Erosion Prevention & Sediment Control Field Handbook
For small scale utility projects
Hamilton County, Ohio

The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District
The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati
Preface

This manual is prepared as part of the working agreement between the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) of Greater Cincinnati to educate contractors/tappers on the implementation of erosion prevention and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) on small scale sanitary sewer projects.

This manual is not a comprehensive list of all available BMPs but is geared more to provide information for field personnel regarding practices required to be used during small-scale disturbances such as residential sewer installation and repairs.

This manual provides the educational requirements in erosion prevention and sediment control for contractors seeking a Tappers Certification from MSD. For a comprehensive list of all acceptable BMPs in the State of Ohio, refer to the 2006 or the latest edition of the “State of Ohio Rainwater and Land Development Manual” which is available through download from the website of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Soil and Water at www.dnr.state.oh.us/soilandwater/rainwater.htm. Most of the information on the BMPs in this handbook including texts and tables has been excerpted from the 2006 Edition of Rainwater and Land Development Manual.
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Compiled by the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, (513) 772-7645. All District programs are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.
INTRODUCTION

Purpose

This manual provides the necessary education to MSD contractors/tappers about required Best Management Practices (BMPs) used in erosion prevention and sediment control and proper installation techniques and maintenance requirements to insure the controls are functional throughout the duration of the work. This manual is specifically geared towards small-scale projects disturbing less than 1 acre of ground such as utility installation or repairs on existing residential or commercial buildings and/or repairs of small sections of utility lines. Contractors working on capital improvements and large-scale utility installations for subdivisions or commercial developments must complete a more comprehensive training in erosion prevention and sediment control. Anyone in Ohio disturbing more than 1 acre of ground for construction activities is required to have an Ohio EPA NPDES Construction Permit. Anyone within unincorporated Hamilton County who is disturbing land for building construction or significant clearing, filling, or grading activities is required to obtain a Hamilton County Earthwork Permit prior to commencing with any earth-disturbing activity. Failure to obtain an Earthwork Permit may cause the Enforcing Official to issue Stop Work Orders. The property owner shall be subject to enforcement actions under ORC 307.79. Other permits may be required by the local municipality. Contact Ohio EPA and the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District for more information (see Agency Contacts).

Impacts of erosion and sedimentation

Erosion, by definition is the process in which, by the actions of wind, rainfall or ice, soil particles are detached and transported. Sediment is eroded material suspended in wind or water and sedimentation is the deposition of this eroded material. Erosion occurs in progressive stages. Splash erosion occurs when raindrop impact dislodges surface soils. Sheet erosion is when accumulated precipitation combines and flows in shallow “sheets” over the soil surface and cause soil particles to detach. As flow concentrates, small channels begin to form in the soil surface, which is rill erosion. When the runoff cuts rills deeper or several rills come together to form a large channel, it is called gully erosion. Sediments are the largest pollutant by volume of our nations waterways. Erosion is a naturally occurring process, but when land is disturbed for construction activities it
Introduction

eroses at much higher rates than other land uses. Construction sites can erode at rates from 10-100 tons of soil per acre per year, whereas naturally occurring erosion is estimated to be between 2-3 tons per acre per year. The specific rate of erosion depends on soil type, slope of the land, intensity of rainfall and vegetative cover. Left unattended, erosion can cause failure of roads, walls or other infrastructure. Construction-related erosion can cause problems for down slope property owners and create nuisance or safety problems on adjacent streets. Large quantities of sediment can lead to the siltation of navigation channels and reduce natural flood storage capacities of streams resulting in additional dredging cost, flooding and streambank erosion. Sediments also cause increased turbidity (cloudiness) in water resources adding cost to water treatment and contributes additional costs to maintenance of stormwater conveyance systems. Sediments serve as a conveyance for other pollutants which bond to soil particles. Environmental and Biological effects include the destruction of fish spawning areas, food sources and aquatic habitats within streams. Excessive sediments in lakes and ponds can cause fish kills by clogging their gills. Wetlands are also affected by accelerated erosion and sedimentation rates. Filling in of wetlands reduces their capacity to filter and store runoff and deprive habitat.

**Erosion prevention practices** protect the soil surface and prevent soil particles from being detached by rainfall or wind. These practices work to keep the soil in place. Erosion prevention is the preferred method because it treats soil as a valuable resource. **Sediment control practices** trap soil particles after they have been dislodged and moved by wind or water. Sediment controls are generally passive systems that rely on settling particles out of the water or wind that is transporting them. Sediment control treats soil as a waste product and works to remove it from stormwater runoff.

The main factors that contribute to erosion are: rainfall intensity, land slope and soil erodibility. Understanding these factors, the following principles will help in the proper selection, implementation and management of erosion and sedimentation on utility construction sites:

- Minimize the amount of area that is disturbed
- Protect the soil by keeping vegetation intact
- Minimize the amount of time the soil is exposed
- Time clearing and restoration in stages so that disturbed areas are stabilized within 7 days, or within 48 hours in areas that are within 50 ft. of a stream
- Minimize the amount of runoff flowing through disturbed areas within the site and off the site
- Minimize runoff velocity
- Filter and trap sediment
- Inspect and maintain BMPs control practices regularly to ensure maximum effectiveness

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AREAS OF SPECIAL CONCERN

Hillsides—Areas with steep slopes are of special concern due to increased runoff velocity which increases erosion and off-site sedimentation. Slopes tend to be steeper surrounding receiving streams or roads. Special care should be taken to reduce potential impacts to adjacent properties, public infrastructure or water resources from erosion, sedimentation or landslides. In Hamilton County, approximately 28% of the land has slopes steeper than 15% and are prone to slippage; we also have some of the most erodible soils in the state.

Streams and Riparian Areas—Areas directly surrounding a stream system provide many stormwater benefits, not the least of which is making water cleaner. Water is treated as it flows across a buffer and enters a stream. The water quality of the stream is improved by forested riparian areas. Other benefits include a self-maintaining drainage system, flood storage, groundwater recharge and a complex interaction of aquatic habitats.

The benefits provided by riparian areas are easily lost if they are not recognized. Deliberate protection is required to prevent encroachment, which includes clearing trees, filling, channel modification and at its most extreme, replacing the channel with an enclosed drainage system. A fundamental method for improving stormwater quality is to devise ways of avoiding encroachment upon riparian areas and to preserve these critical parts of the landscape as designated open space. Whenever possible, native materials should be used and the use of concrete and riprap should be minimized. Any disturbance within these areas shall be stabilized immediately after construction activities are completed. Impacts to streams for utility construction are regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers; see Agency Contacts. Failure to obtain necessary permits will subject the owner to enforcement actions.

Floodplain—Any construction work conducted in a floodplain is regulated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Many jurisdictions, including Hamilton County, administer the floodplain regulations.

