Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Protect Natural Features
Minimize the amount of exposed soil and the extent of clearing by identify and protect areas where existing vegetation, such as trees, will not be disturbed by construction activity.
Minimize compaction of soil by limiting heavy equipment use to specific areas; restore any damaged areas.
Protect streams, stream buffers, wild woodlands, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from disturbance by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

Construction Phasing
Sequence construction activities so soil is not exposed for long durations by limiting grading to small areas.
Install key sediment control practices before site grading, such as silt fences (black mesh about six inches into dirt).
Schedule site stabilization activities, such as landscaping, to be completed immediately after the land has been graded to its final contour.

Plant Vegetative Buffers
Install vegetative buffers along water bodies to slow and filter storm water runoff and maintain buffers by replanting if needed.

Site Stabilization
Apply temporary stabilization to rough-graded areas.
Plant, mulch, or otherwise stabilize all exposed areas as soon as land alterations have been completed.

Protect Storm Drain Inlet
Use appropriate controls to prevent sediment, debris, and trash from entering storm water system. Use inlet filters and maintain them regularly.

Dirt Stockpiles
Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles and surround dirt stockpiles with silt fence.

Prevent Erosion
Use terrace style slopes, break up long slopes with sediment barriers, and divert storm water away from slopes.

Plan Construction Entrances
Utilize construction exits to minimize vehicle tracking of mud and dirt offsite.
Use property sized entrances for all anticipated vehicles and geotextile beneath entrance along with 2” to 3” gravel.

Maintain your BMPs!

WaterWorks!
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Plan construction entrances to limit runoff.

Cover or seed dirt stockpiles.

Stabilize exposed areas with vegetation.

Install and maintain appropriate sediment controls.

Recycle as much waste as possible.

Reduce slope steepness and length by terracing. Use diversion to route clean water away from disturbed areas.

Landscape after final grading to stabilize exposed areas.

Install and maintain appropriate sediment controls.

Physically remove sediment from street or drainage structures immediately.

Protect and maintain proper controls at storm drain inlets.

Protect existing vegetation.

For more information, visit epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps

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