

City ordinance sets standards for erosion control

City of North Branch City Code Chapter 58 Article V sets standards for managing erosion to protect both property and water quality. These standards apply to all private property, and are especially relevant to sites where soil is exposed for projects like building, remodeling or landscaping.

No eroded material allowed on public property

Property owners must take measures to ensure that dirt, sand, silt or other debris does not erode onto public property, including streets, trails, ponds and wetlands. In the event that erosion occurs, the property owner is liable for costs associated with cleanup, property damage and the installation of appropriate erosion control measures.

Procedures for violations

When violations are noted, builders and property owners will receive a written notice to make corrections within 48 hours. If the work to correct the violations is not completed by the time of the reinspection, a Stop Work Order may be issued. If corrective measures are not carried out properly, the city will hire out all necessary work and will assess the cost of that work to the property owner(s) in the manner prescribed in North Branch City Code Chapter 58 Article V.

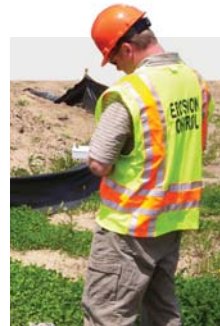


Erosion Control:

Requirements for builders, remodelers, and property owners



Erosion and sediment control area key component in North Branch's commitment to water quality. The City of North Branch is committed to protecting the water quality of its lakes, streams and wetlands. Erosion from construction sites, if not properly managed, is a leading cause of water quality problems.



Contacts & Resources

City of North Branch
651-674-8493
www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
pca.state.mn.us/water/stormwater/stormwater-c.ht

Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
www.chisagoswcd.org
651-674-2333



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Poor Erosion Control Leads to:

Increased weed and algae growth

Fertilizers, nutrients and other pollutants attach to eroded sediment. The nutrient-laden sediment is carried by storm water runoff into lakes, streams and wetlands where it fuels the growth of algae and weeds.

Poor fishing

Water clouded by sediment drives away fish that rely on sight to feed. As the sediment settles, it covers gravel beds where game fish find food and lay eggs.

Lower property values

A lake or stream clogged with sediment diminishes the value of nearby properties. Sediment forms deltas in lakes and streams and clogs storm sewer outlets, trapping unsightly debris. Shallow areas in lakes can create boating hazards.

Increased local taxes

It is time consuming and expensive to clean sediment from streets, sewers, lakes, creeks and ditches. When erosion is not managed on-site, it often becomes the City's job to correct the problem.



Phases and Sequence

- Small exposed areas of soil are easier to manage and minimize risk of non-compliance.
- Generally, 7 days of grading work should constitute temporary stabilization.
- Leaving vegetative buffers or existing vegetation is the best way to save money on your project