A floodplain is the lowland adjacent to a river, lake or ocean. Floodplains are designated by the frequency of the flood that is large enough to cover them. Flood frequency is the chance of occurrence in a given year, which is the percentage of the probability of flooding each year. For example, the 100-year flood has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year. Most of the known floodplains in the U.S. have been mapped by the Flood Insurance Administration, part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. These maps are available for viewing at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District; see Agency Contacts.

Check with local jurisdiction for specific questions about floodplains or in unincorporated Hamilton County, call the Department of Public Works at (513) 946-4750.
SEDIMENT CONTROL PRACTICES

SILT FENCE

Silt fence is a sediment-trapping practice utilizing a geotextile fence, topography and sometimes vegetation to cause ponding and sediment deposition. Silt fence reduces runoff's ability to transport sediment by ponding runoff and dissipating small rills of concentrated flow into uniform sheet flow. Silt fence is used where runoff occurs as sheet flow or where flow through small rills can be converted to sheet flow. Silt fence cannot effectively treat flows in gullies, ditches or channels.

**DESCRIPTION**

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**Silt Fence vs. Temporary Diversions and Settling Ponds**

While silt fence requires less space and disturbs less area than other control measures, there are significant disadvantages to its use. Silt fence is not as effective controlling sediment as routing runoff through a system of diversions and settling ponds. Settling ponds and earth diversions are more durable, easier to construct correctly and significantly more effective at removing sediments from runoff. Additionally, earth diversions and settling ponds are less apt to fail during construction and typically require less repair and maintenance. Proper installation is critical. Nearly 75% of silt fence does not function properly due to poor installation. Proper installation consist of it being installed: (1) on the contour; (2) with sufficient geotextile material buried; (3) with the fence pulled taut and supported on the downstream side by strong posts; and (4) with the fence backfilled and compacted.

Two general methods are used to install silt fence: (1) utilizing traditional method of digging the trench, installation of the fence materials, then backfilling and compaction; or (2) a method using an implement to static slice or narrow plow while installing the geotextile in the slot opening, followed by compaction and installation of posts. The latter methods generally installs silt fence more effectively and efficiently.
Silt fence is most applicable for relatively small areas with flat topography. Silt fence should be used below areas where erosion will occur in the form of sheet and rill erosion. For moderately steep areas, the area draining to the silt fence should be no larger than one quarter acre per 100 feet of fence length, the slope length no longer than 100 feet, and the maximum drainage gradient no steeper than 50 percent (2:1). This practice should be sited so that the entire fence ponds runoff and facilitates settling of suspended solids.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maximum Slope Length Above Silt Fence</th>
<th>Slope Length (ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0% - 2%</td>
<td>Flatter than 50:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2% - 10%</td>
<td>50:1 - 10:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% - 20%</td>
<td>10:1 - 5:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% - 33%</td>
<td>5:1 - 3:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33% - 50%</td>
<td>3:1 - 2:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 50%</td>
<td>&gt; 2:1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAXIMUM CRITERIA FOR SILT FENCE FABRIC (ODOT, 2002)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Tensile Strength</th>
<th>120 lbs. (535N)</th>
<th>ASTM D 4632</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Elongation at 60 lbs</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>ASTM D 4632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Puncture Strength</td>
<td>50 lbs (220N)</td>
<td>ASTM D 4833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Tear Strength</td>
<td>40 lbs (180 N)</td>
<td>ASTM D 4533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apparent Opening Size</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 0.84 mm</td>
<td>ASTM D 4751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Permittivity</td>
<td>1x10^2 sec.^{-1}</td>
<td>ASTM D 4491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UV Exposure Strength Retention</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>ASTM G 4355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4-5  Silt fence layout

MAXIMUM CRITERIA FOR SILT FENCE FABRIC (ODOT, 2002)
Sediment Control Practices

Silt Fence Specifications:

1. Silt fence shall be constructed before upslope land disturbance begins.

2. All silt fence shall be placed as close to the contour as possible so that water will not concentrate at low points in the fence and so that small swales or depressions that may carry small concentrated flows to the silt fence are dissipated along its length.

3. Ends of the silt fence shall be brought upslope slightly so that water ponded by the silt fence will be prevented from flowing around the ends.
4. Silt fence shall be placed on the flattest area available.

5. Where possible, vegetation shall be preserved for 5 ft. (or as much as possible) upslope from the silt fence. If vegetation is removed, it shall be reestablished within 7 days from the installation of the silt fence.

6. The height of the silt fence shall be a minimum of 16 inches above the original ground surface.

7. The silt fence shall be placed in an excavated or sliced trench cut a minimum of 6 inches deep. The trench shall be made with a trowel, cable laying machine, slicing machine or other suitable device that will ensure an adequately uniform trench depth.

8. The silt fence shall be placed with the stakes on the downslope side of the geotextile. A minimum of 8 inches of geotextile must be below the ground surface. Excess material shall lay on the bottom of the 6 inch deep trench. The trench shall be backfilled and compacted on both sides of the fabric.

9. Seams between sections of silt fence shall be spliced together only at a support post with a minimum 6 inches overlap prior to driving into the ground (see details).

10. Maintenance—Silt fence shall allow runoff to pass only as diffuse flow through the geotextile. If runoff overtops the silt fence, flows under the fabric or around the fence ends, or in any other way allows a concentrated flow discharge, one of the following shall be performed, as appropriate: 1) The layout of the silt fence shall be changed, 2) Accumulated sediment shall be removed, or 3) Other practices shall be installed.

Sediment deposits shall be routinely removed when deposits reaches approximately one-half of the height of the silt fence.

Silt fence shall be inspected after each rainfall and at least daily during a prolonged rainfall. The location of existing silt fence shall be reviewed daily to ensure its proper location and effectiveness. If damaged, the silt fence shall be repaired immediately.

Criteria for Silt Fence Materials:

1) Fence Posts – The length shall be a minimum of 32 inches. Wood posts will be 2 by 2 inches nominal dimensioned hardwood of sound quality. They shall be free of knots, splits and other visible imperfections that will weaken the posts. The maximum spacing between posts shall be 10 feet. Posts shall be driven a minimum 16 inches into the ground, where possible. If not possible, the posts shall be adequately secured to prevent overturning of the fence due to sediment/water loading.

2) Silt fence fabric – see chart (Maximum Criteria for Silt Fence Fabric, above)
SUPER SILT FENCE

A temporary barrier of geotextile fabric over welded wire fencing reinforced with metal poles used to intercept sediment laden runoff from small drainage areas. The same practices and criteria from silt fence apply to super silt fence.

