

10 Steps to Stormwater Pollution Prevention on Small Residential Construction Sites

NOTE: This graphic does not address post-construction stormwater treatment permit requirements.

- 1 Protect Any Areas Reserved for Vegetation or Infiltration and Preserve Existing Trees**
If you will be installing infiltration-based features such as rain gardens or bioswales, make sure these areas are designated as off limits to avoid compaction.

Save time and money by protecting any areas for vegetation or infiltration with existing trees. This can also be accomplished with a silt fence. Preserving mature trees minimizes the amount of soil that needs to be stabilized once construction is complete, and minimizes the amount of runoff during and after construction activity.

- 2 Stockpile Your Soil**
Preserve native topsoil and protect all soil storage piles from run-on and runoff. For smaller stockpiles, covering the entire pile with a tarp may be sufficient.

- 3 Protect Construction Materials from Run-On and Runoff**
At the end of every workday and during precipitation events, provide cover for materials that could leach pollutants.

- 4 Designate Waste Disposal Areas**
Clearly identify separate waste disposal areas on site for hazardous waste, construction waste, and domestic waste by designating with signage, and protect from run-on and runoff.

- 5 Install Perimeter Controls on Downhill Lot Line**
Install perimeter controls such as sediment filter logs or silt fences around the downhill boundaries of your site. Make sure to remove accumulated sediment whenever it has reached halfway up the control.

- 6 Install Inlet Controls**
Sediment control logs, gravel barriers, and sand or rock bags are options for effective inlet controls. Make sure to remove accumulated sediment whenever the device becomes nonfunctional.

- 7 Install a Concrete/Stucco Washout Basin**
Designate a leak-proof basin lined with plastic for washing out used concrete and stucco containers. Never wash excess stucco or concrete residue down a storm drain or into a stream!

- 8 Maintain a Stabilized Construction Entrance**
Minimize sediment track out from vehicles exiting your site by maintaining a construction entrance made of stone. If sediment track-out occurs, remove despoiled sediment within 24 hours of discovery.

- 9 Keep an Up-to-Date Copy of Your SWPPP on Site**
Keep an up-to-date copy of your SWPPP and/or self-inspection reports on site, including site maps showing where each BMP is or will be installed, and records of the site inspections completed by a trained inspector on site and easily accessible.

- 10 Site Stabilization**
Immediately stabilize exposed portions of the site whenever construction work will stop for 14 or more days, even if work is only temporarily stopped. Remember, final stabilization is required prior to terminating permit coverage.

Keep in mind that temporary or permanent stabilization must be completed within 7 days if your project is within 1 mile of a special or impaired water.

