



#### Cross section of a swale

Swales are wide and shallow drainage channels that reduce rainwater run-off by slowing the flow rate of surface water and providing some means of infiltration into the subsoil. They should have grass cover, ideally 150 mm long and mown infrequently.

Swales should have a fall rate of less than 1:25. On steeper slopes they should have check dams to slow the flow rate.

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