- Welded wire fencing shall be fastened securely to the metal fence posts with wire ties.
- Filter cloth shall be fastened securely to the fencing with ties spaced every 24” at the top and mid section.
- Filter cloth shall be imbedded a minimum of 8” into the ground.
- When two sections of filter cloth adjoin each other, they shall be overlapped by 6” and folded.
- Maintenance shall be performed as needed and silt buildups removed when bulges develop in the silt fence.

**Drainage Area:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Super Silt Fence Maximum Drainage Area Based on Slope and Slope Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0% - 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% - 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% - 33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33% - 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Specifications:
Welded wire fencing can be used instead of chain link fencing. Super silt fence must be placed at existing level grade. Both ends of the barrier must be extended at least 8 feet up slope at 45 degrees. Fasteners need to be placed at 14 inches maximum on the posts, which should be spaced at 10 feet maximum. 2.5” galvanized steel, aluminum or 2”x4” wood posts can be used. Sediment must be removed when accumulations reach one half of the above ground height of the fence.

* Figure and table above is from the 1994 Maryland Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, Maryland Department of Environment, Water Management Administration
**MULCH/FILTER BERMS**

**DESCRIPTION**  Filter berms are sediment trapping practices that utilize a compost/mulch material and are typically installed with pneumatic equipment. Filter berms reduce sediment from runoff by slowing and filtering runoff and dissipating flow.

**CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES**  Filter berms are appropriate on nearly level ground or slopes up to 5:1, where runoff occurs as sheet flow. Filter berms cannot effectively treat flows in gullies, ditches, or channels. For more severe conditions see specifications for temporary diversions, sediment traps and sediment basins.

**MATERIALS**  Compost/mulch used for filter berms shall be weed free and derived from a well-decomposed source of organic matter. The compost shall be produced using an aerobic composting process meeting CFR 504 regulations, including time and temperature data indicating effective weed seed, pathogen and insect larvae kill. The compost shall be free of any refuse, contaminants or other materials toxic to plant growth.

**LEVEL CONTOUR**  Filter berms must be placed on the level contour of the land so that flows are dissipated into uniform sheet flow that has less energy for transporting sediment. Filter berms should never concentrate runoff, which will occur if it is placed up and down slopes rather than on level contour.

**FLAT SLOPES**  If at all possible, filter berms should be placed away from the toe of a slope and on the flattest area available. This allows the sheet flow energy to dissipate and allows for a greater storage area for sediments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FILTER BERM SPACING FOR APPLICATIONS INSTALLED ALONG THE CONTOUR</th>
<th>Ratio (H:V)</th>
<th>% Slope</th>
<th>Recommended Spacing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; 20:1</td>
<td>5% or less</td>
<td>300’ with max. 1 acre per 500 lineal feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20:1 – 10:1</td>
<td>5 to 10%</td>
<td>75 foot intervals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:1 – 5:1</td>
<td>10 to 20%</td>
<td>50 foot intervals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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FLOW AROUND ENDS  To prevent water from flowing around the ends of the filter berm each end must be turned up-slope so that the ends are at a higher elevation.

**Specifications for Compost Filter Berm**

1. **Materials:** Compost used for filter berms shall be weed, pathogen and insect free and free of any refuse, contaminants or other materials toxic to plant growth. They shall be derived from a well-decomposed source of organic matter and consist of particles ranging from 1/4” to 3”.

2. **Installation:** Filter berms will be placed on a level line across slopes, generally parallel to the base of the slope or other affected area. On slopes approaching 2:1, additional berms shall be provided at the top and as needed mid-slope.

Filter berms are not to be used in direct flow situations or in runoff channels.

3. **Maintenance:** Inspect filter berms after each significant rain, maintaining the berms in a functional condition at all times.

Remove sediments collected at the base of the filter berms when they reach 1/3 of the exposed height of the practice.

Where the filter berm deteriorates or fails it will be, it will be repaired or replaced with a more effective alternative.

4. **Removal:** Filter berms will be dispersed on site when no longer required in such a way as to facilitate and not obstruct seeding.
STORM DRAIN INLET PROTECTION

DESCRIPTION    Storm drain inlet protection devices remove sediment from storm water before it enters storm sewers and downstream areas. Inlet protection devices are sediment barriers that may be constructed of washed gravel or crushed stone, geotextile fabrics and other materials that are supported around or across storm drain inlets.

Inlet protection is installed to capture some sediment and reduce maintenance of storm sewers and other underground piping systems prior to the site being stabilized. Inlet protection is considered a secondary sediment control to be used in conjunction with other more effective controls.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES    Storm drain inlet protection is applicable anywhere construction site runoff water may enter closed conveyance systems through storm water inlets. Generally inlet protection is limited to areas draining less than 1 acre.

This practice is not generally recommended as a primary means of sediment control. Storm drain inlet protection has limited capacity to control silts and clays and is most effective in capturing larger sand sized particles. It should only be a primary means if it is not possible to divert the storm drainage to a sediment trap or sediment basin or if it is to be used only for a short period of time during the construction process.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS    Inlet protection is designed to block storm drain inlets. Therefore consider the effect of ponding muddy water on streets and nearby areas and plan accordingly. Although ponding is beneficial in the sediment removal process, this may pose hazardous conditions for street travel. Additional ponding capacity with related increase in effectiveness can be provided for some drop inlets by excavating around the inlet.
Utilizing inlet protection on long sloping streets may cause runoff to bypass inlets on the slope and cause extra water to accumulate in low areas. In order for the inlet protection to work, ponding must be maintained at the practice.

Apply storm drain inlet protection as soon as the surface inlet is capable of receiving storm water. Geotextiles utilized in inlet protection are manufactured to control the rate of storm water flow and to retain certain sizes of soil particles. The controlled flow and ponding assists in sediment deposition. Geotextile fabrics come in a variety of materials with permeability, strength and durability ratings. In all cases, follow the manufacturer’s recommendation for the specific product application, as well as installation and maintenance requirements.

All inlet protection practices require frequent maintenance and cleaning to maintain sufficient flow rates and to prevent accumulation of mud on streets and other areas.

The following types of storm drain inlet protection are listed according to type of flows and situations where they will perform best. Note that straw bales are not suitable as storm drain inlet protection since they often cease to allow flow through once saturated and often leak where bales join. Different types of storm drain inlet protection available are as follows:

A) Excavated Drop Inlet Sediment Trap. Where the storm sewer can be left below the final grade, a depression in the ground adjacent to the inlet can be an effective way of reducing sediment going to the storm sewer. Runoff is directed to the depression and a sediment barrier is maintained between the depression and the storm sewer.

B) Geotextile Inlet Protection. This method consists of placing filter fence around the perimeter of the drop inlet and backfilling. Apply this method where inlet drains overload flow or sheet flow from gentle slopes and sheet or overland flow.

C) Geotextile-Stone Protection. These are used both on drop inlets and in street curbs and gutters where ponding of water will not cause damage or inconvenience. This filter is simply constructed of geotextile over the inlet with stone on top. Note: this practice does not have an opening for overflow and should not be placed where clogging or subsequent flooding would cause safety concerns or property damage.

