

Protecting Hillsdale Lake with Construction Best Management Practices

With the growth in the Hillsdale Lake's Watershed communities increasing, everyone is encouraged to use methods that protect water quality during and after construction. Erosion from construction sites generates sediment on roads and in streams.

The runoff can carry sediment and other pollutants to streams and the lake. Care needs to be taken during construction to implement pollution control practices in order to reduce runoff and erosion.

The following practices are some of the most common ones used to reduce erosion at construction sites. These practices can be implemented on a large scale by a contractor in a construction area as well as by homeowners on a smaller scale.



Pollution Control Practices to Use During Construction

Hay Bales as Sediment Traps

Purpose: Temporary in nature, hay bales trap smaller amounts of sediment in runoff from exposed areas at construction sites.

Places to Use: Hay bales should be used around curbs or around the perimeter of construction area where runoff flows.

Silt Fence

Purpose: This is a temporary sediment control measure used on the contour or across the slope of an area to trap sediment runoff from exposed areas.

Places to Use: Silt fences are used in similar situations as hay bales.

Mulching

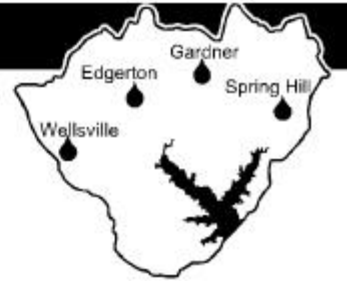
Purpose: Mulching reduces surface erosion caused by the impact of rain and runoff providing surface cover.

Places to Use: Mulching provides cover on bare slopes until permanent vegetation is established. Synthetic mulching should be used in areas needing cover for an extended period of time.

Hillsdale Water Quality Project

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Temporary Seeding

Purpose: Temporary seeding reduces runoff, erosion and sedimentation in exposed areas by providing vegetative cover.

Places to Use: This practice should be used in areas where existing vegetation has been removed and no construction activities are planned for 30 days or more.

Sodding

Purpose: Sod provides immediate remediation by providing instant vegetative coverage to reduce runoff, sedimentation and erosion.

Places to Use: Sodding is especially effective on sloping areas which are susceptible to erosion but should also be used in areas where vegetation has been removed and construction is complete.

Water and Sedimentation Control Basins

Purpose: This pollution control practice reduces gully erosion and stores runoff water until peak flow is reduced and allows sediments and other pollutants to settle out.

Places to Use: These permanent structures should be used in areas where there is a high potential for runoff and sediment to damage downstream land or improvements.

Permanent Landscaping

Purpose: Permanent landscaping controls stormwater runoff.

Places to Use: Green spaces in development areas such as subdivisions or office parks can benefit from this type of pollution control practice.

A construction project is not complete until perennial vegetation is established over at least 70 percent of all areas disturbed by the project.

Grading Plans

Purpose: Grading plans will assist with minimizing slope gradients for areas being developed.

Places to Use: All areas slated for development can benefit from this planning.

Riparian Area Protection

Purpose: Grass or trees maintained in riparian areas reduce pollutant loads entering bodies of water.

Places to Use: All areas within 50 feet adjacent to streams and lake should be protected.

**To learn more about Pollution Control Practices and Water Quality,
contact the Hillsdale Water Quality Project at the numbers or website listed above.**

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