

REPORT OF GEOTECHNICAL EVALUATION

Canal Run Regional SWM Pond Frederick County, Maryland

November 15, 2012

Prepared For:

Property Management People, Inc. c/o Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc. 92 Thomas Johnson Drive Suite 170 Frederick, MD 21702

Attn: Mr. Mark Hershfield

Prepared By:

GEO-TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.

Geotechnical and Environmental Consultants
43760 Trade Center Place, Suite 110
Sterling, Virginia 20166
(703) 478-0055
f: (703) 478-0137
www.mragta.com

GTA Job No: 121294

GEO-TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.

GEOTECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

A Practicing ASFE Member Firm

November 15, 2012



Property Management People, Inc. c/o Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc. 92 Thomas Johnson Drive Suite 170 Frederick, MD 21702

Attn: Mr. Mark Hershfield

Re: Review and Evaluation of Existing Regional SWM Pond

Canal Run

Frederick County, Maryland

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your request, Geo-Technology Associates, Incorporated (GTA) has completed a review and evaluation of the existing Regional SWM pond at the above referenced project. Transmitted herein is a letter of our findings and conclusions regarding the construction of the SWM facility. The work was completed in accordance with GTA's proposal dated October 17, 2012.

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

According to the letter from Mr. Rick Masser of Community Development Division, Frederick County dated October 10, 2012, the pond was constructed between December 2004 and June 2006 and was inspected by Specialized Engineering. A letter from Specialized Engineering dated January 30, 2007 confirms the construction of the pond in accordance with approved plans and specifications.

Although the pond was planned as a wet pond within a Karst geology, the geotechnical report by Specialized Engineering or plans prepared by Loiederman Soltesz Associates (LSA) did not recommend a clay liner for the pond. Due to the presence of limestone pinnacles and blasting required in the pond area to accommodate the basin during construction, Frederick County 43760 Trade Center Place, Suite 110, Sterling, VA 20166 (703) 478-0055 Fax: (703) 478-0137

recommended a clay liner. This was confirmed by Specialized Engineering in their letter dated March 14, 2006. The letter recommended a 12-inch thick clay liner with a minimum permeability of 10^{-7} cm/sec for the material. However, the letter did not indicate to what elevation that the proposed clay liner should be installed. The approved site plan indicated that the wet pool would be at El. 266 feet above MSL.

The daily report by Specialized Engineering indicates that the clay liner was placed at the bottom of the pond. The clay liner was placed from March 8, 2006 and compacted at the bottom of the pond. During the process of placement of the clay liner, rock was removed from the area.

SITE OBSERVATIONS

The typical wet pool is significantly lower than El. 266. Several sink holes were observed between the wet pool and El. 266 (bottom of existing retaining wall) as shown on photographs #2 through #4. In addition, when the pool gets to be near the normal wet pool elevation, bubbles are observed in the middle of the lake as shown on photograph #1.

Rock outcrops are seen throughout the site between the normal pool and the El. 266. In addition, large boulder size rocks are present at the southwestern corner of the pond, in front of Canal Run Drive.

SOIL SAMPLING AND TESTING

In order to evaluate the natural soil near the base of the existing wall at El. 266, 3 soil samples were taken and classified in accordance with Unified Soil Classification System (USCS). The laboratory testing indicated that the soil samples can be classified as USCS CL, Sandy Clay. The material appeared to be natural and is not considered as fill. The sample locations and laboratory test results are included at the end of the letter.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon review of available documentation, site observation and laboratory test results, it is GTA's opinion that the clay liner was not placed to appropriate elevation, and presence of sink hole is affecting the function of the SWM pond.

The Specialized Engineering letter indicated a 12-inch thick clay liner for the pond but did not indicate the elevation to which it needs to be installed. The permeability of the clay liner material should be at least 10⁻⁷ cm/sec. The daily reports indicated that liner was placed at the bottom of the pond. The presence of rock outcrops indicate that clay liner was not installed in the area below the existing wall.

Typically, for a wet pond that requires blasting to accommodate the basin, an 18-inch thick clay liner is installed at least one foot above the wet pool elevation. The wet pool elevation for the pond is at El. 266. In addition, the rock outcrops present in the area is required to be completely removed from the entire area of the clay liner and be replaced with the compacted clay liner.

