

# EROSION CONTROL FOR SINGLE-FAMILY CONSTRUCTION



This brochure is intended to help you understand how and when to install erosion and sediment control measures required by your development permit or your inspector.

## Report Spills

Call (253) 447-4320 or Bonney Lake 311  
Or (253) 841-5538 (After Hours & Weekends)



## DO I NEED TO INSTALL EROSION CONTROL?

Sediment from construction sites must be trapped and prevented from leaving the project site or entering streams, drainage ways, wetlands, or other environmentally sensitive areas. Private and public property down stream or slope of the project site must also be protected against erosion during construction.

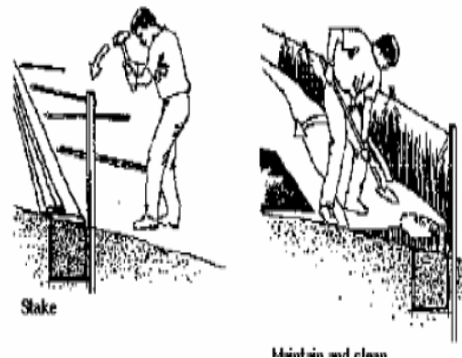
All projects that will clear, grade, or disturb a site must provide temporary erosion and sediment control. Erosion control information explaining the steps homebuilders must follow are attached to every building permit issued by the City of Bonney Lake. Additional information is available on the City's website at [www.citybonneylake.org](http://www.citybonneylake.org)

## WHAT EROSION CONTROL MEASURES DO I NEED?

Depending on your site conditions, methods used to control sediment-laden runoff include using some or all of the following products:

**Silt Fence** - A silt fence is a temporary sediment barrier consisting of filter fabric stretched across and attached to supporting posts, entrenched, and, depending upon the strength of fabric used, supported with plastic or wire mesh fence (see Figure 1). Silt fences trap sediment by intercepting and detaining small amounts of sediment-laden runoff from disturbed areas in order to promote sedimentation behind the fence. Silt fences must be installed correctly to be effective.

Figure 1 Silt Fence Installation

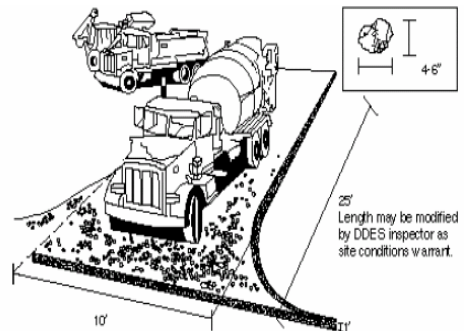


**Straw** - Areas of exposed soils that will not be worked for long periods must be covered. Straw mulch is often used to meet this requirement. There must be a minimum of at least 2 inches of straw cover completely covering all soil.

**Mulch** – Mulch provides immediate protection to exposed soils during periods of short construction delays, steep slopes, or over winter months through the application of plant residues and other suitable materials.