D) Block and Gravel Drop Inlet Protection. This practice utilizes a wall of cement blocks overlain with wire mesh and gravel around the perimeter to slow runoff before entering a storm drain. It is not recommended anywhere vehicle traffic is operating.

E) Manufactured Inlet Protection Devices. Any manufactured products utilized for inlet protection must be constructed of materials equally durable and effective as those provided in this practice. They must be able to be secured such that construction site runoff is intercepted, ponded and filtered prior to entering the storm drain except during extreme flows. Devices must allow the removal of captured material without falling into the catch basin.
Sediment Control Practices

MAINTENANCE

Effective storm drain inlet protection collects sediment and therefore must be cleaned regularly to prevent clogging and subsequent flooding conditions, piping or overtopping of the control structures. Sediment barriers that sag, fall over or are not properly secured, must be promptly repaired or replaced.

Inlet protection shall be inspected weekly and after each rainfall event. Areas where there is active traffic shall be inspected daily. Repairs shall be made as needed to assure the practice is performing as intended. Sediment shall be removed when accumulation is one-half the height of the trap. Sediment shall not be washed into the inlet. Sediment shall be removed and placed in a location where it is stable and not subject to erosion.

Once the contributing drainage area has been properly stabilized, all filter material and collected sediment shall be removed and properly disposed.
Specifications for

Excavated Drop Inlet Sediment Protection

1. The excavated trap should be sized to provide a minimum storage capacity calculated at the rate of 135 cubic yards for one (1) acre of drainage area. A trap should be no less than one (1) foot, nor more than two (2) feet deep measured from the top of the inlet structure. Side slopes should not be steeper than 2:1.

2. The slopes of the trap may vary to fit the drainage area and terrain.

3. Where the area receives concentrated flows, such as in a highway median, provide the trap with a shape having a 2:1 ratio of length to width, with the length oriented in the direction of the flow.

4. Sediment should be removed and the trap restored to the original depth when the sediment has accumulated to 40% the design depth of the trap. Removed sediment should be spread in a suitable area and stabilized so it will not erode.

5. During final grading, the inlet should be protected with geotextile-stone inlet protection. Once final grading is achieved, sod or a suitable temporary erosion control material shall be implemented to protect the area until permanent vegetation is established.

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Specifications for
Geotextile Inlet Protection

1. Inlet protection shall be constructed either before up slope
land disturbance begins or before the inlet becomes
functional.

2. The earth around the inlet shall be excavated completely
to a depth at least 18 inches.

3. The wooden frame shall be constructed of 2-inch by
4-inch construction grade lumber. The 2-inch by 4-inch
posts shall be driven one (1) ft. into the ground at four
corners of the inlet and the top portion of 2-inch by 4-inch
frame assembled using the overlap joint shown. The top
of the frame shall be at least 6 inches below adjacent
roads if ponded water will pose a safety hazard to traffic.

4. Wire mesh shall be of sufficient strength to support
fabric with water fully impounded against it. It shall be
stretched tightly around the frame and fastened securely
to the frame.

5. Geotextile material shall have an equivalent opening size
of 20-40 sieve and be resistant to sunlight. It shall be
stretched tightly around the frame and fastened securely.
It shall extend from the top of the frame to 18 inches
below the inlet notch elevation. The geotextile shall over-
lap across one side of the inlet so the ends of the cloth
are not fastened to the same post.

6. Backfill shall be placed around the inlet in compacted 6-
inch layers until the earth is even with notch elevation on
ends and top elevation on sides.

7. A compacted earth dike or check dam shall be con-
structed in the ditch line below the inlet if the inlet is not
in a depression. The top of the dike shall be at least 6
inches higher than the top of the frame.
Specifications for
Geotextile-Stone Inlet Protection

SECTION
(Not to Scale)

Drawing Adapted from the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Manual

1. Inlet protection shall be constructed either before upslope land disturbance begins or before the inlet becomes functional.

2. Geotextile and/or wire material shall be placed over the top of the storm sewer and approximately six (6) inches of 2-inch or smaller clean aggregate placed on top. Extra support for geotextile is achieved by nailing hardware cloth or wire mesh across the inlet cover. The wire should be no larger than ½" mesh and should extend an extra 12 inches across the top and sides of the inlet cover.

3. Maintenance must be performed regularly, especially after storm events. When clogging of the stone or geotextile occurs, the material must be removed and replaced.
Specifications for **Block and Gravel Drop Inlet Filter**

**Plan View**

- Wire Mesh between Block & Gravel
- Row of Concrete Block
- Gravel Filter
- Extent of Gravel Filter

**Section**

- Wire Mesh
- Treated Runoff
- Each Side of Inlet Shall Have One Block Turned on Side to Provide Dewatering
- Drop Inlet with Grate

Place 4-inch by 8-inch by 12-inch concrete blocks lengthwise on their sides in a single row around the perimeter of the inlet, with the ends of adjacent blocks abutting. The height of the barrier can be varied, depending upon the design needs, by stacking combinations of the same size blocks. The barrier of blocks should be at least 12-inches high but no greater than 24-inches high.

Wire mesh should be placed over the outside vertical face (webbing) of the concrete blocks to prevent stone from being washed through the block cores. Hardware cloth or comparable wire mesh with %2/8-inch openings should be used.

3. Two-inch stone should be piled against the wire to the top of the block barrier, as shown below.

4. If the stone filter becomes clogged with sediment so that it no longer adequately performs its function, pull stone away from the blocks, clean and/or replace.
EROSION PREVENTION PRACTICES

PERMANENT SEEDING

DESCRIPTION
Perennial vegetation is established on areas that will not be re-disturbed for periods longer than 12 months. Permanent seeding includes site preparation, seedbed preparation, planting seed, mulching, irrigation and maintenance.

Permanent vegetation is used to stabilize soil, reduce erosion, prevent sediment pollution, reduce runoff by promoting infiltration and provide stormwater quality benefits offered by dense grass cover.

SITE PREPARATION
1. A subsoiler, plow or other implement shall be used to reduce soil compaction and allow maximum infiltration. (Maximizing infiltration will help control both runoff rate and water quality.) Subsoiling should be done when the soil moisture is low enough to allow the soil to crack or fracture. Subsoiling shall not be done on slip-prone areas where soil preparation should be limited to what is necessary for establishing vegetation.
2. The site shall be graded as needed to permit the use of conventional equipment for seedbed preparation and seeding.
3. Topsoil shall be applied where needed to establish vegetation.