Therefore, during construction of the pond, the clay liner was not of adequate thickness and was not installed to proper elevation. Although the material at the base of the wall was lean clay, it appears that it was not compacted, especially due to the presence of the rock outcrops.

Due to lack of clay liner, sinkholes are forming throughout the basin area. The bubbles within the water surface indicate that water is being lost through possible path at the bottom of the pond and releasing the air causing the bubbles at the surface. The possible paths can be sinkholes formed at the bottom of the lake.

The formation of the sinkholes and presence of rock outcrops indicate that the procedure followed during the construction of the pond was inadequate. It did not follow the industry standards for the construction of similar wet ponds in known Karst geology. The presence of rock outcrops and sinkholes are a common issue in Frederick County, and installation of clay liner in wet ponds to

at least the elevation of the wet pool is common practice during construction to mitigate the issue for proper functioning of the pond.

The issues present that is hindering the proper functioning of the pond is construction related and not related to maintenance of the pond. GTA recommends that the facility be dewatered and the clay liner be installed to El. 266. The clay liner should be at least 18-inches thick and consist of material having a minimum permeability of 10⁻⁷ cm/sec. During the same process and prior to placement of the clay liner, the sinkholes present at the bottom of the basin should be filled up to the throat of the hole with zero slump concrete.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of assistance on this project. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Very truly yours,

GEO-TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.

Professional Certification. I hereby certify that these documents were prepared or approved by me, and that I am a duly licensed professional engineer under the laws of the State of Maryland. License No.: 20190, Expiration Date: 9-21-2013. AR

Amin Rahman, P.E. Vice President

AS(C:\Report\2012\121294_Canal Run\121294 Canal Run GeotechLtr.doc) J.O. #121294.V



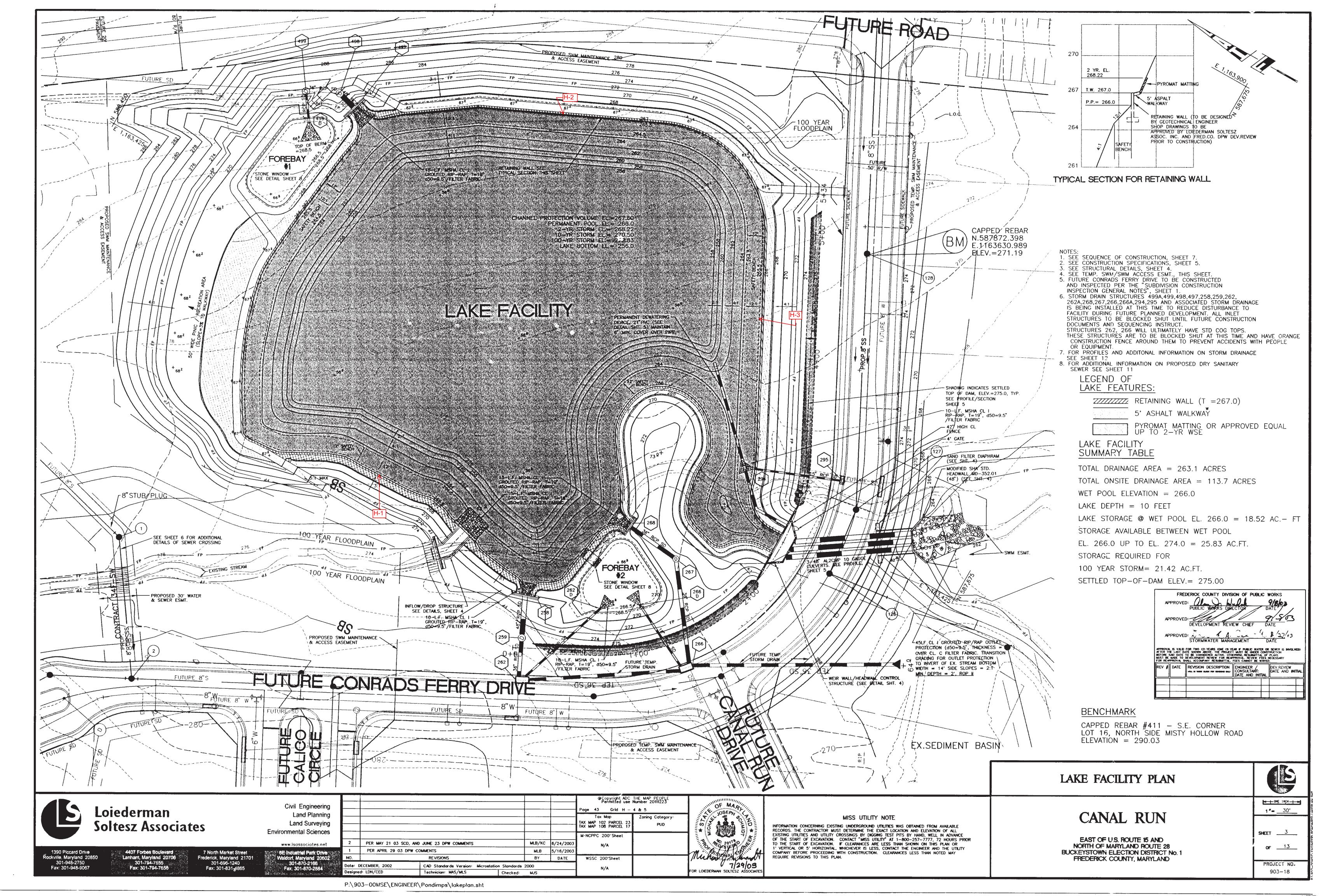
Photograph 2: View of sinkhole between the pool and retaining wall.



