



Landscapers—Help Keep Local Water Clean

To protect our local watershed, in 1997 the City of Eugene instituted an erosion prevention and construction site management program designed to keep the area's stormwater system and local waterways clean. Protecting or keeping pollutants out of our stormwater system at the source is very important because runoff from construction sites may be discharged into local rivers and streams unfiltered and untreated. Discharging pollutants—including sediments and organic materials—from construction sites is a violation of City ordinances.

Eugene's erosion prevention ordinance requires construction-related activity that disturbs soil to meet certain "outcomes." Outcomes are a set of construction site management expectations for all projects. This includes work done by landscape contractors inside the Urban Growth Boundary, regardless of whether or not a permit is required. In simplest terms, the desired end result is to keep sediment, mud and debris out of the street, off neighboring properties and away from waterways.

How Does This Affect Landscape Work?

Here is what you can do to ensure that your work doesn't create stormwater pollution:

- Do not dump soil, compost, bark or rock in the street. If your work requires you to stockpile material, do so on the property. If you must stockpile on the street, make sure the stockpile is contained and covered to prevent sediment from entering nearby catch basins and curb inlets. Keep in mind that summer storms can occur suddenly and cause stockpiles to turn into mud piles. Also keep in mind that City code requires stockpiles in the street to be removed within 24 hours.

- Do not clean up driveways by hosing sediments into the street. Sweep driveways and dispose of the sediment back on site, in garbage cans or compost piles, or haul it away.

- If your project requires you to use any type of excavation equipment, make sure the equipment doesn't track mud into the street. If it does, clean it up before it can get into nearby catch basins or curb inlets.

- Dispose of debris in an appropriate waste collection system.



When Do I Need A Permit?

You are required to obtain a permit if you are working in an area that the City has determined to be "sensitive" and the project will disturb more than 20 cubic yards or 500 square feet of soil. You are in a sensitive area if one or more of the following conditions exist:

- Highly erodible soil type, as determined by the Lane County Soil Survey,
- Slope of 10% or greater,
- The property directly drains to any stormwater facility, water feature, or related natural resource area.

If your project will disturb more than 20 cubic yards or 500 square feet, or if it is in an area that may be considered "sensitive," call the City of Eugene Erosion Prevention Program at 541-682-8498 and ask about permit requirements.

For more information:

City of Eugene Public Works, Stormwater Management Program

In person: 101 E. Broadway, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401

Voice-mail: 541-682-2739 Web: www.eugene-or.gov/happyivers