

# Best Management Practices (BMPs): *Erosion*

LAND AND DRAINAGE ALTERATION PROGRAM (LDAP)

## Soil Coverage

*To reduce runoff and erosion; conserve moisture, prevent surface compaction; to control undesirable vegetation; to increase biological activity in the soil.*

### INSTALLATION STEPS:

For temporary protection of critical areas, this standard applies to grades or cleared areas which may be subject to erosion for six months or less and where seeding may not have adequate time to establish prior to erosive conditions.

#### Site Preparation:

- 1) Grade in a manner that will permit the use of equipment for applying and anchoring mulch.
- 2) Install erosion prevention measures prior to grading to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Measures may include dikes, diversions, berms, terraces and sediment barriers.
- 3) Loosen compact soil to a minimum depth of 3".

#### Examples of Recommended Soil Coverage:

- **Dry straw or hay** spread over exposed soil at a rate of two (2) to three (3) tons per acre.
- **Wood waste, chips, sawdust, or mulch** spread two (2) to three (3) inches in depth.
- **Hydro-seeding** (slopes 1:1.5 or flatter) apply at a rate of one (1) ton per acre based on dry fiber weight.
- **Erosion prevention matting or netting** such as excelsior, coconut woven, textile, or plastic matting applied in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- **Polyethylene film** secured over banks or stockpiled soil material for temporary protection.

#### Applying and Anchoring Mulch:

- 1) Apply straw or hay mulch uniformly by hand or mechanically. Anchor as needed.
- 2) Spread mulch (bark, compost, wood chips) uniformly on slopes that are 3:1 and flatter. No anchoring needed. Apply at a minimum of two (2) to three (3) inches in thickness.
- 3) For commercial matting and netting, please refer to manufacturer specifications.

