

## **When it rains, exposed soils turn to mud!**

Rain is the primary driving force behind most erosion in western Oregon. Eroded sediments can affect adjacent properties and reduce capacity in public stormwater conveyance systems. The City of Springfield stormwater system includes publicly maintained pipes, culverts, gutters, catch basins, ditches, channels, ponds, wetlands, and other related waterways. Storm drains in Springfield flow directly to local waterways, including the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers.

When sediments enter waterways, they block sunlight, limit plant growth, harm aquatic life, and interfere with recreational use and enjoyment. Sediments remove oxygen from the water making it difficult for fish to breathe, feed, and reproduce. Additionally, pollutants such as nutrients, bacteria, metals, and other toxic substances frequently attach to sediments, increasing the risk of polluted waterways from soil erosion.

### **Now is the time to implement required Wet Weather Best Management Practices (Wet Weather Season is Oct. 15–May 1)**

#### **Best Management Practices (BMP's)**

##### **Protect all stormwater systems, water features, and natural resources.**

*To ensure water quality:*

1. Identify site characteristics and properly install erosion prevention measures.
2. Preserve as much existing vegetation as possible.
3. For sediment control use sediment fence, mulch/compost berms, check dams, bio-bags, curb inlet sedimentation dams, drop in sediment inserts, or other approved BMP's.

##### **Sediment, soil, or construction related material is required to be immediately removed from right-of-way/adjoining property and natural resources.**

*Wet Weather season increases run-off and tracking from construction sites*

1. Maintain good construction entrance/exit.
2. Sweep and remove any off site tracking immediately.
3. Maintain and monitor sediment collection devices and keep all work areas clean.
4. Site operators will be required to immediately correct all deficiencies.

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## **Best Management Practices (BMP's)**

### **Construction site entrances (open grade crushed rock).**

*Protect adjoining roads and waterways from vehicle tracking off of the site*

#### **Residential**

1. Construct the entrance/exit to the foundation or minimum of 20 feet.
2. Use open grade crushed rock.
3. Install geotextile fabric at subgrade to prevent fine sediment from migrating through rock entrance.

#### **Commercial**

1. Minimum Length:
  - a. 50 feet for sites disturbing less than one acre.
  - b. 100 feet for sites disturbing more than one acre.
2. Use three (3) inch open rock or larger.
3. Install geotextile fabric at subgrade prior to rock placement.
4. Construct to a minimum depth of eight (8) inches.

### **Cover all exposed soil.**

*Protect all exposed soil*

1. Stabilize all exposed soils with recommended soil coverage methods such as hydro seeding, mulching, compost, or plastic sheeting with anchors. On slopes greater than 2H:1V use erosion blankets or matting such as excelsior, coconut, textile, or plastic matting, applied in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
2. Use berms or swales to divert runoff from exposed soils.

#### **For More Information:**

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