

Construction Checklist

The process of building a home or adding to your existing residence has a few key steps that must be remembered. The following checklist will give you an aid in this process:

- ☐ **Permitting:** Before any land disturbance has occurred, contact the municipality for local rules, required permits and surety bonds.
- ☐ **Evaluate the Site:** Mark the areas to be preserved; trees and root zones, streams, wetlands, primary and secondary zones for septic system, potential hydric soils, and vegetation that could be useful for filter strips, especially on the perimeter areas. Call Alabama 811 at 811 or 1-800-292-8525 before you dig.
- ☐ **Install Perimeter Controls:** Identify potential runoff areas where sediment could be channeled offsite. Install perimeter controls such as buffer strips, silt fences, storm drain inlet protection and other BMP control measures.
- ☐ **Build House and Install Utilities**
- ☐ **Maintain Erosion and Sedimentation Controls:** Inspect at least once per week and after rain events. