Stormwater Pollution Prevention
Individual Building Sites

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Construction Schedule

The SWPPP must include a construction sequence schedule for site activities. It begins with installation of perimeter controls and ends with final vegetative stabilization and removal of sediment and erosion control practices. Stormwater practices typically include:

Reduce Erosion & Capture Sediment
- Temporary seeding, mulch, rolled erosion control products (RECPs)
- Silt fence, filter socks
- Inlet protection
- Rock construction entrance/exit

Slow Concentrated Flows (Velocity Control)
- Rock check dams
- Silt fence
- Filter socks in combination with rolled erosion control products (RECPs)

Practice Good Housekeeping
- Designate concrete washout area for contractors
- Keep dumpster covered
- Have spill kits and response plans in place
- Keep street free of sediment and debris
- Protect stockpiled topsoil

Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Establish an 8 inch healthy soil profile prior to sodding or seeding

Inspection Areas Checklist
- Cleared, graded, and excavated areas of the site
- Stormwater best management practices (BMPs)
- Equipment storage and maintenance areas
- Areas where stormwater flows within the site
- Stormwater discharge points such as streets
- Areas where stabilization has been implemented

Inspection Activities Checklist*
- Dust control, stabilized entrance, SWPPP on-site
- Stormwater system inlet is protected
- Stormwater discharge protected (i.e. silt fence)
- Soil stabilization (grading, vegetation, seeding)

* Complete formal Stormwater Construction Site Inspection Form

Enforcement Actions
Exposed soil with no controls is the primary source of sediment leaving construction sites. Lack of site BMPs can result in water pollution and enforcement action, including monetary fines (from $500 to $27,500 per day) and a possible stop work order.

Conduct inspections every 7 calendar days!
Common SWPPP “Slips”

When you are responsible for the SWPPP, read it, understand it, and fully implement it. Following are common “slips” related to SWPPP management that result in enforcement action:

- SWPPP is not developed, implemented or maintained
- SWPPP doesn’t clearly identify where and when each control in the plan will be installed.
- SWPPP contractor and subcontractors haven't signed Certification Statement.
- SWPPP isn’t amended immediately when changes have been made on the construction site.
- SWPPP isn’t provided within three hours after being requested during on-site inspection.
- SWPPP isn’t on-site or sign communicating it’s location is not posted.
- SWPPP violations not corrected within three business days after deficiencies are identified.
- SWPPP violations, resulting in an illicit discharge, not corrected immediately.
- SWPPP BMPs not maintained, i.e. silt fence at 50% capacity and in need of cleaning.

Transferring Ownership Between Developer and Builder

When individual lot ownership changes from developer to builder, compliance with Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) General Permit #2 (GP#2) is still required until construction is complete and final vegetation established.

Iowa code contains two provisions for stormwater management after the building site or sites are sold to a builder by a developer. Know where you stand when it comes to stormwater management:

- **Same authorization:** Seller is solely responsible for renewing existing NPDES permit authorization under IDNR’s GP#2; buyers must comply with seller’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and local permits.
- **Separate authorization:** Buyer is solely responsible for IDNR’s GP#2 compliance; must develop their own SWPPP, file a Notice of Intent to discharge stormwater under IDNR’s GP#2 stormwater permit authorization and comply with local permits.

Best Management Practices

Understanding site drainage patterns, including where and how fast stormwater flows enter and move across a site. This knowledge is critical when it comes to installing the right controls in the right place. Each phase of construction requires best management practices (BMPs) to manage construction site runoff in a responsible manner.

**BMPs For All Phases of Construction**

- **Excavation**
  - Installation of perimeter controls to prevent sediment from leaving site.
  - Rolled erosion control products (RECP) prevent erosion and keep streets and sidewalks free of sediment. Maintain existing vegetation when possible.

- **Concrete Work**
  - Begin with a rock drive for construction entrance, and replace rock as needed.
  - Do not allow parked vehicles on bare soil. Provide concrete washout area, preferably lined, to manage high pH rinse water and prevent soil contamination.

- **Construction**
  - Seed or mulch exposed [bare] soil to prevent erosion from happening in the first place.
  - Provide Inlet protection as the last line of defense against sediment leaving the construction site. Basement spoils is not topsoil - dispose of the spoil material not used as backfill.

- **Site Stabilization**
  - Stockpile topsoil away from critical areas; and don’t block the flow of water.
  - Establish an eight inch healthy soil profile prior to sodding or seeding (refer to Iowa Stormwater Management Manual 2E-6.)