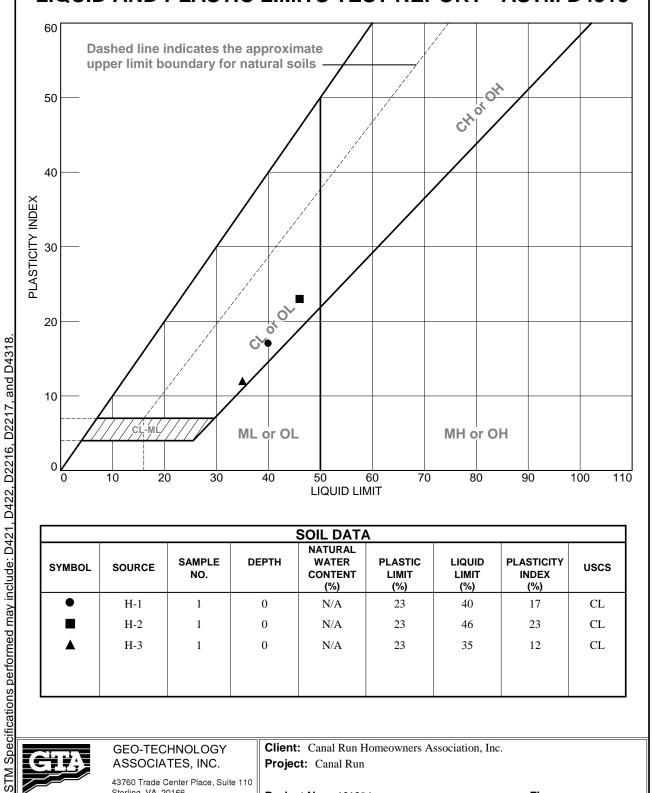


Photograph 3: View of the sinkhole location (with a stick).





LIQUID AND PLASTIC LIMITS TEST REPORT - ASTM D4318



	SOIL DATA								
SYMBOL	SOURCE	SAMPLE NO.	DEPTH	NATURAL WATER CONTENT (%)	PLASTIC LIMIT (%)	LIQUID LIMIT (%)	PLASTICITY INDEX (%)	uscs	
•	H-1	1	0	N/A	23	40	17	CL	
	H-2	1	0	N/A	23	46	23	CL	
A	H-3	1	0	N/A	23	35	12	CL	