SEEDBED PREPARATION
1. Lime—Agricultural ground limestone shall be applied to acid soil as recommended by a soil test. In lieu of a soil test, lime shall be applied at the rate of 100 lb./1,000 sq. ft. or 2 tons/acre.
2. Fertilizer—Fertilizer shall be applied as recommended by a soil test. In lieu of a soil test, fertilizer shall be applied at a rate of 25 lb./1,000 sq. ft. or 1000 lb./acre of 10-10-10 or 12-12-12 analyses.
3. The lime and fertilizer shall be worked into the soil with a disk harrow, spring-tooth harrow or other suitable field implement to a depth of 3 inches. On sloping land, the soil shall be worked on the contour.
Erosion Prevention Practices

**SEEDING DATES AND SOIL CONDITIONS**  Seeding should be done March 1 to May 31 or Aug 1 to September 30. If seeding occurs outside of the above specified dates, additional mulch and irrigation may be required to ensure a minimum of 80% germination. Tillage for seedbed preparation should be done when soil is dry enough to crumble and not form ribbons when compressed by hand. For winter seeding, see the following section on dormant seeding.

**DORMANT SEEDING**
1. Seedings should not be made from October 1 through November 20. During this period, the seeds are likely to germinate but probably will not be able to survive the winter.

2. The following methods may be used for "Dormant Seeding":
   - From October 1 through November 20, prepare the seedbed, add the required amounts of lime and fertilizer, then mulch and anchor. After November 20, broadcast the selected seed mixture at a 50% increase in the seeding rate.
   - From November 20 through March 15, when soil conditions permit, prepare the seedbed, lime and fertilize, apply the selected seed mixture, mulch and anchor. Increase the seeding rates by 50% for this type of seeding.
   - Apply seed uniformly with a cyclone seeder, drill, cultipacker seeder or hydro-seeder (slurry may include seed and fertilizer) on a firm, moist seedbed.
   - Where feasible, except when a cultipacker type seeder is used, the seedbed should be firmed following seeding operations with a cultipacker, roller or light drag. On sloping land, seeding operations should follow the contour where feasible.

**MULCHING**
1. Mulch material shall be applied immediately after seeding. Dormant seeding shall be mulched. 100% of the ground surface shall be covered with an approved material.

2. Materials
   - Straw—If straw is used it shall be unrotted small-grain straw applied at the rate of 2 tons/acre or 90 lb./1,000 sq. ft. (two to three bales). The mulch shall be spread uniformly by hand or mechanically so the soil surface is covered. For uniform distribution of hand-spread mulch, divide area into approximately 1,000-sq.-ft. sections and spread two 45-lb. bales of straw in each section.
   - Hydroseeders—If wood cellulose fiber is used, it shall be used at 2,000 lb./acre. or 46 lb./1,000 sq. ft.
   - Other—Other acceptable mulches include rolled erosion control mattings or blankets applied according to manufacturer's recommendations or wood chips applied at 6 tons/acre.

3. Straw and Mulch Anchoring Methods
   - Straw Mulch shall be anchored immediately to minimize loss by wind or water.
   - Mechanical—A disk, crimper or similar type tool shall be set straight to punch or anchor the mulch material into the soil. Straw mechanically anchored shall not be finely chopped but generally left longer than 6 in.
   - Mulch Nettings—Nettings shall be used according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Netting may be necessary to hold mulch in place in areas of concentrated runoff and on critical slopes.
   - Synthetic Binders—Synthetic binders such as Acrylic DLR (Agri-Tac), DCA-70, Petroset, Terra Tack or equivalent may be used at rates specified by the manufacturer.
- Wood Cellulose Fiber—Wood cellulose fiber binder shall be applied at a net dry weight of 750 lbs./acre. The wood cellulose fiber shall be mixed with water with the mixture containing a maximum of 50 lbs. cellulose/100 gallons of water.

**Irrigation**

1. Permanent seeding shall include irrigation to establish vegetation during dry weather or on adverse site conditions, which require adequate moisture for seed germination and plant growth.
2. Irrigation rates shall be monitored to prevent erosion and damage to seeded areas from excessive runoff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permanent Seeding</th>
<th>Seed Mix</th>
<th>Seeding Rate</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>lb./ac.</td>
<td>lb./1,000ft.²</td>
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<td>General Use</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Domestic Ryegrass</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>1/4 – 1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kentucky Bluegrass</td>
<td>20-40</td>
<td>1/2 – 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tall Fescue</td>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>1 – 1 1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Turf Type Dwarf Fescue</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2 1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steep Banks or Cut Slopes</td>
<td>Tall Fescue</td>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>1 – 1 1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crown Vetch</td>
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<td>1/4 – 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tall Fescue</td>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>1/2 – 3/4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flat Pea</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tall Fescue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road Ditches and Swales</td>
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<td>Kentucky Bluegrass</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creeping Red Fescue</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>For shaded areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* NRCS Recommendation: for quicker establishment of vegetation, add rye, wheat or oats at 40 lbs/acre or 1 lb./1000 sq. feet

Note: Other approved seed species may be substituted.
Erosion Prevention Practices

TEMPORARY ROLLED EROSION CONTROL PRODUCTS

DESCRIPTION A Temporary Rolled Erosion Control Product (TRECP) is a degradable manufactured material used to stabilize easily eroded areas while vegetation becomes established. Temporary Rolled Erosion Control Products are composed of biologically, photochemically or otherwise degradable materials. TRECP consist of erosion control netting, open weave textiles and erosion control blankets/matting. These products reduce soil erosion and assist vegetative growth by providing temporary cover from the erosive action of rainfall and runoff while providing soil-seed contact.

CONDITION WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES Temporary rolled erosion control products (matting or blankets) should be used on:

- Areas where erosion potential is high or a failure to establish vegetation is costly such as slopes greater than 3:1, constructed channels or stream banks
- Areas where establishing vegetation is difficult such as southern exposures or areas prone to drying
- Areas of concentrated flow, especially where flows exceeds 3.5 feet per second (e.g near culverts)
- Problem areas with highly erosive soils
- Areas where mulch is difficult to hold in place due to wind or water

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS TRECP can be applied to critical or problem areas to enhance the erosion control as vegetation is being established. Although these materials add cost, they insure more immediate stability following construction reducing grading repairs and a faster greening of projects. Permanent non-degradable rolled erosion control products (turf reinforcement mats) are beyond the scope of this practice, but may be useful where design discharges or runoff exert velocities and shear stresses exceeding the ability of mature vegetation to withstand.

Temporary TRECP should be used to help establish vegetation on previously disturbed slopes - normally slopes of 3:1 or greater. The materials that compose the TRECP will deteriorate over time. If used in permanent conveyance channels, designers should consider the system's HCSWCD

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resistance to erosion as it relates to the type of vegetation planted and the existing soil characteristics. As much as possible during establishment of vegetation, soil stabilization blankets should not be subjected to concentrated flows moving at greater than 3.5 feet/second.

