

## Trench Thermal Collector Pipework Distribution

To achieve optimum levels of heat absorption the following rules should be observed for thermal collector pipes lay in trenches:

- Lay pipes at a minimum depth of 1200mm; 1450mm is the ideal depth to account for sand fill.
- Pipework must sit on 100mm of sand with 150mm minimum cover above the top of the pipe. Marker identification tape must be laid above the pipe.
- Minimum trench width should be 600mm; 900mm is preferred width as the looped pipes should be 600mm apart.
- Space trenches 1000mm apart. More distance is better.
- Pipe loop length should not exceed 100 metres, that is, a 50 metre long trench. This can be increased if larger diameter pipe is used.
- Trenches should be a minimum of 1000mm clear of all buildings (obviously the circuit will need to extend to the property).
- The last 1000mm of pipe up to the property must be thermally insulated.
- All pipes crossing water mains or drains must be thermally insulated 1000mm on each side of the crossing point.

*The web article relating to this subject can be found here:*

[http://www.homemicro.co.uk/lzc\\_gshp-pipe.html](http://www.homemicro.co.uk/lzc_gshp-pipe.html)

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