FIELD GUIDE FOR

Stormwater Best Management Practices at Construction Sites

OMAHA STORMWATER PROGRAM

OmahaStormwater.org

Introduction

Welcome to the Field Guide for Stormwater Best Management Practices at Construction Sites, a resource to improve the use and maintenance of sediment and erosion controls. This guide is based on Chapter 9 of the Omaha Regional Stormwater Design Manual (ORSDM), which provides additional information above what is provided here. The ORSDM is utilized by the communities in the Papillion Creek Watershed Partnership (PCWP) including Omaha, Bellevue, Boys Town, Gretna, Papillion, Ralston, Sarpy County, and the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resource District. If your construction site is greater than 1 acre, then you must obtain a Grading Permit in these communities. If less than 1 acre, then no permit is needed but the site is still expected to implement BMPs to minimize pollution leaving the site. That said, the information in this guide is useful to all construction sites for protecting water quality.

Uncontrolled stormwater runoff from construction sites carry soil and other pollutants downstream, which can negatively impact adjacent property and the surface water quality of rivers and lakes. Sediment deposited from construction site runoff can:

- Reduce the amount of sunlight reaching aquatic plants and animals
- Clog fish gills
- Smother aquatic habitat and spawning areas
- Impede navigation
- Damage adjacent property
- Clog sewers
- Cause localized flooding
- Fill in ponds and lakes

The guide describes sediment and erosion controls, details on how to use and maintain them, and pictures to help gain a better understanding of what these practices look like in the field. Please visit the websites below for more information, thank you!

OmahaStormwater.org
PapioPartnerships.org
OmahaPermix.com

Preserving Natural Vegetation

PURPOSE:

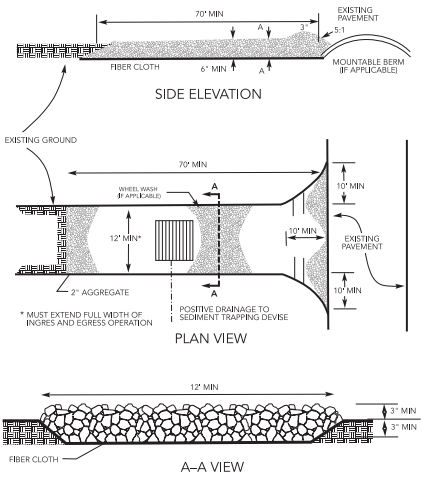
to preserve preexisting vegetative areas to reduce erosion potential

The best and easiest way to minimize erosion is to not disturb natural vegetation in the first place. Natural vegetation filters stormwater runoff reducing runoff volumes and velocities and improves water quality. Before you begin any land-disturbing activity, identify well-established existing vegetated areas and determine what you can preserve. The smaller the area of disturbance, the smaller the potential for erosion.

These preserved, naturally vegetated areas will help reduce the effects of construction on adjacent streams, lakes, wetlands, sensitive areas, adjacent properties, trees to be preserved and other connected areas.

TIPS:

- Mark off the vegetated areas to preserve before construction begins.
- Limit disturbed areas to only those necessary for construction of the project.
- Protect these areas as needed with construction barrier fence, silt fence and/or wattles.
- Educate equipment operators on the location of these preserved vegetated areas to avoid/protect before and during construction.
- Use signs to warn vehicular traffic to avoid preserved areas.
- Do not use these areas for storing construction materials.



Stabilized Construction Entrance

PURPOSE:

to reduce or eliminate the tracking of sediment onto public right-of-way, streets or anywhere else off the construction site

A stabilized construction entrance reduces or eliminates mud and sediment track-out from the site. It's required where traffic leaves a construction site and moves directly onto a paved area. A stabilized construction entrance can be made of:

- Crushed rock, 2-3"
- Reclaimed or recycled concrete, 2-3"
- Temporary access pads
- Articulated blocks
- Mats
- Steel plates

If the majority of a vehicle's mud is not removed after traveling over the stabilized surface, wash the tires before it enters the public road. Locate wheel wash areas adjacent to or within the stabilized construction entrance, and consider equipping them with rumble strips to increase agitation. Wheel wash water should be changed a minimum of once per day and should not contain any soaps or solvents.