**Maintenance** All TRECP should be inspected regularly after installation, especially after storms to check for erosion or undermining of the product. Make needed repairs immediately, addressing rills or gullies that have developed prior to replacing the TRECP. In the case erosion repairs, assure that subsequent runoff across the area is dispersed or adequately spread.

**Common Problems / Concerns**
- Manufacturer’s selection and installation recommendations not followed. Results in failure of the TRECP.
- Poor contact between soil and the TRECP. Results in erosion below the TRECP and lower seed germination rates, causing failure.
- Proper stapling guidelines not followed. Results in movement or displacement of TRECP.
- Erosion check slots are not used. Results in erosion under the TRECP, causing failure.
- Unstable slopes that result in TRECP or slope failure. Determine cause of slope failure, correct, and reinstall TRECP.
- In channels, the width of TRECP used is not sufficient, this causes water to flow along the sides of TRECP causing erosion. Install TRECP up side slopes of ditch line as well as the bottom.

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**Specifications for Temporary Rolled Erosion Control Product**

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[Diagram of Temporary Rolled Erosion Control Product]
Erosion Prevention Practices

SPECIFICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY ROLLED EROSION CONTROL PRODUCT

Channel/Slope Site Preparation
1. Grade and compact area of installation.
2. Prepare seedbed by loosening 2”-3” of topsoil above final grade.
3. Incorporate amendments such as lime and fertilizer into soil.
4. Remove all rocks, clods, vegetation or other debris so that installed TRECP will have direct contact with the soil surface.

Channel/Slope Seeding
1. Apply seed to soil surface prior to installation.
2. All check slots, anchor trenches and other disturbed areas must be reseeded.
3. Refer to the PERMANENT SEEDING specification for seeding recommendations.

Slope Installation
1. Excavate top and bottom trenches (12”x6”). Intermittent erosion check slots (6”x6”) may be required based on slope length. Excavate top anchor trench 2’x3’ over crest of the slope.
2. If intermittent erosion check slots are required, install TRECP in 6”x6” slot at a maximum of 30’ centers or the mid point of the slope. TRECP should be stapled into trench on 12” centers.
3. Install TRECP in top anchor trench, anchor on 12” spacing, backfill and compact soil.
4. Unroll TRECP down slope with adjacent rolls overlapped a minimum of 3”. Anchor the seam every 18”.
5. Lay the TRECP loose to maintain direct soil contact, do not pull taught.
6. Overlap roll ends a minimum of 12” with upslope TRECP on top for a shingle effect. Begin all new rolls in an erosion check slot if required; double anchor across roll every 12”.
7. Install TRECP in bottom anchor trench (12”x6”), anchor every 12”.
8. Place all other staples throughout slope at 1 to 2.5 per square yard dependant on slope. Refer to manufactures anchor guide.

Channel Installation
1. Excavate initial anchor trench (12”x6”) across the lower end of the project area.
2. Excavate intermittent check slots (6”x6”) across the channel at 30’ intervals along the channel.
3. Excavate longitudinal channel anchor slots (4”x4”) along both sides of the channel to bury the edges. Whenever possible extend the TRECP 2’-3’ above the crest of channel side slopes.
4. Install TRECP in initial anchor trench (downstream) anchor every 12”, backfill and compact soil.
5. Roll out TRECP beginning in the center of the channel toward the intermittent check slot. Do not pull taught.
6. Unroll adjacent rolls upstream with a 3” minimum overlap (anchor every 18”) and up each channel side slope.
7. At top of channel side slopes install TRECP in the longitudinal anchor slots, anchor every 18”.
8. Install TRECP in intermittent check slots. Lay into trench and secure with anchors every 12”, backfill with soil and compact.

ROUND ANCHORING DEVICES
Several devices are available for anchoring including: U shaped wire staples, metal geotextile pins, plastic stakes, and triangular wooden stakes. Anchors should be of sufficient length to resist pullout. Longer anchors may be required in loose sandy or gravelly soils.
9. Overlap roll ends a minimum of 12” with upstream TRECP on top for a shingling effect. Begin all new rolls in an intermittent check slot, double anchor every 12”.
10. Install upstream end in a terminal anchor trench (12”x6”); anchor every 12”, backfill and compact.
11. Complete anchoring throughout channel at 2.5 per square yard.

**GROUND ANCHORING DEVICES**
Several devices are available for anchoring including: U shaped wire staples, metal geotextile pins, plastic stakes, and triangular wooden stakes. Anchors should be of sufficient length to resist pullout. Longer anchors may be required in loose sandy or gravelly soils.
TEMPORARY STREAM CROSSING

DESCRIPTION A stream crossing provides construction traffic temporary access across a stream while reducing the amount of disturbance and sediment pollution. It is a temporary practice which includes restoring the crossing area after construction. Specifications for three typical kinds of stream crossings are provided: bridges, culverts and fords. Each has specific applications and each is designed to minimize stream damage by leaving banks stable and vegetated and adding only coarse stone fill to the channel.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS A stream and its entire riparian area should be left undisturbed to the greatest extent feasible. However where construction equipment must cross a stream channel, a temporary stream crossing is necessary. The temporary nature of stream crossings should be stressed. These structures create a channel constriction which can cause flow backups or washouts during periods of high flow. They should be planned to be in service for the shortest practical period of time and to be removed as soon as their function is completed.

The specifications contained in this practice pertain primarily to the environmental impacts of stream crossings. From a safety and utility standpoint, the designer must also be sure that bridge spans, if used, are capable of withstanding the expected loads from heavy construction equipment. The designer must also be aware that such structures are subject to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for in stream modifications (404 permits).

SELECTING TYPE OF STREAM CROSSING

Culvert:

- Culvert stream crossings should NOT be constructed between March 15 and June 15 because of impacts to fish spawning.
- Culvert stream crossings are most suitable for wide-stream channels and for traffic that may be too heavy for a bridge.
- Usually constructed of readily available materials which can be salvaged after use.
- Installation and removal of culvert crossings causes considerable disturbance to the stream and greatest potential for obstruction during higher flows.
Ford:
- Stream fords should NOT be constructed between March 15 and June 15 because of impacts to fish spawning.
- Fords may be used where very little construction traffic is anticipated.
- Fords should not be used to cross channels with streambanks greater than 4 ft. high.

Locating Crossing—Stream crossings should be constructed where they will cause the least amount of disturbance to the channel and surrounding vegetation. Good locations generally include straight sections as opposed to bends and shallow areas rather than deep pools.

Operation and Maintenance  Inspect temporary stream crossings after runoff-producing rains to check for blockage in channel, erosion of abutments, channel scour, stone displacement, or piping along culverts. Make all repairs immediately to prevent further damage to the installation.
Remove temporary stream crossings immediately when they are no longer needed. Restore the stream channel to its original cross-section, and smooth and appropriately stabilize all disturbed areas.

