

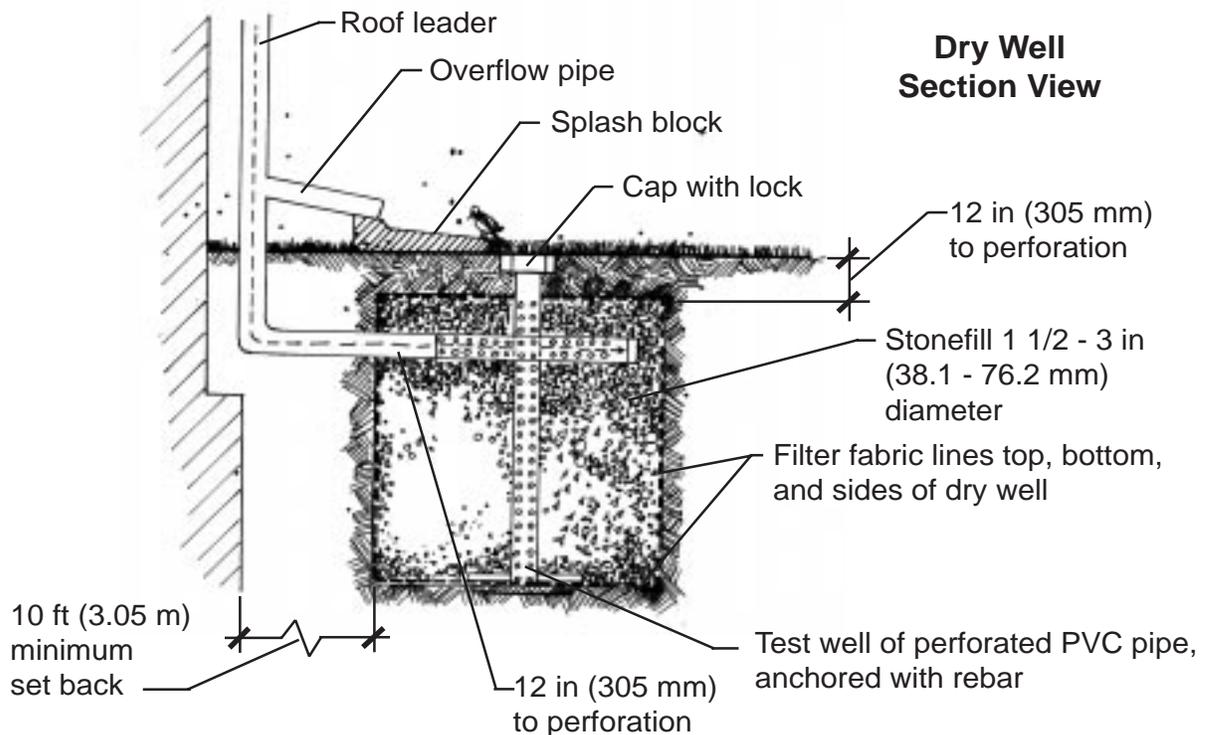
**PRIMARY USE:** For treatment and containment of rooftop runoff.  
**ADDITIONAL USES:** Reduces runoff to pre-landscape development levels.

## DRY WELL

**What is it?** The dry well is a basic trench variation in which the lead drain pipe capturing runoff from residential buildings is directed to an underground trench.

### Purpose

Dry wells are intended to reduce the runoff from impervious surfaces like roofs, and to treat stormwater with respect to reduction of particulate pollutants and erosion in downstream environments.



**Limitations** No significant limitations.

**Materials** As noted in the accompanying figure.

### Installation

Permeability of soils and slopes are significant for determining size and location of dry wells. Size is also significant in a maintenance schedule, wherein a larger well will have a longer period free of maintenance. Flatter areas are the suitable slope configurations for these structures. A ten foot (3.0 m) minimum setback from buildings is also required for determining a suitable dry well location. Rooftop gutter screens are needed to keep leaves and other debris out of the containment and filtration system.

**Source:** Controlling Urban Runoff, Metropolitan Washington.