

STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS) FOR CONTRACTORS & SUBCONTRACTORS



Town of
BLUFFTON
South Carolina

SEDIMENT & EROSION CONTROL: WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

When land is disturbed at construction sites, the erosion rate accelerates dramatically. Sediment leaving these sites has negative impacts on the water quality of our local waterbodies.

Depending on your line of work as a contractor/subcontractor, you may be responsible for the installation, maintenance, or utilization of sediment and erosion control devices and proper illicit discharge prevention techniques. Together, these devices and techniques are considered Best Management Practices (BMPs). What follows is info on commonly used BMPs.

CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE

Every construction site should have a construction entrance a minimum of 15'L x 10'W complete with underlying fabric and a minimum of 6" of stone to prevent sediment from being carried off-site by vehicles.

The stone must be washed or replaced whenever the entrance fails to reduce the amount of sediment tracked off-site and roadways should be swept regularly.



SILT FENCE

Silt fence must be properly trenched in 6" in depth and back filled along the boundary of the site prior to land disturbance and must remain in place until the site has achieved final stabilization.

Establish a routine of checking silt fence on your site weekly, especially immediately following a rain event. Remove accumulated sediment exceeding 1/3 the height of the silt fence and repair any fallen or damaged sections.



INLET PROTECTION

Inlet protection must be installed at every inlet located within the site and downstream of the site to prevent sediment from entering the stormwater system.

Replace inlet protection that has deteriorated or becomes full of sediment and keep inlet protection in place until the site work is completed and final stabilization is achieved.



TEMPORARY & PERMANENT STABILIZATION

The purpose of stabilization is to control runoff and reduce erosion and sedimentation by providing coverage to areas that would otherwise lay bare for long periods of time. Temporary or permanent stabilization is required within 14 days after construction activity is complete and final stabilization of the site requires a 70% overall coverage rate.



CONCRETE WASHOUT STATION

Concrete washout water (washwater) is a slurry containing toxic metals harmful to aquatic life. Concrete washout stations should be utilized to prevent washwater from entering the stormwater system.

Concrete washout stations must be emptied or replaced once 50% holding capacity of the station has been exceeded.



TIPS FOR ILLICIT DISCHARGE PREVENTION

- Properly utilize and maintain BMPs.
- Notify the Watershed Management Division at least 24 hours prior to dewatering to ensure a proper setup.
- Temporary stockpiles and construction materials must be properly contained and stored.
- Ensure proper placement of portable toilets. Do not place portable toilets directly upstream of a stormwater conveyance structure.
- Pay attention to the amount of paint, tile, etc. washout accumulating on-site, ensuring that washout does not leave the site or enter the stormwater system.
- If a spill does occur, do not use water to hose down the area. Either use a spill kit or clean material to help absorb the spill. Clean up any spills immediately and dispose of materials in accordance with applicable state and local laws.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Town of Bluffton's Web Site:
<http://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov>
- Town of Bluffton's Stormwater Design Manual Web Site:
<https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/pdfs/stormwater-manual.pdf>
- Town of Bluffton's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Web Site:
<https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/Documents/izone.pdf>
- SC DHEC BMP Handbook Web Site:
<http://www.scdhec.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/Stormwater/BMPHandbook/>
- Lowcountry Stormwater Partners Web Site:
<https://www.clemson.edu/extension/carolinaclear/regional-consortiums/lsp/index.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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