Erosion control basics

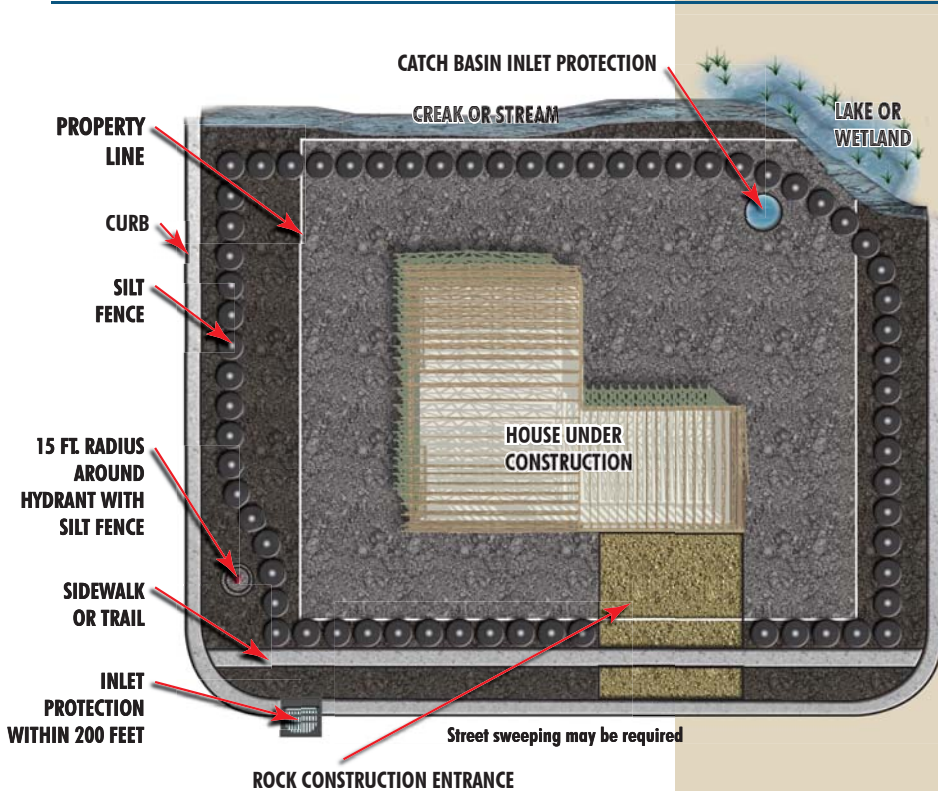
From an entire subdivision to a modest remodeling job, projects of any size that involve disturbing the soil require erosion and sediment control measures.

Developments that involve building on more than one lot require a formal City review process. Developers should seek guidance from City staff.

Builders and homeowners working on a single building or lot should follow the guidelines laid out in this publication.

The following are some general erosion and sediment control guidelines. Site-specific requirements, if any, are indicated on a site grading plan of each project.

Example Residential Erosion Control Standards



Inspection Checklist for builders and homeowners

A City inspector will visit building sites to review all erosion control measures. The following practices will help ensure that all erosion control measures meet with City specifications.

Curb-side erosion control

Sediment control must be maintained behind the curb until permanent vegetation is established. One twenty-foot driveway entrance is permitted for each lot. If this is not sufficient for certain delivery vehicles, the perimeter control may be temporarily taken down to permit access, but must be reinstalled before the end of the day.

Pond or wetland erosion control

Sediment control must be maintained around all wetlands, ponds or buffer zones until permanent vegetation is established.

Streets

Any mud or dirt tracked onto public or private streets must be removed as soon as possible.

Concrete washout

Include liquids and solids.

Remove erosion control devices

Sediment control devices must be removed when permanent turf is established.

Examples of erosion control measures



Silt fence

- Place bottom flap of filter fabric in a 6"x6" trench. Backfill and compact soil.
- Bury bottom 2" of wire fencing.
- Stake with metal or wood posts, driven a minimum of 12" into the soil.
- Make sure metal or wood posts are no more than 6' on center.



Rock entrance

- Install prior to the start of grading.
- Use 1-1/2 to 2-inch washed rock.
- Drive must be at least 35 feet in length, and as wide as required by the operations of your project.
- Replace rock as needed to maintain a minimum 6" depth.
- A geotextile fabric may be used under the rock to prevent the migration of the underlying soil into the rock.

Sample sediment control measures:



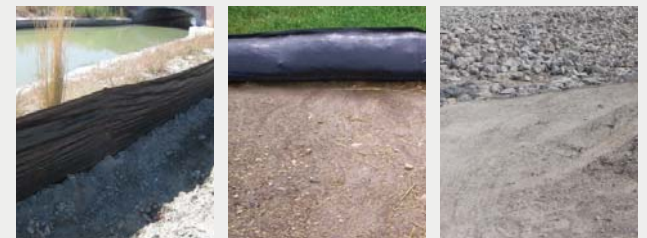
Straw Cover

Hydro Mulch Cover

Sod

ESC Blanket

Sample erosion control measures:



Silt fences

Biologs

Construction entrances