Common Concerns
- Inadequate flow capacities and/or lack of overflow area around structure results in washout of the culvert or the bridge abatement.
- Inadequate stabilization of overflow area results in severe erosion around the bridge or culvert.
- Debris not removed after a storm event results in clogging that may cause washout of the culvert and/or bridge.
- Stone size too small causes the Ford to wash out.
- Inadequate compaction under or around culvert pipes, results in seepage and piping, causing the culvert to wash out.
Erosion Prevention Practices

**Specifications for Culvert Stream Crossing**

1. Stream Disturbance—Disturbance to the stream shall be kept to a minimum. Streambank vegetation shall be preserved to the maximum extent practical and the stream crossing shall be as narrow as practical.

2. Clearing shall be done by cutting NOT grubbing. The roots and stumps shall be left in place to help stabilize the banks and accelerate revegetation.

3. To minimize interference with fish spawning and migration, crossing construction should be avoided where practical from March 15 through June 15.

4. Water shall not be allowed to flow along the road directly to the stream. Diversions and swales shall direct runoff away from the access road to a sediment-control practice.

5. Placement—Culverts shall be placed on the existing streambed to avoid a drop or waterfall at the downstream end of the pipe, which would be a barrier to fish migration. Crossings shall be made in shallow areas rather than deep pools where possible.

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6. Culvert Size—Culvert diameter shall be at least three times the depth of normal stream flow at the point of the stream crossing. If the crossing must be placed in deep, slow-moving pools, the culvert diameter may be reduced to twice the depth of normal stream flow. The minimum size culvert that may be used is 18 in.

7. Culvert Width—Maximum width of the culvert crossing shall be limited to providing safe passage for the largest equipment necessary and shall be confined to only accommodate one-way traffic.

8. Number of Culverts—There shall be sufficient number of culverts to completely cross the stream channel from streambank to streambank with no more than a 12-in. space between each one.

9. Fill and Surface Material—All material placed in the stream channel, around the culverts and on the surface of the crossing shall be stone, rock or aggregate. ODOT No. 1 shall be the minimum acceptable size. To prevent washouts, larger stone and rock may be used and they may be placed in gabion mattresses. NO SOIL SHALL BE USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STREAM CROSSING OR PLACED IN THE STREAM CHANNEL.

10. Removal—Aggregate stone and rock used for this structure does not need to be removed. Care should be taken so that any aggregate left does not create an impoundment or impede fish passage. All pipes, culverts, gabions or structures must be removed.

11. Stabilization—Streambanks shall be stabilized. Plantings shall include woody vegetation where practical.
Erosion Prevention Practices

SPECIFICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY STREAM FORD

1. Timing—No construction or removal of a temporary stream ford will be permitted on perennial streams from March 15 through June 15 to minimize interference with fish spawning and migration.

2. Stream Disturbance—Disturbance to the stream shall be kept to a minimum. Streambank vegetation shall be preserved to the maximum extent practical and the stream crossing shall be as narrow as practical. Clearing shall be done by cutting NOT grubbing where possible.

3. Surface Runoff—Water shall not be allowed to flow along the road directly to the stream. Diversions and swales shall direct runoff away from the access road to a sediment-control practice.
4. Fill and Surface Material—All material placed in the stream channel shall be stone, rock or aggregate. ODOT No. 1 shall be the minimum acceptable size. Larger stone and rock may be used. **NO SOIL SHALL BE USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STREAM FORD OR PLACED IN THE STREAM CHANNEL.**

5. Removal--Aggregate, stone and rock used for the stream crossing shall NOT be removed but shall be formed so it does not create an impoundment, impede fish passage, or cause erosion of streambanks.

6. Stabilization--Streambanks shall be stabilized. Plantings shall include woody vegetation where practical.

7. Width of Ford--Maximum width of the ford shall be limited to providing safe passage for the largest equipment necessary and shall be confined to only accommodate one-way traffic.
STREAM UTILITY CROSSING

DESCRIPTION  Stream Utility Crossings include pipeline, power line, or road construction projects that cross creeks or rivers. Measures used to minimize damage from the construction of utilities across streams start in the planning stages of a project and continue through site restoration. They include: determining the location of the utility, timing construction, construction techniques to reduce sediment pollution, and recreating favorable riparian conditions.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

- Pipelines including but not limited to gas pipelines, sanitary sewers and water lines,
- Overhead electric transmission lines,
- Road and bridge construction.

LIMITS ON EACH CROSSING:

Crossing Width—The limits of disturbance should be as narrow as possible where utilities cross streams. This includes not only construction operations within the channel itself, but also clearing done through the vegetation growing on the streambanks. The width of clearing should be minimized through the entire riparian area. To ensure minimal width of disturbance through the riparian area, materials excavated from trench construction should be placed well back from the streambanks. The width necessary for the crossing should also be clearly specified on the plans as well as the construction and clearing limits.

Duration of Construction—The time between initial disturbance of the stream and final stabilization should be kept to a minimum. The time necessary for an individual utility stream crossing varies significantly, depending on the specific project. Individual projects should be designed to encourage minimum duration of construction activity within the stream channel. Time limits may be specified or the crossing construction may be made dependent on other operations.

Fill Placed Within the Channel—The only fill permitted in the channel should be clean aggregate, stone or rock. No soil or other fine erodible material shall be placed in the channel. This restriction includes all fill for temporary crossings, diversions and trench backfill when placed in
flowing water. If the stream flow is diverted away from construction activity the material originally excavated from the trench may be used to back fill the trench.

**Streambank Restoration**—Streambanks should be restored to their original line and grade. Restoration must not result in a narrower channel or flow restriction. Stabilization of the area shall be conducted immediately upon completion of the stream crossing.

**SITE WORK ASSOCIATED WITH UTILITY STREAM CROSSING:**

**Runoff Control Along the Right-of-Way**—Runoff and sediment controls should be used for the access road or utility easement approaching the stream crossing to prevent sediment-laden runoff from being routed directly to the stream. At a minimum distance of 50 ft. from the stream, runoff should be diverted with water bar or swales to a sediment trapping practice.

**Dewatering**—Trenches and excavations associated with stream crossings frequently require dewatering. Dewatering or pumping operations must not discharge turbid water directly to the stream.

- **Water Containing Sediment**—Dewatering must discharge to a settling facility, silt sack, dewatering sump or a flat, well-vegetated area adequate for removing sediment before the pumped water reaches the stream.

- **Groundwater**—Water pumped from wells is about 55 F which will cause thermal impacts in some situations. High pumping rates near small streams in summer will have major changes in stream metabolism, i.e., throw off spawning. Where this potential occurs, groundwater should not be discharged directly to the stream but roughed through settling ponds or other shallow holding ponds.