Maintenance is critical to have a functional construction entrance as mud and dirt can accumulate rapidly with an active construction site.

TIPS:

- Add more aggregate or rework the existing aggregate as necessary.
- Inspect the adjacent roads daily at a minimum and remove any sediment deposits within 24 hours.
- Ensure all site access is at the entrances and not in areas not stabilized where track-out can easily occur.
- Inspect roadside ditches and other drainage structures regularly to ensure they don't become clogged with silt or other debris.
- Check seeded areas adjacent to roads periodically to ensure that a vigorous stand of vegetation is maintained.
- Be prepared to provide adequate dust control in heavy traffic areas to prevent traffic safety problems as well as nuisance issues.

NOTE:

The use of water trucks to remove any materials that are dropped, washed or tracked onto roadways is not permitted under any circumstances.

Silt Fence

PURPOSE:

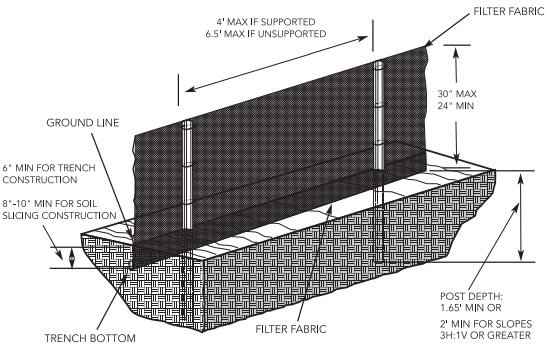
to slow water down and capture sediment from disturbed areas before leaving the site

A properly placed and installed silt fence can be an effective temporary sediment control option. Install silt fence before construction begins and after you identify the direction of water flow.

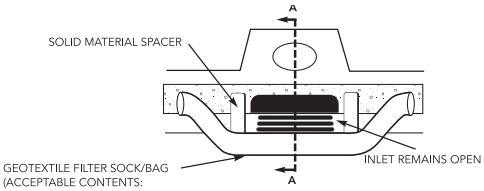
Flow patterns may change as a construction project progresses, so reevaluate the effectiveness of your silt fences and move them accordingly. Inspect them immediately after each rainfall and at least daily during a prolonged rainfall. Make necessary repairs immediately. Remove sediment deposits when the level reaches approximately half the height of the fence.

TIPS:

- Don't cut corners, ensure the silt fence is properly trenched in and secured to the posts.
- Bury the bottom of the silt fence fabric in a "J" configuration to a minimum depth of 6 inches and compact the soil above it.
- Proper post spacing is important (6.5 feet or less between posts).
- Place posts on the downstream side of the silt fence.
- Whenever possible, run silt fence parallel with a slope, this will minimize runoff from being directed to one section and overwhelming it.
- On the end of a run, recommend returning it back into the slope, creating a "J-hook" that minimizes runoff from going around the end of the silt fence.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW



PERSPECTIVE VIEW

Storm Drain Inlet Protection

PURPOSE:

to prevent sediment from entering storm drainage systems prior to the permanent stabilization of the disturbed area

Before you begin your project, think about how you plan to prevent sediment from entering storm drain inlets while ensuring that water can enter them. Storm drain inlet protection measures hold back and slow down runoff before it enters a storm drain, allowing sediment to settle out.

Common methods include installing filter socks around the inlet or creating an impounded area around or upstream of a storm drain, drop inlet or curb inlet. In each case, proper installation and maintenance is the key to effectiveness.

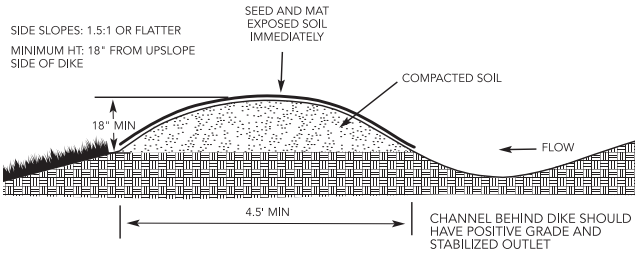
Install inlet protection as soon as storm drain inlets are constructed. For existing inlets, install protection before any land-disturbance activities begin.

