only become part of the Contract Documents as the Owner invokes them.

Invoking a particular appendix does not obligate an Owner to use all available appendices. Only invoked appendices form part of the Contract Documents.

The decision to use any appendix is determined by an Owner after considering their contract requirements and their administrative, payment, and testing procedures, policies, and practices. Depending on these considerations, an Owner may not wish to invoke some or any of the available appendices.

408.02 REFERENCES

When the Contract Documents indicate that municipal-oriented specifications are to be used and there is a municipal-oriented specification of the same number as those listed below, references within this specification to an OPSS shall be deemed to mean OPSS.MUNI, unless use of a provincial-oriented specification is specified in the Contract Documents. When there is not a corresponding municipal-oriented specification, the references below shall be considered to be the OPSS listed, unless use of a provincial-oriented specification is specified in the Contract Documents.

This specification refers to the following standards, specifications, or publications:

Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications, Construction

OPSS 353	Concrete Curb and Gutter Systems
OPSS 402	Excavating, Backfilling, and Compacting for Maintenance Holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, and Valve Chambers
OPSS 404	Support Systems
OPSS 407	Maintenance Hole, Catch Basis, Ditch Inlet, and Valve Chamber Installation
OPSS 490	Site Preparation for Pipelines, Utilities, and Associated Structures
OPSS 491	Preservation, Protection, and Reconstruction of Existing Facilities
OPSS 492	Site Restoration Following Installation of Pipelines, Utilities, and Associated Structures
OPSS 510	Removal
OPSS 904	Concrete Structures
OPSS 920	Deck Joint Assemblies, Preformed Seals, Joint Fillers, Joint Seals, Joint Sealing Compounds, and Waterstops - Structures

Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications, Material

OPSS 1004	Aggregates - Miscellaneous
OPSS 1301	Cementing Materials
OPSS 1302	Water
OPSS 1350	Concrete - Materials and Production
OPSS 1351	Precast Reinforced Concrete Components for Maintenance Holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, and Valve Chambers
OPSS 1440	Steel Reinforcement for Concrete
OPSS 1850	Frames, Grates, Covers, and Gratings
OPSS 1853	Rubber Adjustment Units for Maintenance Holes, Catch Basins, and Valve Chambers

408.03 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this specification, the following definitions apply:

Adjusting means changing the final grade or position of the frame with cover or grate on an existing structure:

- a) upwards by the addition of adjustment units;
- b) downwards by removal of existing adjustment units or bricks and mortar, regardless of the size or type of structure; or
- c) lateral deviation from centreline.

Adjustment Units means circular and rectangular units used between the structure and the frame to adjust the elevation of the frame for grates and covers.

Lift Rings means circular and rectangular pre-fabricated metal or high density polyethylene units used to adjust the elevation of the grates and covers only. They are inserted between the frame and the grate or cover.

Rebuilding means changing the final grade of the frame with grate or cover on an existing structure:

- a) upwards by the addition of precast concrete sections, concrete, and adjustment units; or
- b) downwards by the removal of precast concrete sections, concrete, and adjustment units or bricks and mortar, regardless of the size or type of structure.

Structure means cast-in-place and precast maintenance holes, catch basins, ditch inlets, and valve chambers.

408.05 MATERIALS

408.05.01 Concrete

Concrete for cast-in-place structures shall be according to OPSS 1350 with a minimum 28-Day compressive strength of 30 MPa.

408.05.02 Steel Reinforcement

Steel bar reinforcement, bar mats, and wire fabric for cast-in-place structures shall be according to OPSS 1440.

408.05.03 Precast Concrete Components for Maintenance Holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, and Valve Chambers

Precast units shall be according to OPSS 1351 and as specified in the Contract Documents.

408.05.04 Steps and Ladders

Steps shall be according to OPSS 1351 and as specified in the Contract Documents. Ladders shall be as specified in the Contract Documents.

408.05.05 Adjustment Units

Precast concrete adjustment units shall be according to OPSS 1351.

Rubber adjustment units shall be according to OPSS 1853.

High density polyethylene (HDPE) and expanded polystyrene (EPS) adjustment units shall be according to OPSS 1854.

408.05.06 Mortar

Mortar shall consist of a mixture of one part Portland cement according to OPSS 1301 and three parts mortar sand according to OPSS 1004, wetted with sufficient water to make the mixture plastic. Water shall be according to OPSS 1302.

408.05.07 Frames with Covers or Grates, and Lift Rings

Frames with covers or grates, and lift rings shall be according to OPSS 1850.

408.05.08 Aluminum Safety Platforms

Aluminum safety platforms shall be according to OPSS 1351 and as specified in the Contract Documents.

408.05.09 Joint Seal Systems

Joint seal systems for precast concrete structures shall be according to OPSS 1351.

