Gravity (SRW) segmental retaining wall systems are structures lower in height that use the MagnumStone unit weight combined with gravel core infill to resist earth pressures behind and on top of the wall. The 2"/unit (4.5 degree or 1"/vertical foot) batter or setback of the MagnumStone wall along with proper soil conditions below and behind the wall provide the stability of the structure. For walls 4.0ft (1.2m) and taller a qualified engineer should be consulted.

A force to be reckoned with…
STEP 1  
PLANNING
- Mark the bottom and top of the wall excavation location with spray paint or stakes
- Establish proper elevation bottom and top of wall before excavating
- **Organic Materials** should not be used in **Reinforced Backfill Zone**
- Store and protect **Reinforced Backfill Materials** from inclement weather during construction

STEP 2  
EXCAVATION
- Excavate and prepare **Sub Base Leveling Trench** 6” below first course
- **Leveling Pad Trench** is approximately 3.5’ to 4’ wide
- Normal wall **Burial Depth** or **Embedment Depth** is 6” to 12”
- Excavate cut line to a 2 to 1 slope or greater
- Back of wall excavation depth into the bank should be 12” beyond the back of the **Sub Base Leveling Trench**

STEP 3  
SUB BASE COMPACTION
- Compact **Sub Base** to 95% **Standard Proctor Density** or greater
- Remove any **Organic** or poor soils in the **Sub Base** and replace with proper **Reinforced Fill Materials** before compacting
Gravity Wall

STEP 4
BASE STABILIZATION

- (Optional) place 5’ to 6’ wide Base Stabilization Fabric on top of leveling pad trench
- Base Stabilization Fabrics will help prevent sub base materials from mixing with the gravel base leveling pad during compaction
- Fabric also provides extra Structural Bearing Stability to the base leveling pad

STEP 5
ROUGH LEVELING PAD

- Place well graded gravel on top of fabric in the leveling pad trench approximately 6” deep
- Rough grade gravel with a rake close to finish base elevation

STEP 6
COMPACT LEVELING PAD

- Compact Gravel Leveling Pad to 95% Standard Proctor Density or greater
- Correct Moisture Content in the gravel will help in reaching proper compaction
> > > STEP 7
LEVEL SCREED PIPES

- Place first 4’ long Screed Pipe across the trench at one end of the wall or at the lowest elevation
- Scratch a trench for the pipe in the compacted gravel with a chipping hammer
- Use a 2’ level or Laser Level to set the Screed Pipe to the proper level
- Gravel is added underneath and around the Screed Pipe to support while leveling
- Place the second Screed Pipe across the trench approximately 9’ from the first Screed Pipe
- Level the second Screed Pipe to the same elevation as the first Screed Pipe by using a 4’ level on top of a Screed Board, Straight Edge or with a Laser Level
- Continue to place and level Screed Pipes the full length of the trench leveling pad or until reaching a base elevation change

> > > STEP 8
EXTRA GRAVEL

- Place or remove extra Well Graded Gravel level to the top of the Screed Pipes as needed
  - (If more than 1 ½ inches of loose gravel is added, repeat the compaction steps again before screeding)

> > > STEP 9
SCREEDING LEVELING PAD

- Screed the gravel leveling pad with a Screed Board or Straight Edge across the trench on top of two Screed Pipes
  - The coarser the gravel the more back and forth the screening action when drawing the Screed across the leveling pad
  - Too much pressure on the screed straight edge may dislodge the level of the screed pipes while screeding
  - A second screed pass may be needed to insure an accurate level has been achieved
  - Continue to screed the leveling pad until completing the full length of the trench or up to the first elevation change
Gravity Wall

> > > STEP 10
REMOVED SECURELUGS
- MagnumStone™ base units, placed on the leveling pad, are manufactured without SecureLugs
- Place each unit on top of the leveling pad in such a way as not to disturb the level gravel

> > > STEP 11
LAY FIRST COURSE
- Remove the Screed Pipes from the leveling pad
- Place a steel stake at either end of the leveling pad to establish the back of the first course of units
- Secure tightly a string line to the stakes at either end which will provide the guide to line up the back of each MagnumStone™ base unit
- The distance of the string line between the steel stakes may vary due to heavy winds

> > > STEP 12
IMPERMEABLE FILL
- Backfill behind, in front (toe of wall) and in the hollow cores of the units with Impermeable Materials up to the desired level of the Perforated Drain Pipe
- Compact the impermeable materials behind, in front and in the hollow cores of the units
**Gravity Wall**

> > > STEP 13  
**DRAIN PIPE OUTLET**

- **Perforated Drain Pipe** should have adequate slope to drain water in the right direction towards each **Drain Pipe Outlet**
- **Drain Pipe Outlet** can be every 30 or 50 feet
- **Perforated Drain Pipe**, laid in the **Horizontal Cores**, can be a **Sock Wrapped** system to help prevent fines from migrating into the pipe

> > > STEP 14  
**BACKFILL**

- Place and compact **Backfill Materials** in maximum **Lifts** of 8"
- **Lifts** may be less than 8" depending on the type of soil or size of equipment
- Each **Lift** should be compacted to 95% **Standard Proctor** or greater
- The correct **Moisture Content** in the **Backfill Materials** will help in reaching proper **Compaction Density**
**Gravity Wall**

> > > STEP 15
**DRAINAGE GRAVEL**

- Clear Crush Drain Gravel is placed in the vertical and horizontal hollow cores after placing and compaction of the backfill materials.

- The Clear Crush Drain Gravel should be 2” below the top of units to allow for SecureLug connection.

- Clear Crush Drain Gravel does not need to be compacted.

- Sweep the top of the MagnumStone™ units clean of all rock and dirt before placing second course of MagnumStone™ units.

- Make sure the Backfill Materials directly behind the wall are placed flush to the top of the units.

- Make sure the Backfill Materials are well compacted and level as possible.

> > > STEP 16
**CONTINUE INSTALLATION**

- Continue to install each course of units following the same steps as above.

- Install and compact Backfill Materials in 8” Lifts until wall is complete.
> > > STEP 17
TOP OF WALL UNITS

- Complete the top of the wall with MagnumStone™ Top Units
- MagnumStone™ Top Units are manufactured with the back panel 8” lower than the front face panel
- The Clear Crush Drain Gravel and backfill materials will be placed flush to the top of lowered back panel. There are times when more than 8” of top soils may be required

> > > STEP 18
SOIL SEPARATION FABRIC

- Place a 6 ft wide Soil Separating Filter Fabric on top of the backfill and drainage gravel and against the back of the last units before placing the planting soils
- The fabric will prevent planting soil fines from staining the face of the wall and migrating into the Clear Crush Drain Gravel (Angular Aggregate free of fines)

> > > STEP 19
FINAL GRADING

- Insure that final grading is done on top and bottom of the wall
- Make sure to protect newly placed planting soil from erosion during heavy rains or surface runoff