TIPS:

- Inlet protection must have a bypass or overflow opening to allow the inlet to receive water and avoid flooding adjacent areas.
- Check inlet protection during and after rain events to make sure they are functioning properly.
- Clean up and dispose of accumulated sediment before the next rain event to ensure it's working properly.
- Sweep streets, sidewalks and other paved areas regularly to help extend the life of it.

NOTE:

Inlet protection is not a substitute for perimeter sediment controls and is strictly a last line of defense for water quality. Inlet protection structures should only be removed after the remaining drainage area is properly stabilized.



Temporary Diversion Dike

PURPOSE:

to intercept and divert runoff from disturbed areas of a site to another BMP to be managed

A temporary diversion dike is typically constructed of compacted soils and sized to handle the flow from the contributing area. BMPs that are commonly used with diversion dikes include sediment traps and basins.

TIPS:

- Once you install a temporary diversion dike, immediately stabilize it with appropriate vegetation.
- The diversion dike should be installed prior to construction activities and in a way that won't be damaged by operations.
- Stabilize the channel behind the dike as needed to avoid erosion.
- The outlet for the dike and any other associated BMP must have a stabilized outlet or channel.
- Routine inspection and maintenance are necessary to ensure longevity of the structure.

Check Dams

PURPOSE:

to reduce the velocity of concentrated stormwater flows, reducing erosion of the swale or ditch

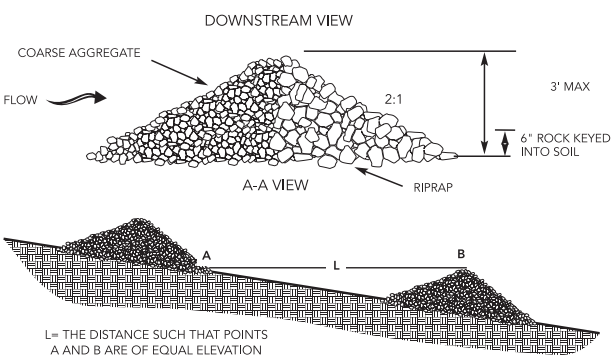
Check dams trap sediment from adjacent areas or the ditch itself by ponding the stormwater runoff. They also can be used to distribute flows across a swale and guide flows safely through the site.

TIPS:

- Use for drainage areas 10 acres or less; always size check dams for the size of the contributing area.
- Use proper materials and products for the amount of flow anticipated to avoid failure.
- Inspect after rain events for breaches, bypasses, and any other repairs that may be needed.
- Stabilize between check dams as needed to avoid erosion.
- Center of the dam needs to be 6 inches lower than the sides. The sides should also extend above the flow line to avoid flow around the edges.
- Spacing of check dams should be such that the toe of the upstream dam is at the same elevation as the top of the downstream dam.
- Proprietary or modified check dams may be used on a case-by-case basis.

NOTE:

Check dams are not a substitute for perimeter trapping measures such as sediment traps or sediment basins.



Temporary Sediment Basin

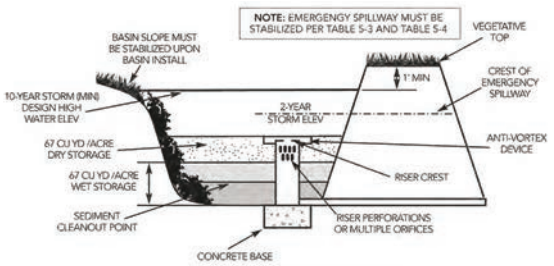
PURPOSE:

to detain runoff in a storage area with a controlled release structure that allows sediment to settle out and cleaner water near the surface to discharge slowly from the basin