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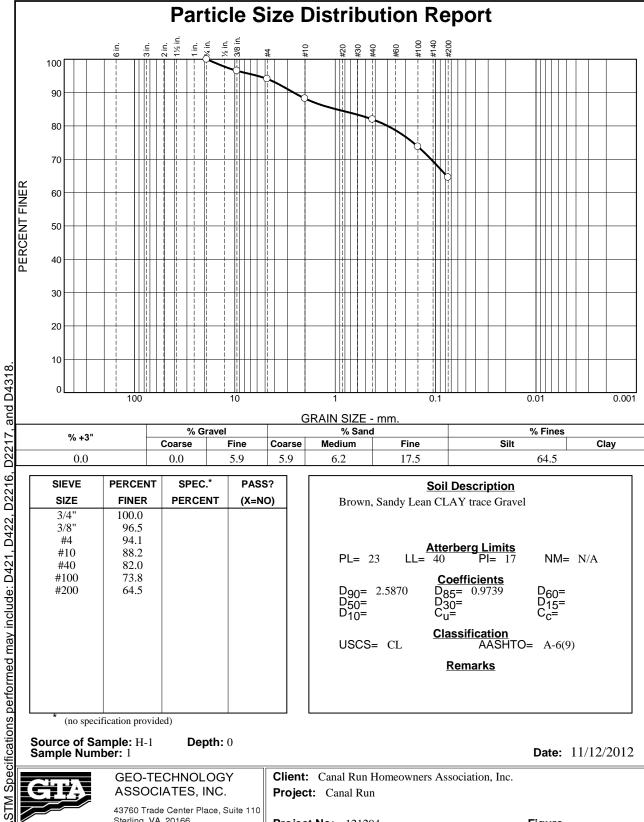
43760 Trade Center Place, Suite 110 Sterling, VA 20166

Client: Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc.

Project: Canal Run

Figure **Project No.:** 121294

Tested By: DV Checked By: AR



OTO WIT OILL THINK								
9/ .2"	% Gı	ravel	% Sand			% Fines		
% +3"	Coarse	Fine	Coarse	Medium	Fine	Silt	Clay	
0.0	0.0	5.9	5.9	6.2	17.5	64.5		

SIEVE	PERCENT	SPEC.*	PASS?
SIZE	FINER	PERCENT	(X=NO)
3/4"	100.0		
3/8"	96.5		
#4	94.1		
#10	88.2		
#40	82.0		
#100	73.8		
#200	64.5		

Soil Description Brown, Sandy Lean CLAY trace Gravel						
PL= 23 LL	Atterberg Limits = 40 Pl= 1	<u>s</u> 7 NM= N/A				
D ₉₀ = 2.5870 D ₅₀ = D ₁₀ =	Coefficients D ₈₅ = 0.9739 D ₃₀ = C _u =	D ₆₀ = D ₁₅ = C _c =				
USCS= CL	Classification AASH	TO= A-6(9)				
	<u>Remarks</u>					

Date: 11/12/2012

(no specification provided)

Source of Sample: H-1 Sample Number: 1 Depth: 0

Client: Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc.

Project: Canal Run

Figure Project No: 121294

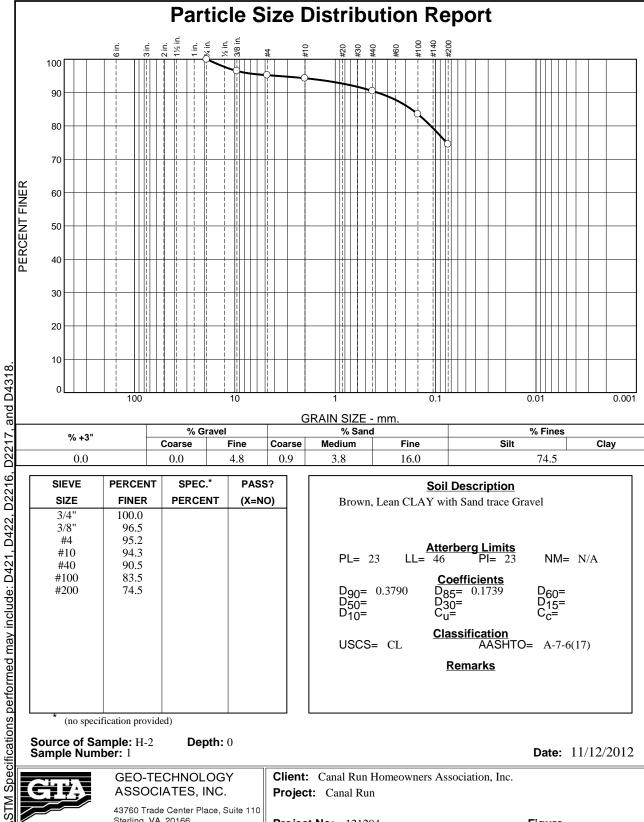
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Sterling, VA 20166

