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Stormwater and the Construction Industry

Maintain your BMPs!

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Protect Natural Features

Bad

Good

- Maintain shading.
- 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, wetlands, and other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

Construction Phasing

Bad

Good

- Sequence construction activities so that the soil is not exposed for long periods of time.
- Schedule or team grading to small areas.
- Install topsoil replacement practices before site grading begins.
- Schedule site stabilization activities, such as landscaping, to be completed immediately after the final has been graded to its final contour.

Vegetative Buffers

Bad

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.

Silt Fencing

Bad

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 roadway or use them as a check dam.
- Make sure sediment is not flowing around the silt fence.

Site Stabilization

Bad

Good

- Vegetate, mulch, or otherwise stabilize all exposed areas as soon as final disturbance has been completed.

Construction Entrances

Bad

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 blocked to mud.

Slopes

Bad

Good

- Rough grade of terrace slopes.
- Break up long slopes with sediment barriers, or rock, straw, or down-sloped concrete steps from slopes.

Dirt Stockpiles

Bad

Good

- Cover or sand all dirt stockpiles.

Storm Drain Inlet Protection

Bad

Good

- The rock or other aggregate 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 silt filters, maintain them regularly.