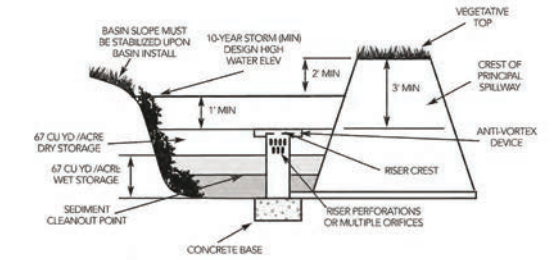
The pond has a riser and pipe outlet with a gravel outlet or spillway to slow the release of runoff and provide some sediment filtration. The temporary sediment basin's riser and outlet pipe are designed by a professional engineer to meet the criteria described in 9.5.15 of the ORSDM. The riser structure for the basin will have holes on it to dewater the basin from the surface. Halfway below those holes is a clearly defined, clean-out line that once sediment reaches that level, needs to be removed back to the basin's original depth.

TIPS:

- Make sure the clean-out line is clearly defined on the riser pipe.
- There should never be holes at the bottom of the riser that allow sediment to easily discharge from the site.
- Side slopes of the basin should be fully vegetated.
- Repair rills and gullies on side slopes and outfalls into the basin.
- If the basin will be converted to a permanent feature after construction is complete, make sure it is properly cleaned and protected as needed.



DESIGN ELEVATION WITH EMERGENCY SPILLWAY



DESIGN ELEVATION WITHOUT EMERGENCY SPILLWAY

Temporary Sediment Trap

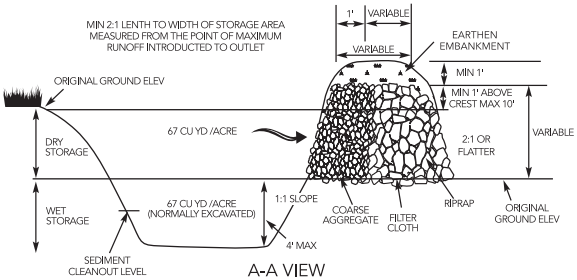
PURPOSE:

to detain sediment-laden runoff from small disturbed areas long enough to allow sediment to settle out before discharging through a stabilized outlet

Sediment traps are used for managing runoff from contributing areas of **3 acres or less.** They rely on a stabilized outlet within the embankment of the trap to allow excess flows to safely discharge from the basin.

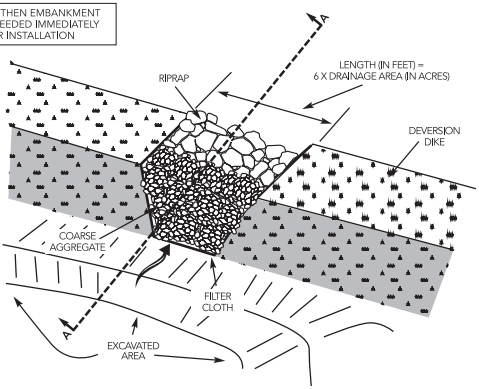
TIPS:

- All slopes of the trap shall be 2:1 or flatter, except for the wet storage area which may be no greater than 1:1.
- Remove sediment when it reaches half of the trap's capacity.
- Regularly check the stabilized aggregate outlet for sediment accumulation and proper function.
- Keep the center elevation 1 foot lower than the top of embankment.
- Stabilize discharge points from the trap as needed to avoid erosion downstream.
- Sediment traps can be removed after contributing drainage area is stabilized.



A-A VIEW

NOTE: EARTHEN EMBANKMENT MUST BE SEEDED IMMEDIATELY AFTER INSTALLATION



PERSPECTIVE VIEW

Dust Control

PURPOSE:

to prevent dust from all activities associated with a construction project that may create health hazards, traffic safety problems and harm for the surrounding environment

Dust commonly occurs on areas that have no vegetative cover, haul roads, concrete cutting, or any number of other site-specific activities. Common dust control methods include:

- Temporary or permanent vegetation
- Mulch
- Hydromulches
- Irrigation
- Barriers (i.e. fence)
- Slower vehicle speeds
- Avoid work in high winds
- Street sweeping

TIPS:

- Water is the most common and useful for controlling dust on haul roads and other traffic routes.
- For disturbed areas not subject to traffic, temporary and permanent vegetation is the most efficient and practical method.
- When properly applied, mulch offers a fast, effective means of controlling dust.
- Stabilizing construction haul roads with stone or other material is effective for larger and/or longer projects.
- When sweeping streets, use a wet broom or other method to minimize dust generation.
- Remove swept sediment and other materials from roads to avoid having them be redeposited or damage other adjacent properties.