Tested By: DV

Checked By: AR



OTA III OIZE IIIII.								
% +3"	% G	ravel		% Sand	k	% Fines		
% +3	Coarse	Fine	Coarse	Medium	Fine	Silt	Clay	
0.0	0.0	4.8	0.9	3.8	16.0	74.5		

SIEVE	PERCENT	SPEC.*	PASS?
SIZE	FINER	PERCENT	(X=NO)
3/4"	100.0		
3/8"	96.5		
#4	95.2		
#10	94.3		
#40	90.5		
#100	83.5		
#200	74.5		

Soil Description Brown, Lean CLAY with Sand trace Gravel						
PL= 23 LL:	Atterberg Limits 46 Pl= 23	NM= N/A				
D ₉₀ = 0.3790 D ₅₀ = D ₁₀ =	Coefficients D ₈₅ = 0.1739 D ₃₀ = C _u =	D ₆₀ = D ₁₅ = C _c =				
USCS= CL	Classification AASHT	O= A-7-6(17)				
	<u>Remarks</u>					

Date: 11/12/2012

(no specification provided)

Source of Sample: H-2 **Sample Number:** 1 Depth: 0

Client: Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc.

Project: Canal Run

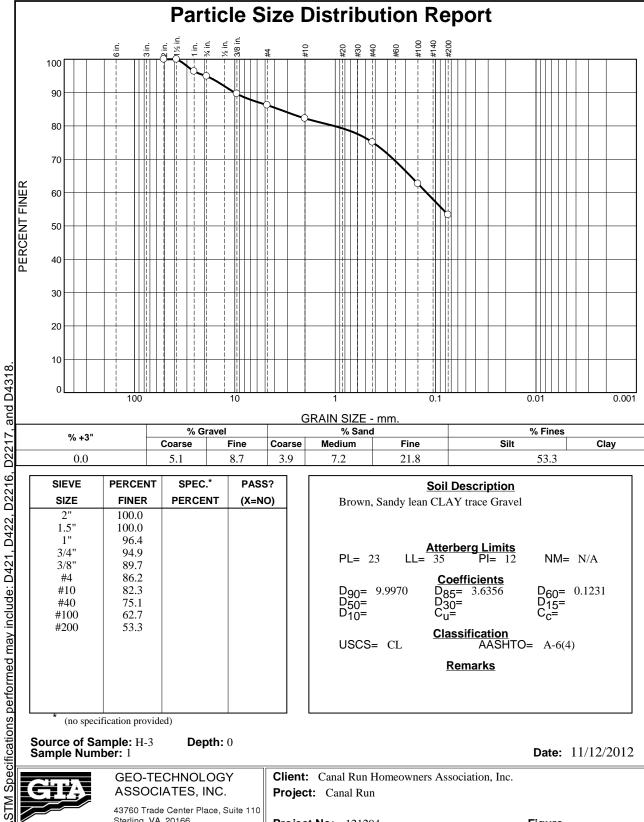
Figure Project No: 121294



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Tested By: DV Checked By: AR



ı	GRAIN SIZE - IIIII.								
ł	9/ .2"	% G	ravel	% Sand % Fines					
% +3"	Coarse	Fine	Coarse	Medium	Fine	Silt	Clay		
ı	0.0	5.1	8.7	3.9	7.2	21.8	53.3		

SIEVE	PERCENT	SPEC.*	PASS?
SIZE	FINER	PERCENT	(X=NO)
2"	100.0		
1.5"	100.0		
1"	96.4		
3/4"	94.9		
3/8"	89.7		
#4	86.2		
#10	82.3		
#40	75.1		
#100	62.7		
#200	53.3		

Soil Description Brown, Sandy lean CLAY trace Gravel						
PL= 23 LL:	Atterberg Limits 35 Pl= 12	5 2 NM= N/A				
D ₉₀ = 9.9970 D ₅₀ = D ₁₀ =	Coefficients D ₈₅ = 3.6356 D ₃₀ = C _u =	D ₆₀ = 0.1231 D ₁₅ = C _c =				
USCS= CL	Classification AASH	ΓO= A-6(4)				
	<u>Remarks</u>					

(no specification provided)

Source of Sample: H-3 **Sample Number:** 1

Depth: 0

Date: 11/12/2012



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Sterling, VA 20166

Client: Canal Run Homeowners Association, Inc.

Project: Canal Run

Figure Project No: 121294

Tested By: DV Checked By: AR