Stormwater and the Construction Industry

**Protect Natural Features**

- Good
  - Minimize clearing.
  - Minimize the amount of exposed soil.
  - Identify and protect areas where existing vegetation, such as trees, will not be disturbed by construction activity.
  - Protect streams, stream buffers, wild woodlands, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

- Bad

**Construction Phasing**

- Good
  - Sequence construction activities so that the soil is not exposed for long periods of time.
  - Schedule or limit grading to small areas.
  - Install key sediment control practices before site grading begins.
  - Schedule site stabilization activities, such as landscaping, to be completed immediately after the land has been graded to its final contour.

- Bad

**Vegetative Buffers**

- Good
  - Protect and install vegetative buffers along waterbodies to slow and filter stormwater runoff.
  - Maintain buffers by mowing or replanting periodically to ensure their effectiveness.

- Bad

**Silt Fencing**

- Good
  - Inspect and maintain silt fences after each rainstorm.
  - Make sure the bottom of the silt fence is buried in the ground.
  - Securely attach the material to the stakes.
  - Don’t place silt fences in the middle of a waterway or use them as a check dam.
  - Make sure stormwater is not flowing around the silt fence.

- Bad

**Site Stabilization**

- Good
  - Vegetate, mulch, or otherwise stabilize all exposed areas as soon as land alterations have been completed.

- Bad

**Construction Entrances**

- Good
  - Remove mud and dirt from the tires of construction vehicles before they enter a paved roadway.
  - Properly size entrance BMPs for all anticipated vehicles.
  - Make sure that the construction entrance does not become buried in soil.

- Bad

**Slopes**

- Good
  - Rough grade or terrace slopes.
  - Break up long slopes with sediment barriers, or under drain, or divert stormwater away from slopes.

- Bad

**Dirt Stockpiles**

- Good
  - Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

- Bad

**Storm Drain Inlet Protection**

- Good
  - Use rock or other appropriate material to cover the storm drain inlet to filter out trash and debris.
  - Make sure the rock size is appropriate (usually 1 to 2 inches in diameter).
  - If you use inlet filters, maintain them regularly.

- Bad

Maintain your BMPs!

www.epa.gov/npdes/menuofbmps
Stormwater and the Construction Industry
Planning, Implementing and A Plan

Developing and Implementing a Plan
You must have a Plan that includes erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention BMPs. This Plan requires:
- Approval and implementation of erosion and sediment control measures
- Protection of stormwater quality
- Notice to the local regulatory agency

1. Site Evaluation and Design Development
- Site visits and analysis
- Site plan development
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan

2. Assessment
- Stormwater management practices
- Erosion control measures
- Sedimentation control plans

3. Control Selection Plan and Design
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan
- Sedimentation control plan

4. Certification and Notification
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan
- Sedimentation control plan

Preconstruction Checklist
- Site visits and analysis
- Site plan development
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan
- Sedimentation control plan

Implementation Checklist
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan
- Sedimentation control plan

Implementation Practices
- Stormwater management plan
- Erosion control plan
- Sedimentation control plan

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! It’s far more efficient and cost-effective to prevent pollution than it is to try to correct problems later. Installing and maintaining simple BMPs and pollution prevention techniques on site can greatly reduce the potential for stormwater pollution and can also save you money!