Temporary Seeding

PURPOSE:

to provide protection to bare soils exposed during construction until permanent vegetation or other erosion prevention measures are established

Temporary seeding should be used in areas on a construction site that have exposed soils and will not have any activity for greater than 14 days. Common areas for temporary seeding include:

- Any bare soil
- Soil stockpiles
- Surcharges
- Slopes
- Inactive lots
- Perimeter of the site

Proper seedbed preparation includes roughening the surface by discing, raking, harrowing or other acceptable means. The surface should be fairly smooth with minimal clods and debris. Commonly used plants for temporary seeding include: Spring Oats (Spring), Annual Rye Grass (Summer), Winter Wheat (Fall).

TIPS:

- Do not perform seedbed preparation if the ground is excessively wet.
- Use with a mulch or erosion control blanket if possible to improve germination.
- Provide irrigation in drought conditions as needed.
- Select seed based on the local conditions and season of installation.
- Temporary seeding often uses annual vegetation, meaning once it dies back, the area will need to be seeded again.
- Use amendments as needed to establish vegetation on poor quality soils.
- Areas that fail to establish vegetative cover should be re-seeded ASAP.

Permanent Seeding

PURPOSE:

to permanently establish perennial vegetation on disturbed areas to minimize erosion.

Established vegetation is the most effective way to minimize sediment loss from a site. Proper seedbed preparation is an important consideration for successful seeding. It is highly recommended to do a soil test to make sure the soil is adequate or if amendments are needed for growing the permanent vegetation. The seedbed should be roughened by discing, raking, harrowing, or other acceptable means. Soil amendments, if needed, can be incorporated at this time. The surface needs to be smooth with clods and debris removed, typically nothing greater than 1".

Don't seed when the ground is frozen, wet or otherwise untillable or when you can't get uniform seed distribution.

TIPS:

- Ensure adequate controls are in place while vegetation is establishing to minimize material leaving the site.
- Irrigation may be needed in times of drought.
- Cool-season dominant seed mixes preferred seeding window is in the spring & fall when soil temperatures are 50-65 degrees.
- Warm-season dominant seed mixes preferred seeding window is late-spring to summer when soil temperatures are above 70 degrees.

Refer to Chapter 9 of the ORSDM for additional details on species specific

Sodding

PURPOSE:

to establish permanent turf immediately on properly prepared soil to prevent erosion

Sodding is the laying of a continuous cover of grass sod on exposed soils. Project specifications dictate what time of year sod should be laid but generally it is best when installed in the Spring and Fall seasons. Locations well suited to sodding include:

- Swales carrying intermittent flow
- Areas around drop inlets or at outfalls
- Residential and commercial lawns where quick use or aesthetics are factors

TIPS:

- Sod should be installed within 24 hours of being delivered.
- For the first 2 weeks, new sod should be watered 1-2 times daily, depending on weather. Irrigate as needed after that based on weather conditions.
- Monitor for erosion under the sod, especially after heavy rain events.
- Do not mow the sod until it's firmly rooted (usually 2 to 3 weeks).
- Offset seams between rolls of sod and ensure it is laid tight against adjacent rolls to avoid erosion and uneven surfaces.
- In swales, lay sod across the direction of flow and secure as needed.

Mulching

PURPOSE:

to prevent erosion by protecting the soil surface from rain and wind and provide protection of seed to promote the establishment of vegetation

Mulching is the application of plant residue or other suitable materials to the soil surface. Common mulching materials include:

- Straw or hay
- Wood cellulose fiber
- Hydraulically applied mulches
- Erosion control blankets
- Wood chips
- Grass

Mulching in conjuction with seeding is recommended as it will hold seeds, amendments, and topsoil in place, retain moisture, and provide insulation against extreme heat and cold.

