



Soils exposed from land grading activities are very vulnerable to erosion

OBJECTIVES

- Housekeeping Practices
- Contain Waste
- Minimize Disturbed Areas
- Stabilize Disturbed Areas
- Protect Slopes/Channels
- Control Site Perimeter
- Control Internal Erosion

DESCRIPTION:

Control soil erosion by minimizing the exposure of bare soil to erosive forces. This is done by

- 1) limiting the amount of land disturbed at one time in preparation for construction
- 2) limiting the amount of time between the disturbance of soil and protection or stabilization of disturbed soils, and
- 3) using grading practices to protect exposed soils susceptible to storm water runoff.

Related practices include construction sequencing, preservation of existing vegetation, erosion control practices and sediment control practices.

APPROACH:

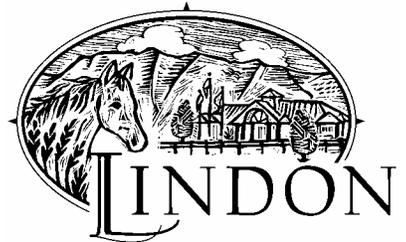
- Limit the area of disturbance to those areas requiring grading. This preserves existing vegetation and reduces the vulnerability of soil to erosion.
- Based on erosion potential and sediment control measures on the site, establish what areas are to be graded at one time.
- An undisturbed buffer zone containing vegetation at the lowest elevation of a construction site can reduce the transport of sediment off site.
- Initiate soil protection measures during the course of work to minimize the length of time soil is exposed to erosive forces.
- Conduct work in stages so that construction or soil stabilization occurs promptly after disturbance of soil.
- Establish a schedule governing the stabilization of disturbed slopes, both in terms of passage of time since commencement and completion of disturbance and in terms of planting season.
- Leaving the surface of the disturbed soil graded in a roughened condition (not smooth) can reduce the quantity and velocity of storm water runoff.
- Prevent storm water runoff from running onto steep slopes from above.
- Avoid long, steep cut or fill slopes that allow runoff water of sufficient quantity or velocity to cut into and erode the slope.

LIMITATIONS:

- The specific approach to grading on a particular site depends on the conditions of the site and surrounding land; engineering judgment is required to design the approach best suited for each site.

MAINTENANCE:

- Practices may need to vary from the approved plan if erosion problems appear when storm water runoff occurs.



TARGETED POLLUTANTS

- Sediment
- Nutrients
- Heavy Metals
- Toxic Materials
- Oxygen Demanding Substances
- Oil & Grease
- Floatable Materials
- Bacteria & Viruses

- High Impact
- Medium Impact
- Low or Unknown Impact

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- Capital Costs
- O&M Costs
- Maintenance
- Training

- High
- Medium
- Low