

Goal

The purpose of the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program is to serve the public by protecting the waters of the State of Michigan, and to ensure clean water for drinking, swimming, fish and wildlife habitat.

Soil Erosion Control Requirements

- w Earth moving activity can not begin without a Soil Erosion Permit. The Soil Erosion Permit must be posted and be clearly visible from the road.
- w Soil erosion and sedimentation control measures as designated on plans and/or as required must be installed prior to any earth moving activities.
- w Earth changes to a property must not adversely affect drainage to surrounding areas.
- w Detention/retention/sedimentation ponds must be constructed and stabilized prior to other earth moving activities.
- w Outlets of detention/retention/sedimentation ponds shall be designed and constructed to reduce the water flow to a non-erosive velocity. Rip-rap must be installed on all storm water outlets.
- w All earth moving shall be designed, constructed and completed in such a manner that limits the exposed area of any disturbed land for the shortest possible period of time. The site must be stabilized within 5 calendar days after final grading or earth moving activity has been completed.
- w Stone access drives, if required, must be installed prior to construction for purposes of mud tracking.
- w Soil, sediment, and miscellaneous debris must be kept off streets and out of drainage ditches and catch basins throughout the duration of the project.
- w Silt fencing, if required, must be trenched in and backfilled. Fencing may be toed-in with pea gravel if installed in winter.
- w Stockpiling of any excavated material must be kept clear of sensitive areas. Adequate controls must be in place to ensure this requirement.
- w Erosion control blankets are required on slopes of 4:1 or steeper.
- w All permanent erosion control measures shall be permanently maintained by the owner or homeowner association.

Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures

CATCH BASIN FILTER Geotextile filter fabric placed inside a catch basin (storm drain) to filter suspended sediment from water. Must have regular maintenance after storm or snow melt events to function properly.

CHECK DAM Temporary measure consisting of a line of 4-8" stone piled a maximum of 2 ft. high that slows the flow of water in ditches, swales or natural drainage areas. Check dams should be built so that the center of the wall is lower than the outside edges, and should be spaced so that the top of the downslope check dam is level with the bottom of the upslope check dam.

DETENTION/RETENTION BASIN Drainage basins or ponds designed to hold and filter water draining from developed site so as to prevent flooding and filter suspended sediment from water. Required for most major projects.

EROSION CONTROL BLANKET A blanket composed of a mesh of biodegradable material, usually interlaced with straw mulch, and sometimes containing grass seed, used for controlling erosion on steep downslopes. Erosion Control Blankets must be staked in, trenched in at the top and flat against the ground.

RIP-RAP Rock-type material (usually 6-8' stone) placed on the edges of culverts or drainage outlets to slow water to a non-erosive velocity, preventing erosion. Stone should be arranged in a half-circle around the end of the outlet.

SILT FENCING Temporary measure consisting of wooden fence posts, support system, and a geotextile filter fabric (usually nylon) used to keep suspended soil particles from leaving the site. Required to be trenched in to a depth of 6".

VEGETATIVE BUFFER A strip or area of vegetation used to filter sediment and pollutants from runoff. The minimum width for a filter strip is usually 25'.