TIPS:

- Loosen compacted soil to a minimum of 4 inches if using in conjunction with seed.
- Areas of concentrated flow will need additional protection, mulching described here is not adequate for those areas.
- Organic mulches should be used in areas where vegetation is desired.
- Mulch must be anchored immediately and can include blankets, crimping, and hydromulch binders.

Soil Stabilization Blankets and Matting

PURPOSE:

to stabilize soil, protect disturbed soil from erosive forces and/or conserve soil moisture in order to promote the establishment of vegetation

Blankets and matting are commonly used in areas where mulch would have to be anchored and crimping or hydromulch binders are not adequate, such as steep slopes (3:1 or steeper). Other locations include:

- Vegetated channels
- Areas prone to sloughing
- Areas adjacent to sensitive areas such as streams, wetlands, and existing development
- High wind areas

Not all blankets and matting are made the same and can be categorized into two types. Type One blankets are degradable and made of organic materials that promote vegetative growth, protect the soil, and used outside of concentrated flow areas. Type Two blankets are non-degradable, have a thick structure to allow roots to intertwine with, and are used in concentrated flow areas.

TIPS:

- Select blankets based on flow rates, soil characteristics, intended use, and manufacturer's recommendations.
- The blanket must have full contact with the soil surface; remove rocks, clods and other debris before installing.
- Fully anchor the blanket according to the manufacturer, driving the staples flush with the ground.
- Offset joints between blankets to avoid creating a flow path.
- In a channel, lay the blankets parallel with the flow, with the next blanket anchored in, and a 12 inch overlap between the blankets.
- On shallow slopes, run blankets perpendicular to the slope.
- On steep slopes, run blankets parallel to the slope with the upslope end anchored in.
- Repair any soil erosion as soon as possible as they will only get worse with time.
- Erosion control blankets should be avoided where final vegetation will be mowed shortly after establishment because the material and staples can catch in the mowers and can be problematic.

Wattles

PURPOSE:

to provide a temporary erosion and sediment control barrier

Wattles, also known as fiber logs or fiber rolls, are tube-shaped products that are filled with straw, flax, rice, coconut fiber, or other light-weight organic material. They help slow, filter and spread overland flows, helping to catch sediment and reduce erosion. Wattles are not intended to manage large contributing areas of runoff and need very good soil contact to be effective.

Wattles are very effective when installed in combination with mulch, blankets, or hydraulic mulches to stabilize an area.

Wattles can be used to control sediment in a variety of areas, including:

- Smaller areas that may be hard to implement other BMPs
- On the downslope of exposed soil areas
- Around temporary stockpiles
- Along streets and sidewalks
- Long and steep slopes
- Active portions of construction sites where BMPs need to be adjusted frequently

TIPS:

- Wattles must have full contact with the soil surface and be properly staked, otherwise flow will undermine or damage the wattle.
- Wattles will get worn out, replace them when they are no longer effective.
- Inspect wattles periodically and especially following prolonged rain events.
- Wattles should be spaced closer together on steeper slopes and soft soils. Start at base and work uphill.
- Make sure wattles are placed perpendicular to flow and parallel to the slope contour.
- If used in areas of concentrated flow, extend wattles up past the flowline of the channel.

Good Housekeeping

Good Housekeeping

It's important to follow good housekeeping practices at your construction site to reduce the risk of pollution. Follow the golden rule - the less waste you create, the less waste you have to manage.

TIPS:

- Limit the amount of on-site materials and chemicals to necessary quantities only. This reduces the chance of spills, unauthorized discharges from the site, and the accumulation of litter and debris.
- Provide covered containers for trash and daily clean-up of litter and debris.
- Designate areas where materials are stored, and provide secondary containment or covered storage for materials that can be easily carried away by stormwater.
- Label and maintain spill kits, and have them readily available.
- Store materials away from areas of high traffic.
- Educate employees, subcontractors, and suppliers about proper storage and clean up procedures for materials on site.
- Use of signs to properly label storage areas and materials that are on site.

