Stormwater and the Construction Industry

**Protect Natural Features**

- **Good**
  - 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, wild woodlands, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

- **Bad**
  - Minimize clearing.
  - Minimize the amount of exposed soil.

**Construction Phasing**

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

- **Bad**
  - Sequence construction activities so that the soil is exposed for long periods of time.
  - Schedule or limit grading to small areas.

**Vegetative Buffers**

- **Good**
  - Protect and install vegetative buffers along waterbodies to slow and filter stormwater runoff.
  - Maintain buffers by mowing or replanting periodically to ensure their effectiveness.

- **Bad**
  - Protect and install vegetative buffers along waterbodies to slow and filter stormwater runoff.

**Silt Fencing**

- **Good**
  - 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 check dam.
  - Make sure stormwater is not flowing around the silt fence.

- **Bad**
  - 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 check dam.
  - Make sure stormwater is not flowing around the silt fence.

**Site Stabilization**

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

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

**Construction Entrances**

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

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

**Slopes**

- **Good**
  - Rough grade or terrace slopes.
  - Break up long slopes with sediment barriers, or under drain, or divert stormwater away from slopes.

- **Bad**
  - Rough grade or terrace slopes.
  - Break up long slopes with sediment barriers, or under drain, or divert stormwater away from slopes.

**Dirt Stockpiles**

- **Good**
  - Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

- **Bad**
  - Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

**Storm Drain Inlet Protection**

- **Good**
  - 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.

- **Bad**
  - 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.

* Maintain your BMPs!*

[www.epa.gov/npdes/menuofbmps](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/menuofbmps)
You must have a Plan that includes erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention BMPs. These Plans require:

- Advance planning and training to ensure proper implementation of the BMPs.
- Stations and subwatershed control plans, including the stormwater management plan and maintenance program.
- Pollution prevention programs to reduce pollutants reaching surface waters.
- Permanent project site BMPs, including those for permanent erosion and sediment control, are typically implemented through the stormwater management plan.

You will need to certify your Plan by completing the certification statement. This statement should be signed by the owner or operator of the site, or the person responsible for implementation of the Plan. Certification is required as soon as the Plan is implemented, unless you have an approved temporary Plan. Certification is required at any time the Plan is updated or if the Plan is revised.

4. Certification and Notification

- Certify the Plan
- Submit permit application or notice of intent

5. Implementing and Maintaining a Plan

- Implement controls
- Inspect and maintain controls
- Develop a maintenance schedule
- Report releases of hazardous materials

A Plan describes the performance practices and activities you must use to prevent or minimize the discharge of pollutants from your site. A Plan must contain the requirements for your site, including all applicable requirements.

BMPs are effective to prevent pollution than it is 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 also save you money!