408.07 CONSTRUCTION

408.07.01 General

The work of adjusting or rebuilding structures shall include the removal and subsequent replacement of the frame with grate or cover.

All structures shall be adjusted or rebuilt plumb, true to alignment and grade, and as specified in the Contract Documents.

During the progress of the Work and until Completion, all structures in service shall be kept clean and free of all extraneous material.

Prior to adjusting or rebuilding a structure, the existing frame with cover or grate shall be carefully removed and salvaged according to OPSS 510. Suitability of the salvaged frame with cover or grate for reuse shall be determined by the Contract Administrator.

The installation and subsequent removal of a temporary one-piece frame and grate to the maintenance holes or catch basins during construction staging shall be at location(s) as specified in the Contract Documents. The installation of frame and grate shall be according to OPSS 407. The one-piece frame and grate shall be removed according to OPSS 510 when it is no longer required. The original frame and grate shall be put back into place after the one-piece frame and grate is removed. The one-piece frames and grates shall be installed prior to opening the detour to traffic.

The installation of adjustment units, frames, covers, grates, lift rings, precast concrete components, and joint seal systems shall be according to OPSS 407 and as specified in the Contract Documents.

Additional steps or ladder extensions are required when the distance from the adjusted cover or grate reference elevation to the first step exceeds 450 mm. Additional steps shall be placed according to OPSS 1351.

Alterations to ladders, valve extension stems and boxes, and frost straps shall be as specified in the Contract Documents.

After having been raised, any structure that has a total height of 5.0 m or more shall have a safety platform installed in it. The aluminum safety platforms shall be installed as specified in the Contract Documents.

After adjusting or rebuilding a valve chamber, insulation shall be installed according to the manufacturer's recommendations on the roof, wall, or access way of the valve chamber, when specified in the Contract Documents.

408.07.02 Site Preparation

Site preparation shall be according to OPSS 490.

408.07.03 Preservation and Protection of Existing Facilities

Preservation and protection of existing facilities shall be according to OPSS 491.

408.07.04 Cold Weather Work

All work shall be protected from freezing.

408.07.05 Transporting, Unloading, and Storing and Handling

Transporting, unloading, storing, and handling shall be according to manufacturer's recommendations. Materials that are unsound or damaged shall be rejected.

408.07.06 Excavating, Backfilling, and Compacting

Excavating, backfilling, and compacting for the adjustment or rebuilding of structures shall be according to OPSS 402.

408.07.07 Support Systems

Support systems shall be according to OPSS 404.

408.07.08 Adjusting

All existing brickwork and mortar shall be removed from the top of the existing structure.

When there are adjustment units on an existing structure, adjustment units shall be added or removed as required so when the adjustment is completed there is a minimum of one to a maximum of three adjustment units on the top of the structure prior to placing the frame with grate or cover.

The maximum allowable total lateral deviation of catch basin covers and grates from the centreline of the structure is 75 mm.

408.07.08.01 Precast Concrete Adjustment Units

Precast concrete adjustment units shall be used to set the frame with grate or cover at the required position and elevation.

A minimum of one adjustment unit, but not more than three adjustment units are required at each structure to a maximum height of 300 mm.

The first adjustment unit shall be laid in a full bed of mortar and aligned with the opening in the structure. Successive adjustment units shall be laid plumb to the first adjustment unit and sealed according to manufacturer's recommendations.

408.07.08.02 High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Adjustment Units

When specified in the Contract Documents, HDPE or EPS adjustment units shall be used to set the frame with grate or cover at the required position and elevation.

A minimum of one adjustment unit is required at each structure up to a maximum height of 100 mm.

HDPE or EPS adjustment units shall be installed and sealed according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Rubber adjustment units shall not be used in conjunction with HDPE or EPS adjustment units.

408.07.08.03 Rubber Adjustment Units

Rubber adjustment units shall be used when specified in the Contract Documents. One rubber adjustment unit is used to replace the top precast concrete adjustment unit per structure and shall be used in conjunction with one or two precast concrete adjustment units. More than one rubber adjustment unit may be placed when wedge shaped rubber units are used to provide slope to the frame with grate or cover. In either instance, the total height of the rubber units shall be greater than 25 mm and less than 75 mm. The rubber unit is to be placed on the precast concrete adjustment unit so it provides the surface on which the frame rests.

The rubber adjustment unit shall be bonded firmly in place on the precast concrete adjustment unit by laying a continuous strip of butyl tape on the top surface of the precast concrete unit. If more than one rubber unit is used, a continuous strip of butyl tape shall be laid between each rubber adjustment unit.

408.07.09 Rebuilding

408.07.09.01 General

All existing brickwork and mortar or adjustment units shall be removed from the top of the existing structure.

The completed rebuilt structure shall have a minimum of one to a maximum of three adjustment units on the top of the structure prior to placing the frame with grate or cover.

