

# INSTALLATION

## 1. Getting Started

A pre-construction consultation with Envirolok or your local dealer/ distributor is recommended. Be sure to review any project drawings and/ or specifications prior to construction. Fill the Envirolok bags with engineered soil mix, consisting of 80% sand and 20% topsoil or as otherwise specified by project designer. All bags should be filled consistently with 1.25 ft<sup>3</sup> of fill and closed with the included UV resistant zip tie or sewn shut with approved threading.

## 2. Site Preparation

Dig an embedment trench no less than 3" deep, 16" wide for the length of the structure. This trench serves as toe stabilization and will protect the structure from undermining. Compact bottom of foundation using a vibratory plate compactor. Please consult with an engineer for larger or more advanced installations to verify embedment trench width and depth. **NOTE: ON PROJECTS WHERE EXCAVATION IS NOT PERMITTED OR AN EMBEDMENT TRENCH IS NOT FEASIBLE, A 4-6" DEEP COMPACTED GRAVEL BASE COURSE SHOULD BE INSTALLED ON TOP OF THE EXISTING GRADE TO PROVIDE A STABLE BASE FOR THE SYSTEM. IN LIEU OF USING THE EMBEDDED TRENCH BASE, A RIP RAP FACING IS RECOMMENDED AT THE TOE.**

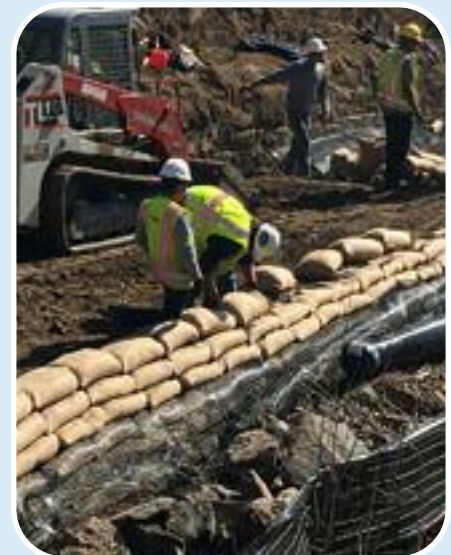
## 3. Placing Bags

The foundation course will begin with placing spikes in the excavated trench at the desired location of the first row. Place filled bags next to each other, seam side out, horizontally, the full length of the structure. The "snorkel" of the bag will land on top of the previously placed bag. Some installations may require the first embedded course to be set perpendicular to the direction of slope.

## 4. Placing Additional Bag Courses

After laying one entire course of bags, compact the soil ensuring a solid and uniform structure.

Insert two spikes in the top of each bag evenly spaced. The spike placement will vary with the slope of the structure and should be placed in the center of the bag contact area between courses.



These installation steps are for general guidance only. It is the responsibility of the project owner to ensure the application of Envirolok into the overall project through a design specification. The specification should include factors which affect the overall integrity of the retaining wall such as location, interaction with other project components, and engineering aspects including but not limited to global slope stability, site soil bearing capacity, presence of underground or surface water, etc.

## 5. Backfilling and Compacting the Structure

Backfill and compacting after each course ensures strength and stability of the system. Backfill should be compacted to the specifications of the wall design. Backfill must support vegetation and be free draining.



## 6. Geogrid Placement

Structures may require geogrid reinforcement as specified by engineer or project designer. After compaction, geogrid placement will begin at the front of the bag course and will go towards the existing material. Place spikes on top of the geogrid and continue placing bag course. Geogrid should be pulled tight prior to backfill. Continue with course compaction.

\*Some structures may require additional strength using Envirolok's patented Cinching & Twining technique; for installation instructions please refer to project drawings and specifications or contact your local Envirolok distributor.



## 7. Top Row

Install the top row of the structure the same way the other courses have been placed. Tuck the "snorkel" under to give a finished look to the last course. In most installations, the top course of bags may be placed perpendicular to the slope, with the snorkel facing inward. This provides better anchoring. The Coping should then be covered with topsoil and planted. Do not puncture the bags when planting.



## 8. Vegetation Establishment

Once the wall is completed, vegetation is the final step. Although ornamental landscape plantings will provide an adequate and aesthetic coverage, native vegetation is recommended because of its adept root structures that will bind the wall together forming a monolithic structure that will renew itself year after year. Using vegetation suitable for your local climate is necessary for a successful project. You may build the wall and place live plants in the courses as you build the structure. Live plant material should always be placed in between the courses. Cutting the bags open and planting into this cavity is NOT recommended. It is recommended that a combination of live plants and seed are used to ensure proper vegetation.

