

Clean water – we need it to survive

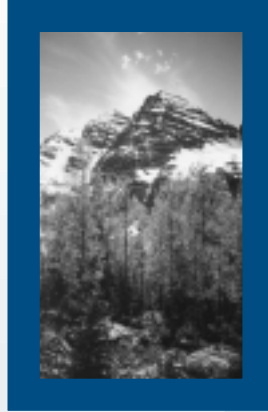
Rivers, streams, creeks, ponds, lakes, reservoirs — the metro area's waterways are some of our most precious resources. They provide drinking water, recreation, and wildlife habitat. But only if the water remains clean and unpolluted.

Wind and water are the world's greatest earthmovers

Sediment — sand, soil, or dirt — is the most common pollutant from construction sites. Wind and water can erode any exposed soil, blowing or washing it from the work site.

Sediment decreases the capacity of the storm sewer system, increases flooding damage, and harms fish and other aquatic life. Sediment also carries pollutants (such as vehicle fluids, solvents, paints, asphalt, or cement) with it, which intensify the damage.

This brochure explains how proper management of construction sites can prevent water pollution.

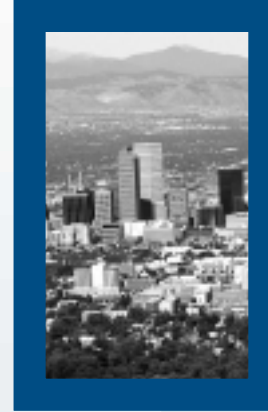


As a construction site owner or operator, you are encouraged to:

- ◆ Train your employees and subcontractors.
- ◆ Inform them about their responsibilities regarding stormwater permit requirements and the site plan.
- ◆ Make these brochures available to everyone working on the site.

Best Management Practices really do work

Best Management Practices include use of sediment traps, silt fences, and mulching. These measures, along with proper handling, storing, and



disposing of materials, prevent pollutants from entering the storm drains.

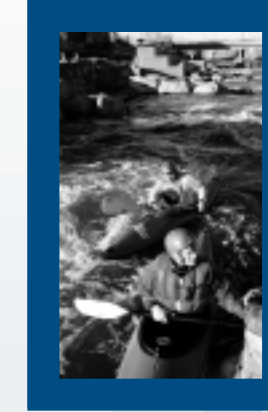
Design for minimum impact

Do not remove existing grass, shrubs, or trees

These plants bind soil and shield it from erosion by wind and water. Vegetated soil also improves the water quality of storm runoff. Use existing vegetation for buffer strips.

Develop sites to fit existing topography

As much as possible, design the site to blend with existing topography. For example, grade the site following existing contours to preserve the natural drainage patterns.



Phase your project

Limit the extent of earth-moving operations occurring at any one time by phasing a project. Exposed soil is easily carried to streams by stormwater. Phasing the project reduces the amount of exposed soil subject to erosion.

Prevent erosion

Plan before you start

Having an erosion control plan in place before construction begins prevents or minimizes most erosion and sedimentation problems.

Control surface runoff

Use silt fences, hay bales, sediment basins, storm inlet protection, and mulching to control erosion. Use temporary dikes and ditches to divert water. Use as little water as possible for dust control.

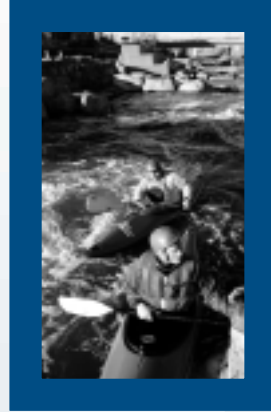
Keep mud off streets

Limit the number of access points to the site to prevent vehicles from tracking mud onto streets. Use a rock-lined tracking pad or wash rack to remove mud from vehicles before they exit the site. Clean streets around the site daily.

Mulch and re-vegetate

When grading is completed, mulch and seed the site. Use fast-growing grasses suited to the dry Colorado climate.





Mulch and seed any stockpiled topsoil if it will remain in place for 14 days or longer. Always stabilize the first phase of a large site before grading the next phase.

Practice good housekeeping

Clean up trash and spills

Place trash cans and recycling receptacles around the site. Use them! Clean up leaks, drips, and other spills immediately. Never hose down pavement or surfaces where materials have spilled. Use dry clean-up methods whenever possible. Check trash dumpsters for leaks. Never clean a dumpster by hosing it down on site.

Reduce exposure of materials

Cover construction materials with secured tarps or plastic sheeting. Cover trash dumpsters with temporary roofs, tarps, or plastic sheeting.

Prevent pollution from vehicles

Designate one area for vehicle parking, refueling, and routine equipment maintenance. This area should be well away from gutters or storm drains. Make major equipment repairs off-site or in an enclosed maintenance building.

Dispose of waste properly

Clean up the site

Clean the site of waste and recyclables at the end of every working day.



Provide separate containers for recyclable materials. Take non-hazardous materials that cannot be recycled to an approved landfill. Use a crushing company to recycle asphalt, concrete, tile, and porcelain rather than disposing of them in a landfill. Properly dispose of all hazardous wastes. Do not place contaminated soil in dumpsters with general construction trash.

Never bury or leave waste

Never bury waste at the work site or leave it behind and available to vandals.

Help prevent pollution — it's the law!

Causing water pollution and environmental damage is against the law! As a construction site owner, land developer, property owner, or construction worker (employee or subcontractor), you have a legal responsibility to prevent pollution. Failing to do so can result in regulatory sanctions, restoration and restitution requirements, fines, and even imprisonment.

Training is available!

A two-day "Stormwater Management and Erosion Control" class (one day classroom instruction, one day optional field trip) is currently available through the Rocky Mountain Education Center at Red Rocks Community College. For more information, call (303) 914-6420.

Remember...

Water runs downhill.

Water picks up everything.

Water flows to our rivers, streams, and creeks.

Do your part to keep our water clean!

Dumping liquid or solid waste into a storm drain or creek is a crime! If you see illegal dumping, report it!

Broomfield
303-464-5648

Golden
303-384-8181

Wheat Ridge
303-235-2861

Westminster
303-430-2400 x3362

Jefferson County
303-271-8454

Arvada
720-898-7810

CLEAR CHOICES
FOR CLEAN WATER



Managing Your Construction Site

This brochure was created by and used with the permission of the City and County of Denver, the City of Aurora, the City of Lakewood and the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District.