Scheduling

PURPOSE:

to reduce onsite erosion and offsite sedimentation

Be prepared and plan your construction activities so you can avoid conflicts and make the most of your time. Use these tips and recommendations.

TIPS:

- Monitor weather forecasts.
- Avoid grading and soil disturbing activities during typically rainy periods.
- If there is a chance of rain and you're working, be prepared to quickly deploy your sediment and erosion controls before precipitation arrives.
- Plan sequential activities that support re-stabilizing the disturbed areas as soon as possible. (Examples: close current trenching before you begin new trenching, incorporate seeding and vegetation as the work progresses.)
- Keep erosion prevention measures in place year round to protect against unseasonal rainfall, wind and vehicle tracking.
- Periodically verify that work is proceeding according to schedule.

Sanitary Waste Management

PURPOSE:

to reduce the potential for stormwater runoff to move wastes into surface or ground water

TIPS:

- Keep portable toilets away from drainage facilities, watercourses and traffic circulation.
- Place portable toilets on a level surface in a convenient location prior to the beginning of construction.
- Secure portable toilets to prevent them from overturning in high winds.
- Arrange for regular waste collection by a licensed hauler before facilities overflow.
- Inspect portable toilets regularly to ensure there are no issues.
- Educate employees, subcontractors, and suppliers on proper waste storage, disposal, and potential dangers to humans and the environment.

Solid Waste Management

PURPOSE:

to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants from solid or construction waste to stormwater

The less waste you create, the less waste you have to manage. For the waste that is created, make sure to have an adequate number of containers, arrange for regular disposal, and provide training to workers on-site. Solid waste includes:

- Vegetative debris
- Construction and demolition (C&D) waste (rock, concrete, wood and lumber, etc.)
- Scrap or surplus building materials (metals, rubber, plastic, glass pieces, packaging materials and masonry products, etc.)
- Domestic wastes, including food containers (beverage cans, coffee cups, paper bags, plastic wrappers) and cigarettes

TIPS:

- Use watertight and covered containers.
- Pick up around dumpsters immediately.
- Collect site litter more frequently during rainy and windy conditions.
- Do not dispose of toxic liquid wastes in dumpsters, take to appropriate disposal sites.
- Do not overfill containers and regularly dispose of accumulated wastes.

Material Storage and Protection

PURPOSE:

to prevent, reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants from on-site construction materials

Materials on a construction site can vary greatly and their storage can vary too, including stockpiles, on palettes, or in storage containers. It is important to know what materials you have on the site at all times and manage accordingly. Conduct regular inspections, minimize the storing of hazardous materials onsite, and provide your employees and subcontractors with proper training.

TIPS:

- Locate stockpiles a minimum of 50 feet from concentrated flows of stormwater, drainage courses and unprotected inlets.
- Divert flows away and around stockpiles and storage areas.
- Cover stockpiles and storage areas with tarps or other cover and secure them with weights to protect them from rain.
- Protect the toe of stockpiles with a silt fence, wattles or other method.
- Consider using a tacifier or temporary stabilization on large soil stockpiles if they will remain for greater than 14 days.
- Keep an up-to-date inventory of all stored material.
- Keep chemicals stored in secondary containment when not in use and make sure they are properly and clearly labeled.
- Inspect your site's controls frequently and after rain events.

Street Cleaning

PURPOSE:

to remove sediment tracked out onto streets and paved surfaces

Track-out of sediment onto a street or paved surface is a common occurrence at construction sites. Track-out needs to be cleaned up as it occurs, daily at a minimum, otherwise it can accumulate on adjacent property, create excessive dust, and/or discharge into adjacent, unprotected inlets or waterbodies. Clean up of track-out can be done by:

- Shovel
- Wet broom
- Hand broom
- Street cleaner

Preventing track-out with well-maintained construction entrances is the best way to keep paved areas clean.

