A culvert should be installed in such a way that the bottom of the structure is at least 6 inches below the streambed to allow for fish passage and to mimic the natural stream bed.

Implement comprehensive and effective sediment and erosion control measures to the greatest extent possible during installation so that rip rap and other fill material do not impede the flow of water from the entrance and exit of the culvert.
Installing a culvert above the existing streambed creates a serious barrier to fish and wildlife movement. When the culvert is higher than the surrounding streambed it is often referred to as “perched”.
COUNTIES with Topeka Shiner Habitats

For counties known to contain Topeka Shiner stream (see county list), construction activities should be done in the dry or consultation with FEMA environmental should be initiated prior to construction.

Aurora
Beadle
Bon Homme
Brookings
Clark
Codington
Davison
Deuel
Douglas
Grant
Hamlin
Hanson
Hutchinson
Jerauld
Kingsbury
Lake
Lincoln
McCook
Miner
Minnehaha
Moody
Sanborn
Spink
Turner
Union
Yankton