

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Soil Erosion and Sediment Control

Q. What is erosion control?

A. Erosion and sediment control is the process by which we reduce or limit the amount of pollutants entering our streams, lakes, and waterways.

Q. When is an erosion control permit required?

A. Any time that any land-disturbing activity takes place.

Q. What are some methods of erosion control?

A. The most common methods of erosion control or Best Management Practices (BMP's) are silt fence, hay bales, sediment baskets, and stone access pads.

Q. How do I get an erosion control permit?

A. By submitting a detailed erosion control plan along with an erosion control permit application. Your application and plan will be reviewed, corrected if necessary, and approved by the soil erosion inspector.

Q. What needs to be included on my erosion control plan?

A. At minimum, your erosion control plan should indicate:

- North arrow
- Property lines
- Storm sewer inlets (if applicable)
- Existing and proposed buildings
- Disturbed area of lot in square feet/linear feet/cubic feet
- Direction of runoff flow
- Existing and proposed grade elevations
- Location of access drives
- Location of required dumpster
- Erosion control methods to be used
- Location of any soil storage piles
- Name and contact information of the person responsible for maintaining erosion control

Q. Erosion control is just controlling dirt or soil from getting into the storm sewer, correct?

A. No. Erosion and sediment control also extends to construction debris, gravel, grass clippings, oil, gasoline, mulch, anti-freeze, leaves, and snow - just to name a few. Any of these materials is a danger to our water quality if they are allowed to enter our lakes, streams, and waterways.