TIPS:

- Sweepings with materials other than soil should be disposed of properly
- Kick brooms and other dry brooming methods should be avoided.
- Do not sweep up unknown substances or objects that may be hazardous.
- When sediment doesn't include debris, it can be incorporated back into the site.
- Inspect access points daily.
- During wet conditions, cleaning may be needed several times a day.

NOTE:

Don't place a stockpile in a drainage way or directly uphill from storm drain inlets or nearby bodies of water.

Dewatering

Excavations and low areas on a construction site may need to have stormwater pumped out if it rains during construction. Pumping this water out with a lot of sediment or other pollution and discharging it into the street or somewhere else off the site is considered an illicit discharge and fines can be assessed. This flow can clog downstream storm sewers, accumulate on adjacent properties, and degrade nearby waterbodies.

Consider the following when dewatering:

- Use a dewatering bag or similar device to filter the stormwater.
- Spread the water out over a large vegetated area to allow it to infiltrate.
- Pump into a container to allow sediment to settle out or be hauled away.
- You cannot pump anything into the sanitary sewer.
- If the water is clear and clean, you may be able to obtain a permit to discharge the water into a city sewer. Consult your local jurisdiction for more information.

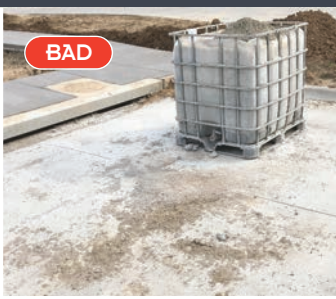
You must obtain a permit from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) any time you pump groundwater or groundwater mixed with stormwater and it leaves the site. Visit deq.ne.gov for more information.

When dewatering, monitor the flow at a minimum daily or more as needed. The water may be polluted if there is:

- A sheen
- An odor
- Cloudiness
- Discoloration
- Suds

Immediately stop dewatering and notify the NDEQ at 877-253-2603 and the City of Omaha at 402-444-3908 in the case of:

- Spills, leaks or contamination
- Evidence of oils in the discharge
- The presence of unanticipated pollutants



Concrete Washout

PURPOSE:

to capture and consolidate liquids associated with concrete

Concrete washout areas should be used at all sites where vehicles and equipment are used to deliver, mix, place, cut or grind concrete, mortar, plaster, stucco, grout or similar material and when this equipment is washed on site. Wash equipment can include:

- Concrete drums and chutes
- Hoppers
- Wheelbarrows
- Hand tools
- Concrete saws

Concrete washouts are temporary and need to be regularly maintained throughout its use. If installed as an above or below ground depression, they must be lined with an impermeable liner. If a container is used as the washout, it must be watertight and never exceed 75% of its capacity.

TIPS:

- Concrete washouts should be easily accessible and placed in a convenient location for trucks and equipment.
- Make sure concrete washout areas are properly labeled and displayed (signs should be highly visible).
- Washout sites should not be located within 50' of storm drains, ditches/swales, and open bodies of water.
- Allow concrete material to harden before removing for proper disposal.
- Concrete cutting slurry entering a storm drain or running off site is considered an illicit discharge and not allowed.
- Capturing and properly disposing of slurry can be achieved in multiple ways, including saw vacuums or collecting it and disposing of it into the concrete washout itself.

It is up to you!

Construction sites can be very messy places, which is why we need your help to keep the mess there. Pollution that leaves construction sites, such as sediment, trash, oil, dust, etc..., can plug storm drains and cause flooding, damage adjacent property, local streams, and lakes, reduce air quality, create nuisances for the community, and more. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about what you can do to keep our community clean and safe.

This field guide provides a quick summary and resource for individuals out in the field. The information in this guide is for general guidance, for more detailed information please refer to Chapter 9 (Erosion and Sediment Control) in the Omaha Regional Stormwater Design Manual on our website.

The City of Omaha Stormwater Program is a comprehensive program comprised of various elements and activities designed to reduce stormwater pollution and eliminate prohibited non-stormwater discharges.

Environmental Quality Control

402-444-3908

www.OmahaStormwater.org

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