408.07.09.02 Cast-In-Place Structures

When the top of the structure is to be lowered, the concrete shall be carefully removed to the required elevation and exposed steel reinforcement shall be cut off as specified in the Contract Documents. The upper section of the structure shall then be rebuilt to its original configuration using cast-in-place concrete and steel reinforcement as specified in the Contract Documents.

To raise the top of structures with a tapered upper section, the concrete in the structure shall be removed for the entire depth of the taper. The upper section, including straight walls and taper shall then be rebuilt to the original configuration using cast-in-place concrete and steel reinforcement as specified in the Contract Documents.

To raise the top of straight walled structures, the existing roof section, if any, shall be removed. The existing walls shall then be extended upward and the roof section rebuilt to the original configuration using cast-in-place concrete and steel reinforcement as specified in the Contract Documents.

When cast-in-place units are to be raised or lowered with cast-in-place concrete, the top surface of all existing walls shall be roughened and a bonding agent shall be applied to the joint before the walls are extended upwards.

Concrete shall be placed according to OPSS 904.

All inside wall projections, such as fins and bulges, shall be removed once the forms are stripped.

408.07.09.03 Precast Concrete Structures

Where precast concrete structures having either a tapered or flat slab top section are to be raised or lowered, the top section shall be carefully removed and salvaged and riser sections of suitable height shall be carefully removed from, substituted for, or added to the existing riser sections.

The procedure described for lowering a cast-in-place structure shall be followed as an alternative to the method described above for lowering a precast structure.

408.07.09.04 Catch Basin Apron

Curb and gutter with concrete aprons on existing catch basins shall be constructed at the locations as specified in the Contract Documents.

The work shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) Remove existing curb and gutter and existing pavement by saw cutting to the limits shown in the Contract Documents.
- b) Construction of concrete curb and gutter shall be according to OPSS 353.
- c) Placement of concrete for concrete apron shall be according to OPSS 353.
- d) Concrete for curb and gutter and apron shall be poured in place as one structure.
- e) Placement of joint sealing compound and joint filler in construction joints shall be according to OPSS 920.
- f) The horizontal limits of the concrete apron to fit local conditions.

408.07.09.05 Breaking into Maintenance Holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, Culverts and Sewers

To accommodate inlet and outlet pipe installation into existing or rebuilt structures, the appropriate size opening in the wall shall be constructed as specified in the Contract Documents.

408.07.10 Site Restoration

Site restoration shall be according to OPSS 492.

408.07.11 Maintenance Hole Leakage Testing

Sanitary sewer maintenance holes and storm sewer maintenance holes shall be tested for leakage according to OPSS 407.

408.07.12 Management of Excess Material

Management of excess material shall be according to the Contract Documents.

408.09 MEASUREMENT FOR PAYMENT

408.09.01 Actual Measurement

- 408.09.01.01 Adjusting Maintenance Holes - Item**
- Rebuilding Maintenance Holes - Item**
- Adjusting Catch Basins - Item**
- Rebuilding Catch Basins - Item**
- Adjusting Ditch Inlets - Item**
- Rebuilding Ditch Inlets - Item**
- Installation of Lift Rings - Item**
- Adjusting Valve Chambers - Item**
- Rebuilding Valve Chambers - Item**
- Rebuilding Catch Basin Apron – Item**
- Temporary One-piece Frame and Grate - Item**

For measurement purposes, a count shall be made of the number of structures adjusted or rebuilt.

408.09.01.02 Breaking into Maintenance holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, Culverts and Sewers

For measurement purposes, a count shall be made of the number of openings made.

408.09.01.03 Interim Adjustments of New Structures

For interim adjustments of new maintenance holes, catch basins and ditch inlets due to staging, winter maintenance or other requirements of a new construction, a count shall be made of each adjustment.

408.09.01.04 Installation of Safety Platforms

For measurement purposes, a count shall be made of the number of safety platforms installed.

408.09.01.05 Temporary One-piece Frame and Grate

For measurement purposes, a count shall be made of the number of temporary one-piece frame and grate installed.

408.09.01.06 Installation of Lift Rings

For measurement purposes, a count shall be made of the number of lift rings installed.

408.09.02 Plan Quantity Measurement

When measurement is by Plan Quantity, such measurement shall be based on the units shown in the clauses under Actual Measurement.

408.10

BASIS OF PAYMENT

408.10.01

**Adjusting Maintenance Holes - Item
Rebuilding Maintenance Holes - Item
Adjusting Catch Basins - Item
Rebuilding Catch Basins - Item
Adjusting Ditch Inlets - Item
Rebuilding Ditch Inlets – Item
Installation of Lift Rings - Item
Adjusting Valve Chambers - Item
Rebuilding Valve Chambers - Item
Installation of Safety Platforms - Item
Rebuilding Catch Basin Apron – Item
Temporary One-piece Frame and Grate – Item
Breaking into Maintenance holes, Catch Basins, Ditch Inlets, Culverts and
Sewers - Item**

Payment at the Contract price for the above tender items shall be full compensation for all labour, Equipment, and Material to do the work.

