



**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENGINEERS:**  
**How to specify a Faircloth Skimmer® surface drain**

1. The Faircloth Skimmer® surface drain is sized by the maximum size of the **inlet** or **orifice** where water enters the skimmer. We make 8 different sizes ranging from 1-1/2” to 8”. (NOTE: Always use the manufacturer’s sizing guidelines – orifice size is not the only factor in dewatering time.)
2. The skimmer can be **customized** by the user to reduce the flow rate to the desired dewatering time by reducing the size of the **orifice**. Each *Faircloth Skimmer®* includes a *plug* and *adjustable cutter* for making the orifice (hole) smaller than the inlet diameter to customize the flow rate for the particular basin in which the skimmer will be used.
3. Skimmer sizing instructions and a sizing calculator are available at <http://fairclothskimmer.com/skimmer-sizing>. If you choose to manually calculate the size please be sure to specify the diameter not just the radius. Plans should include both the **SKIMMER SIZE** and the **ORIFICE DIAMETER SIZE**.

**EXAMPLE:**

Basin/Trap	Volume (Cu. Ft)	Dewater time (Days)	Skimmer Size	Orifice Size
A	38,578	3 days	4”	3.2”
B	112,482	3 days	6”	5.1”

4. The **head** on the Faircloth Skimmer® refers to the depth of the center of the orifice below the surface of the water. The head on our skimmers allows a nearly constant flow rate as the basin fills and drains.
5. The **barrel or arm** of the Faircloth Skimmer® is **smaller** than the maximum orifice size of the skimmer to reduce the buoyancy when the pipe is less than full. This buoyancy would tend to lift the inlet causing it to float upward and could reduce flow through the skimmer. The arm is vented (see cut sheets) to allow the **orifice size** to control the flow rate. Many generic sketches or details of skimmers appear to use a barrel the same size as the inlet, but these do not accurately show features of the Faircloth Skimmer®. Please refer to the cut sheets and FAQ at [www.FairclothSkimmer.com](http://www.FairclothSkimmer.com) .
6. **CAD drawings** for use in plans are available at <http://fairclothskimmer.com/cad-drawings>.

**Extensive information on the Faircloth Skimmer®** including a sizing template, cut sheets, installation instructions, and FAQ’s is available at [www.FairclothSkimmer.com](http://www.FairclothSkimmer.com).

**Questions? Call (919) 732-1244**