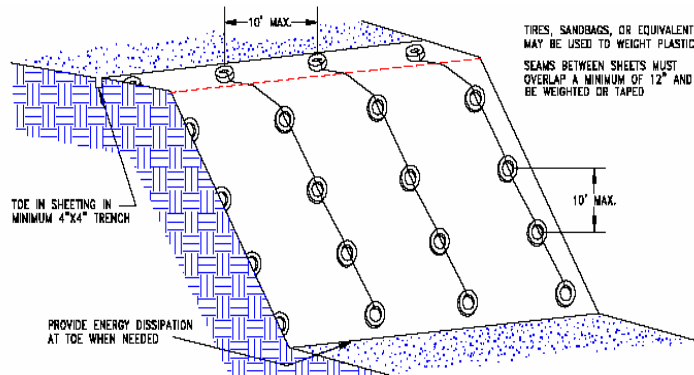
Figure 2 - Mulching Standards

TABLE D.7.A MULCH STANDARDS AND APPLICATION RATES		
Mulch Material	Quality Standards	Application Rates
Straw	Air-Dried; free from undesirable seed and coarse material	2"-3" thick; 2-3 bales per 1000 SF or 2-3 tons per acre
Wood Fiber Cellulose	No growth inhibiting factors	Approx. 25-30 lbs. per 1000 SF or 1000 to 1500 lbs. per acre
Compost	No visible water or dust during handling. Must be purchased from supplier with Solid Waste Handling Permit	2" thick min.; approx. 100 tons per acre (approx. 800 lbs. per yard)
Chipped Site Vegetation	Average size shall be several inches	2" minimum thickness



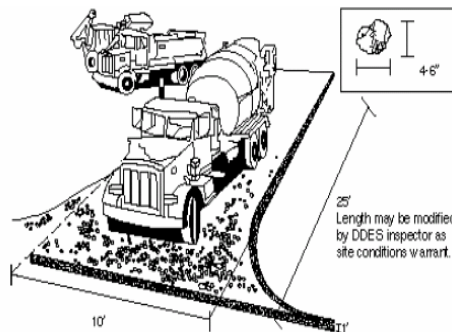
**Plastic** –Plastic sheeting may be used to cover exposed slopes that require immediate protection from erosion. Stockpiled soil that will not be used within 24 hours should also be covered.

**Figure 3 Plastic Cover**



**Rock Construction Entrance** - A rock construction entrance is commonly used to re-move sediment from the tires of vehicles that enter and exit the construction site. A rock pad must be constructed six-inches deep with two-inch to four-inch crushed rock (see Figure 4). A geotextile fabric is placed beneath the rock to prevent sediments from pumping through the rock pad. The rock pad should be sized approximately ten feet wide by twenty five feet long.

**Figure 4 – Rock Construction Entrance**



Other approved Best Management Practices (BMP's) may include using storm drain inlet protection, erosion control nets and blankets, seeding, sodding, or vegetative filter buffers.

## INSPECTION PROCESS

The erosion control portion of your project requires a minimum of 2 inspections. Call the City's 24 Hour Inspection request Line at **(253) 447-4357** to request an inspection.

### Initial Erosion Control Inspection

Once a building permit has been issued, the contractor is only authorized to conduct the clearing and grading necessary to install the project specific drainage and erosion and sediment control measures (ESC). No other construction, clearing, or grading activity shall be permitted onsite until all the ESC measures have been approved. Once ESC has been installed, the applicant or

his/her agent shall request an ESC inspection through the City's Inspection Request Line. At this time, the inspector will inspect all required drainage and erosion and sediment control measures to ensure they are installed correctly and functioning properly.

#### **Interim Erosion Control Inspection**

During the remaining construction process, the City inspector will conduct periodic site inspections to ensure ESC measures are being monitored and maintained onsite.

#### **Permanent Erosion Control Inspection**

This inspection must be requested when the construction portion of your project is completed. This inspection is to verify that permanent drainage and erosion and sediment control measures are installed.

## **Who To Contact For More Information**

City of Bonney Lake inspection staff are available to answer any questions you have about Erosion and sediment control and stabilization measures. For more information, please call the Permit Center at (253) 447-4344 and you will be directed to a CESCL Inspector. Also available online are Pierce County's [Erosion and Sediment Control Standards as outlined in Volume I of the Pierce County Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual](#) which the City of Bonney Lake has adopted.

Additional information is found in the City adopted Pierce County Stormwater Management and Site Development Manual Volume I, Appendix I-A, Requirements for Drainage Control and Erosion and Sediment Control for Construction of Single Family and Duplex Residences and Other Small Projects.

<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/xml/services/home/envIRON/water/cip/swmmanual/2008Published/SWMManual-VOL1.pdf>

For free video information, go to <http://www.excalvisual.com/products.pl?ProductID=36#>



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