

Erosion & Sediment Control for Construction Sites

SITE SAFE, *Water Safe*



THINK BLUE
MASSACHUSETTS

When soil and sediment leave your construction site, they don't just disappear—they often wash into storm drains and end up in nearby rivers, lakes, and wetlands. Sediment pollution can damage aquatic habitats, clog stormwater systems, and trigger costly enforcement actions.

Site Management That Protects Our Waterways



Install perimeter controls – Use silt fences, wattles, or berms to trap sediment at the edge of your site.



Stabilize exposed soil – Mulch, seed, or cover bare ground to prevent erosion.



Keep the site clean – Sweep up debris and prevent sediment from leaving on truck tires or runoff.

**Best Practices for Erosion
& Sediment Control**

Learn more online:
ThinkBlueMA.org



BMPs for Erosion & Sediment Control

Most of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified below are non-structural and cost little or nothing to implement. This listing is not all-inclusive and other non-structural and structural BMPs can be implemented to further reduce the potential of contributing to stormwater pollution.

DO'S

- Inspect and maintain erosion controls weekly and after storms.
- Minimize exposed areas by phasing construction.
- Protect storm drain inlets with filters or silt sacks.
- Use stabilized construction entrances to reduce tracking of sediment.
- Store soil stockpiles away from paved areas and cover when inactive.
- Train crews on proper sediment control practices (Use multiple or layered BMPs that support one another in case one fails).

DON'TS

- Let sediment leave the site through runoff or vehicle tracking.
- Leave disturbed soil uncovered for extended periods.
- Allow concrete washout or debris near storm drains.
- Assume BMPs will work if they aren't maintained.
- Block storm drains without proper filtration.
- Disregard sediment control on small or short-term jobs.

***Think Blue Means
Clean Water for You!***

Learn more online:
[**ThinkBlueMA.org**](http://ThinkBlueMA.org)

