Stormwater and the Construction Industry

Protect Natural Features
- 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, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

Good
- Bad

Construction Phasing
- Sequence construction activities so that the soil is not exposed for long periods of time.
- Schedule or limit grading to small areas.
- Install key erosion 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.

Good
- Bad

Vegetative Buffers
- Protect and install vegetative buffers along roadway to slow and filter stormwater runoff.
- Maintain buffers by moving or replanting periodically to ensure their effectiveness.

Good
- Bad

Silt Fencing
- 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 ditch dikes.
- Make sure stormwater is not flowing around the silt fence.

Good
- Bad

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

Good
- Bad

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

Good
- Bad

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

Good
- Bad

Dirt Stockpiles
- Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

Good
- Bad

Storm Drain Inlet Protection
- 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.

Good
- Bad

Maintain your BMPs!

www.epa.gov/npdes/modifybmps
Developing and Implementing a Plan

You have plans for the development and implementation of erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention plans. These plans require comprehensive planning, implementation, and monitoring.

1. Site Evaluation and Design Development
   - Collect site information
   - Develop site plan design
   - Determine the project's potential for erosion and sedimentation

2. Assessment
   - Evaluate the site area
   - Determine the discharge areas
   - Establish sediment management controls
   - Identify the location of controls on the site map
   - Perform an inspection and maintenance plan
   - Coordinate construction with the site

3. Control Selection and Plan Design
   - Review and incorporate state, local, and federal requirements
   - Select erosion and sediment controls
   - Select other controls
   - Establish stormwater management controls

4. Certification and Notification
   - Submit plans for certification
   - Certify the plans

5. Implementing and Maintaining a Plan
   - Implement control
   - Inspect and maintain controls
   - Update/correct plans

6. Completing the Project: Stabilization and Termination of the Permit
   - Stabilize the site
   - Notify the permitting authority
   - Finalize the project

Implementation Checklist
- Initial preparation of construction documents
- Construction methods and specifications
- Quality assurance and quality control
- Site safety and health
- Final inspection and acceptance

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure! It’s more efficient and cost-effective to prevent pollution than 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 save you money!