**Permits**—The specifications contained in this practice pertain primarily to the environmental impacts of stream utility crossings. The designer must also be aware that such structures are subject to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for in-stream modifications (404 permits) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's State Water Quality Certification (401 permits).
SPECIFICATIONS FOR STREAM UTILITY CROSSING

1. When site conditions allow, one of the following shall be used to divert stream flow or otherwise keep the flow away from construction activity.
   - Drill or bore the utility lines under the stream channel.
   - Construct a cofferdam or barricade of sheet pilings, sandbags or a turbidity curtain to keep the stream from continually flowing through the disturbed areas. Turbidity curtains shall be a pre-assembled system and used only parallel to flow.
   - Stage construction by confining first one-half of the channel until work there is completed and stabilized, then move to the other side to complete the crossing.
   - Route the stream flow around the work area by bridging the trench with a rigid culvert, pumping or constructing a temporary channel. Temporary channels shall be stabilized by rock or a geotextile completely lining the channel bottom and side slopes.

2. Crossing Width—The width of clearing shall be minimized through the riparian area. The limits of disturbance shall be as narrow as possible including not only construction operations within the channel itself but also clearing done through the vegetation growing on the streambanks.

3. Clearing shall be done by cutting NOT grubbing. The roots and stumps shall be left in place to help stabilize the banks and accelerate revegetation.
4. Material excavated from the trench shall be placed at least 20 ft. from the streambanks.

5. To the extent other constraints allow, stream shall be crossed during periods of low flow.

6. Duration of Construction—The time between initial disturbance of the stream and final stabilization shall be kept to a minimum. Construction shall not begin on the crossing until the utility line is in place to within 10 ft. of the streambank.

8. Streambank Restorations—Streambanks shall be restored to their original line and grade and stabilized with riprap or vegetative bank stabilization.

9. Runoff Control Along the Right-of-Way—To prevent sediment-laden runoff from flowing to the stream, runoff shall be diverted with water bar or swales to a sediment trapping practice a minimum of 50 ft. from the stream.

10. Dewatering or pumping water containing sediment shall not be discharge directly to a stream. The flow shall be routed through a settling pond, silt sack, dewatering sump or a flat, well-vegetated area adequate for removing sediment before the pumped water reaches the stream or drainage system.

11. Dewatering operations shall not cause significant reductions in stream temperatures. If groundwater is to be discharged in high volumes during summer months, it shall first be routed through a settling pond or overland though a flat well-vegetated area.

12. Permits—In addition to these specifications, stream crossings shall conform to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for in-stream modifications (404 permits) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's State Water Quality Certification (401 permits).
CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE

DESCRIPTION  A construction entrance is a stabilized pad of stone underlain with a geotextile located at points of ingress/egress and is used to reduce the amount of mud tracked off-site with construction traffic.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES  
- Construction traffic leaves active construction areas and enters public roadways or areas unchecked by effective sediment controls;
- Areas where frequent vehicle and equipment access is expected and likely to contribute sediment to runoff such as at the entrance of individual building lots.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS  Construction entrances address areas that contribute significant amounts of mud to runoff by providing a stable area for traffic. Although they allow some mud to be removed from construction vehicle tires before they enter a public road, they should not be the only practice relied upon to manage off-site tracking. Since most mud is flung from tires as they reach higher speeds, restricting traffic to stabilized construction roads and entrances and away from muddy areas is necessary.

If a construction entrance is not sufficient to remove the majority of mud from wheels or there is an especially sensitive traffic situation on adjacent roads, wheel wash areas may be necessary. This requires an extended width pad to avoid conflicts with traffic, a supply of wash water and sufficient drainage to assure runoff is captured in a sediment pond or trap.

Proper installation of a construction entrance requires a geotextile and proper drainage to insure construction site runoff does not leave the site. The use of geotextile under the stone helps to prevent potholes from developing and will save the amount of stone needed during the life of the practice. Proper drainage may include culverts to direct water under the roadway or water bars to direct muddy water off the roadway toward sediment traps or ponds.
**Erosion Prevention Practices**

**Construction Entrance**

Specifications for

- **Construction Entrance**

![Diagram of Construction Entrance](image)

**Specifications for Construction Entrance**

1. **Stone Size**—ODOT #2 (1.5-2.5 inch) stone shall be used, or recycled concrete equivalent.

2. **Length**—The construction entrance shall be as long as required to stabilize high traffic areas but not less than 70 ft. (except on single residence lot where a 30-ft. minimum length applies).

3. **Thickness**—The stone layer shall be at least 6 in. thick for light duty entrances or at least 10 inches for heavy duty use.
Erosion Prevention Practices

4. Width—The entrance shall be at least 14 ft. wide, but not less than the full width at points where ingress or egress occurs.

5. Geotextile—A geotextile shall be laid over the entire area prior to placing stone. It shall have a Grab Tensile Strength of at least 200 lbs.

6. Timing—The construction entrance shall be installed as soon as is practicable before major grading activities.

7. Culvert—A pipe or culvert shall be constructed under the entrance if needed to prevent surface water flowing across the entrance and or to prevent runoff from being directed out onto paved surfaces.

8. Water Bar—A water bar shall be constructed as part of the construction entrance if needed to prevent surface runoff from flowing the length of the construction entrance and out onto paved surfaces.

9. Maintenance—Top dressing of additional stone shall be applied as conditions demand. Mud spilled, dropped, washed or tracked onto public roads, or any surface where runoff is not checked by sediment controls, shall be removed immediately. Removal shall be accomplished by scraping or sweeping.

10. Construction entrances shall not be relied upon to remove mud from vehicles and prevent off-site tracking. Vehicles that enter and leave the construction-site shall be restricted from muddy areas.

11. Removal—The entrance shall remain in place until the disturbed area is stabilized or replaced with a permanent roadway or entrance.
AGENCY CONTACTS

Hamilton County:

Soil and Water Conservation District.................................513-772-7645
www.hcswcd.org/

Public Works Department..............................................513-946-4750
www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/pubworks

Stormwater District....................................................513-946-7000
www.hamilton-co.org/stormwater

Engineer’s Office.......................................................513-946-4250
www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/Engineer

General Health District................................................513-946-7800
www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org/

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency..............................937-285-6357
www.epa.state.oh.us/

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Soil and Water Conservation.........................614-265-6685
www.dnr.state.oh.us/soilandwater

Metropolitan Sewer District.........................................513-244-5500
www.msdgc.org/

Cincinnati Water Works..............................................513-591-7700
www.cincinnati-oh.gov/gcww/

Duke Energy .............................................................1-800-544-6900
www.duke-energy.com/

Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) .........................1-800-362-2764
www.oups.org/

US Army Corps of Engineers........................................513-825-4518
www.lrh.usace.army.mil/ ..............................................304-399-5395