408.10.02

Maintenance Hole Leakage Testing

Payment for maintenance hole leakage testing shall be according to OPSS 407.

Appendix 408-A, November 2021 FOR USE WHILE DESIGNING MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS

Note: This is a non-mandatory Commentary Appendix intended to provide information to a designer, during the design stage of a contract, on the use of the OPS specification in a municipal contract. This appendix does not form part of the standard specification. Actions and considerations discussed in this appendix are for information purposes only and do not supersede an Owner's design decisions and methodology.

Designer Action/Considerations

The designer should specify the following in the Contract Documents:

- Material requirements for:
 - Precast units. (408.05.03)
 - Steps and ladders. (408.05.04)
 - Aluminum safety platforms. (408.05.08)
- Adjustment and rebuilding requirements. (408.07.01)
- Installation of:
 - Aluminium safety platforms. (408.07.01)
 - Valve chamber insulation. (408.07.01)
- Locations, types, installation and subsequent removal of a temporary one-piece frame and grate to the maintenance holes or catch basins during construction staging. (408.07.01)
- Types of adjustment units, frames, covers, grates, lift rings, precast concrete components, and cast-in-place aprons, and joint seal systems. (408.07.01)
- Alterations to ladders, valve extension stems and boxes, and frost straps. (408.07.01)
- Installation of aluminum safety platforms. (408.07.01)
- Insulation. (408.07.01)
- Use of HDPE or EPS adjustment units. (407.07.08.02)
- Rubber adjustment units. (407.07.08.03)
- Additional adjustments required. (408.09.01.02)
- Cut-off of exposed steel reinforcement. (408.07.09.02)
- Concrete and steel placement requirements. (408.07.09.02)
- Catch Basin Apron. (408.07.09.04)
- Breaking into maintenance holes, catch basins, ditch inlets, culverts and sewers. (408.07.09.04)

The designer should consider determining the number of salvageable frames with covers or grates. If there are frames with covers or grates that are not suitable for salvage, then an item should be added to the Contract Documents to ensure there are a sufficient number of new frames with covers or grates to fill the Contract needs.

The designer should ensure that the General Conditions of Contract and the 100 Series General Specifications are included in the Contract Documents.

Related Ontario Provincial Standard Drawings

OPSD 400.001	Hoisting Hook Rib for Cast Iron Frames for Catch Basins, Maintenance Holes, and Valve Chambers
OPSD 400.010 to 400.120	Cast Iron Catch Basin Frames With Grates
OPSD 401.010 to 401.060	Cast Iron Maintenance Hole Frames With Covers
OPSD 402.010 to 402.021	Cast Iron Valve Chamber Frames With Covers
OPSD 403.010	Galvanized Steel Honey Comb Grating for Ditch Inlets
OPSD 404.020 to 404.022	Aluminum Safety Platforms
OPSD 405.010 to 405.020	Maintenance Hole Steps
OPSD 406.010	Aluminum Ladder for maintenance Holes
OPSD 610.010 to 610.030	Catch Basin Frame With Grate Installation
OPSD 701.010 to 701.015	Precast Concrete Maintenance Holes, 1,200 to 3,600 mm in Diameter
OPSD 701.030 to 701.081	Precast Concrete Maintenance Hole Components, 1,200 to 3,600 mm in Diameter
OPSD 701.100	Frost Strap Installation
OPSD 702.040 to 702.050	Precast Concrete Ditch Inlet Maintenance Hole
OPSD 703.011 to 703.015	Precast Concrete Single Inlet Flat Cap, 1,500 to 3,600 mm in Diameter
OPSD 703.021 to 703.024	Precast Concrete Twin Inlet Flat Cap, 1,500 to 3,000 mm in Diameter
OPSD 704.010 to 704.012	Maintenance Hole, Catch Basin, and Valve Chamber Adjustment Units
OPSD 705.001 to 705.002	Concrete Catch Basin Apron
OPSD 705.010 to 705.020	Precast Concrete Catch Basins
OPSD 705.030 to 705.040	Precast Concrete Ditch Inlets
OPSD 706.010 to 706.041	Precast Concrete Ditch Inlets Types A and B with 1,500 to 3,000 mm Diameter Flat Cap
OPSD 1100.010	Cast-In-Place Chamber for Valves Up to 350 mm Diameter
OPSD 1101.010	Precast Valve Chamber 1,200 mm and 1,500 mm Diameter
OPSD 1101.020	Valve Operator