



# SAVE TIME AND MONEY ON YOUR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT



As a developer, you are very aware that time is money. Delays in construction affect your bottom line. One area where needless delays can be avoided is erosion and sediment pollution control.

Virtually all development activities involving earth moving require some erosion and sediment pollution control planning and most require permitting. Proper planning and careful implementation of the plan can save needless delays. Further, by following an approved plan, enforcement procedures which may result in fines and associated lengthy delays can be avoided.

Also, consider that as an active developer or builder in your community, it is your responsibility to prevent sediment pollution which degrades the streams in your community. By properly managing erosion and runoff from your site, you can be a good neighbor.

## THERE ARE SEVERAL COMMONLY MADE MISTAKES THAT CAN CAUSE DELAYS

1. Not having a plan or not obtaining needed permits.
2. Not following the planned construction sequence.
3. Not installing the planned erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs)
4. Improper installation of BMPs.
5. Not maintaining BMPs in proper working condition.
6. Not stabilizing the construction site as planned for or required.
7. Not complying with conditions of permits.
8. Not providing training or guidance to employees regarding erosion and sediment control.
9. Although not directly related to sediment control, you will want to ensure that all steps, measures, procedures and documentation are in order for timely processing of your Notice of Termination. Remember, you as the permittee continue to be responsible for the project site until the Notice of Termination is approved. This is true even if the project is completed and the permit expires.

## MISTAKES CAN CAUSE DELAYS IN THESE WAYS:

1. Erosion and sediment control BMPs that are not installed correctly the first time needing to be reinstalled.
2. Time spent repairing or remediating damages caused by improper installation of BMPs, not maintaining BMPs or failing to follow an erosion and sediment control plan.
3. Time spent in meetings with the Conservation District or Department of Environmental Protection staff to correct mistakes.
4. Time lost while enforcement procedures are conducted. In this case, in addition to delays, fines may be imposed.



*Proper and timely site stabilization prevents erosion, protects streams and saves you time and money. Stabilization of this slope will prevent erosion. When erosion occurs, it will cost time and money to repair and stabilize.*

## THREE KEYS TO SAVING TIME AND MONEY

- 1. COMMUNICATION** – Open communication between the developer, consultant, contractors and Conservation District can avoid confusion, misunderstandings, mistakes and delays.
- 2. PRE-APPLICATION MEETINGS** – Although not required, these meetings are critical to identifying and addressing permit requirements and other issues that could cause delays in reviewing a permit or during construction. You are strongly urged to have your consultant schedule such a meeting with Conservation District staff prior to submitting an application.
- 3. PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETINGS** – These meetings are required for NPDES Permits and are the responsibility of the permittee to arrange. These meetings are an opportunity to address any final issues, identify concerns and make sure all parties are “on the same page” before construction begins.

## Time and Money Saving Tips...

The following suggestions will help you to avoid delays in construction due to erosion due to common problems erosion and sediment pollution control problems. Following these recommendations will not only save you time and money during construction, it can also help to establish you and your company as a good neighbor in your community.

- Contact the Conservation District to discuss the erosion and sediment pollution control requirements for your project well in advance. A pre-application meeting can save you time and money.
- Ensure the erosion and sediment control plan is being followed, including construction sequencing.
- Do not “cut corners” in planning or installation of BMPs. If there isn’t time or money to do it right the first time, where will you find the time or money to do it a second time?
- Inspect and maintain BMPs regularly, on a weekly basis and especially after each measurable rain, to ensure they are functioning properly and keeping sediment from reaching streams, storm sewers or adjacent properties. Make repairs to BMPs immediately to ensure they will function properly.
- Ensure contractors have access to and understand the plan and correct installation procedures.
- Ensure that all your appropriate employees are properly trained in erosion control practices and procedures.
- If a problem does arise, contact the Conservation District. The Conservation District is willing to work with you to prevent sediment pollution.



*The silt sock above was not installed correctly. Improper ground contact, the lack of staking and mulch allows sediment to wash onto the adjacent sidewalk. It will cost time and money to reinstall. The silt sock below was installed correctly the first time. It will provide cost effective sediment control.*



*Mulch Berms, like the one shown above, are a great way to use on site materials as an erosion control practice. What was once a waste product from clearing and grubbing activities can now be used as an effective and cost saving way to prevent sediment from washing off a construction site.*

**Contact the Dauphin County  
Conservation District Staff**

**717-921-8100**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR  
INFORMATION ON EROSION AND  
SEDIMENT POLLUTION CONTROL  
AND NPDES PERMITTING**

**[www.dauphincd.org](http://www.dauphincd.org)**