

CONSTRUCTION SITE STORMWATER RUNOFF – PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

Construction projects that disturb more than one acre are required to obtain a Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) permit from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). As part of the permit requirements, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be developed for the project. The SWPPP must identify practices that will help to reduce erosion, minimize sediment loss from the construction site, and address pollution prevention.

- Construction sites without proper erosion and sediment controls can contribute large amounts of sediment and other pollutants to downstream waterways.
- Good housekeeping measures include:
 - Storing waste materials in proper containers;
 - Properly disposing of all waste materials;
 - Preventing spills by tightly sealing containers; and,
 - Storing materials with the potential for contaminating runoff during storm events in watertight containers or under cover so they are not exposed to precipitation.
 - Establish vehicle and equipment parking areas away from waterways and storm drain inlets.
 - Conduct fueling, major maintenance and washing off-site whenever feasible.
- Effective erosion and sediment controls require proper installation and maintenance.
- Concrete trucks should only wash out or discharge surplus concrete or drum wash water at approved locations in accordance with State and local regulations.
- Construction sites should be inspected every seven calendar days or every fourteen calendar days and within 48 hours following any runoff producing storm event. Inspections should include all areas of the site disturbed by construction activity and areas used for storage of materials.

Erosion and sediment controls in combination with pollution prevention and “good housekeeping measures” can reduce the amount of pollution leaving construction

Erosion and Sediment Controls

Properly installed and maintained erosion and sediment control practices help to reduce pollution loading from construction sites.



Construction Entrance



Inlet Protection



Silt Fence