

Dam 104 comprises a relatively fixed part including a pair of parallel, somewhat sector-shaped side plates 106 rigidly joined by a channel member 108. The side plates 106 have normally lower circularly curved edges 110 and slightly V-shaped normally upper edges 112. The channel member 108 has a web 114 which seats on and conforms to the V-shape of the upper edges 112 of the side plates 106 and depending flanges 116 along the edges of the web which overlap and are welded or otherwise rigidly joined to the upper edge portions of the side plate.

At the inner confronting sides of the dam side plates 106 are elongate angle members 118 which have an L-shape in transverse cross-section and extend along the full lengths of the circular side plate edges 110. One flange 120 of each angle member seats against and is welded or otherwise rigidly secured to the inner surface of its dam side plate 106 with the longitudinal edge of the flange flush with the respective arcuate plate edge 110. The other flanges 122 of the angle members 118 are cylindrically curved about the axis of curvature of the arcuate side plate edges 110 and open toward one another in coplanar relation.

Between and coextensive with the angle members 118 is an elongate, generally flat inflatable seal 124 having laterally opening grooves 126 along its longitudinal edges which receive the angle member flanges 122. The seal has an outer surface which is substantially flush with the circularly curved edges 110 of the dam side plates 106 and those of the angle member flanges 120 and is inflatable through an inflation tube 128 at one end of the seal to expand the seal outwardly beyond these edges.

The dam side plates 106 have generally centrally located coaxially aligned circular holes 130. Bolted to the outer sides of the plates 106 coaxially with the holes 130 are annular collars 132 and intervening annular gaskets 134 which seal the collars to the plates. The collars 132 and the gaskets 134 have circular openings coaxially aligned with the side plate holes 130, and these holes and openings are sized to snugly but removably receive the sample collection tank 36 of the liquid sampling device 18. Extending over and firmly fixed to the collars 132 are inverted generally U-shaped anchor straps 136 having lower out-turned ends 138.

The supporting base clamp 105 of the dry season sampler 100 includes a circularly curved clamp band 86 having normally upper free ends joined by a turnbuckle 88. The clamp band has a radius of curvature approximating that of the pipe 14 in which the sampler 100 is to be placed and is expandable by extension of the turnbuckle 88 to secure the clamp 105 in a fixed position within the pipe. On the inner side of the clamp band 86 below the upper gap in the band and the turnbuckle 88 are clips 92. In the dry season sampler, the out-turned ends 138 of the anchor straps 136 engage under these clips, as shown in FIG. 9, to releasably secure the dam 104 to the clamp 64.

Except as explained below, the dry season water sampler 100 is installed in the storm drain pipe 14 and is used to collect samples of water flowing through the pipe all in the same way as described earlier in connection with the wet season sampler 10. The only differences between the installation and sample collection procedures of the dry season sampler and those of the wet season sampler are as follows. The wet season sampler 100 is inserted into the pipe 14 with its seal 124 deflated. The sampler 100 is placed in the pipe with its dam 104 situated within the lower portion of the pipe and with its inlet means 22 situated upstream of the dam relative to the direction of flow through the pipe. After the

sampler 100 is properly placed in the pipe, the turnbuckle 88 of its supporting base clamp 64 is extended to expand the clamp band 86 outwardly against the wall of the pipe and thereby firmly secure the clamp band to the pipe. The seal 124 of the sampler 100 is then inflated through its inflation tube 128 to expand the seal outwardly against the clamp band 86 and thereby both secure and seal the dam 104 to the firmly anchored clamp band about the normally lower arcuate side of the dam.

The dam 104 of the sampler 100 blocks water flow through the drain pipe 14 until the water level behind the dam rises to the height of the dam after which the water overflows the dam as long as sufficient water flow through the pipe continues. The dam will then maintain a relatively constant water level behind the dam so long as sufficient water flow through the pipe continues. The water sampler 100 is constructed in such a way that the upper inlet of the inlet passage 24 to its sample collection chamber 26 is located at a slightly lower level than the upper side or edge of the dam 104, that is at a slightly lower level than the upper channel web 114 of the dam so that the water level behind the dam will reach the level of the inlet before the water overflows the dam. The water sampler 100 remains in its normal state with its inlet valve means 28 closed to seal the device against the entrance of dirt and other foreign matter into its sample collection chamber 26 until the water level behind the dam rises to the level of the inlet. The inlet valve means then opens to admit water into the collection chamber until the chamber is filled, whereupon the inlet valve means recloses to seal the chamber. The water sampler 100 is then removed from the pipe 14 and its collected sample is sent to a laboratory for analysis.

The clips 92 in the pipe 14 permit the wet season sampler and the dry season sampler to be easily interchanged for use of each during its respective sampling season. This interchange is accomplished by disengaging the sampler currently in the pipe from the pipe clips 92, engaging the other sampler with these clips, and deflating or inflating the seal 124 of the wet season sampler to remove or install this sampler, as the case may be. It is important to note here that the vent tube 61a of each sampler permits all of the air to be pushed from its collection chamber 26 during collection of a sample. This is important when testing for the presence of volatile components, such as volatile organic carbons, in a collected sample because accurate test results then requires that no air remain in the filled collection chamber, i.e. that the filled chamber have zero head space.

The inventor claims:

1. In combination:

a liquid receiver having an interior liquid receiving space bounded by a wall,

a liquid sampling apparatus disposed in a sampling position within said space,

mounting means releasably securing said sampling apparatus to said wall to retain said apparatus in said sampling position within said space, and wherein

said liquid sampling apparatus comprises inlet means including a liquid inlet opening to said liquid receiving space, and a sample collection chamber connected to said inlet means for receiving liquid entering through said inlet, and

said mounting means is releasable to permit removal of said sampling apparatus from said liquid receiver for retrieving a liquid sample from the apparatus.

2. The combination according to claim 1 wherein:

said liquid receiver is a liquid conduit having a passage which constitutes said liquid receiving space and through which a liquid may flow,