



SOIL EROSION CONTROL MEASURES

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SOIL EROSION IMPACTS

- In a heavy storm you could lose up to four truckloads of soil from a building site.
- You then have to buy replacement soil.
- Soil, concrete, sand, gravel and cement can block drains causing flooding and expense in clearing drains.
- Top soil loss can increase turbidity and nutrient levels in waterways with adverse environmental impact.
- Hilly sites whose “cut and fill” of the ground can have major problems for years to come.

HOW WILL IT AFFECT ME?

It will cost you

- “On The Spot” fines of up to \$600 for owners, builders, or tradesmen.
- Replacement materials and clean up.
- Increased rates for maintenance of drains and waterways.
- Building inspections and work will be stopped until erosion control measures are provided.

HOW CAN I PREVENT SOIL EROSION

Site management and control measures are the simple answers.

Excavations

1. Limit the area and depth of any cut. Leave as much vegetation on the block, both above and below the cut.
2. Limit the area and depth of any cut. Leave as much vegetation on the block, both above and below the cut.
3. Leave a vegetation barrier beside the road or footpath to stop soil movement at the front of the block.
4. If you can't use the excavated material, remove it immediately off the site.
5. Put soil stockpiles to the back of the block (if practical).
6. Put up a silt fence or barriers to prevent soil and materials leaving the site/block.
7. Put sand bags or hay bales around any drain inlets or across table drains to prevent entry of soil or materials to the drains.

Deliveries

1. Restrict access to the block to 1 entry, 4m wide.
2. Provide a compacted road base to this entry.
3. Don't order deliveries when it is wet or raining.
4. Don't stockpile materials on the road, footpath, or vegetation strip at the front.
5. Don't let concrete bowls and chutes be washed down onto the road, footpath or table drains.

Services

1. Backfill and compact soil into the trenches as soon after services have been laid and passed, i.e. electricity, gas, water, sewer and stormwater.

Connect guttering and downpiping if the roofing has been installed. Lay stormwater drains and backfill with compacted material having connected the drain to the stormwater drainage easement or kerb and gutter (if any).

STABLISATION

1. Install upstream barriers or diversion drains to the building site, channelling stormwater to a silt trap below the site.
2. Compact batters on the “cut and fill”.
3. Re-establish grass or shrubs on the batters.
4. Remove surplus fill or unwanted materials.

ADVICE

Council's Building Surveyor or Environmental Officers can give you help on specific site control measures if you ask. This advice is free.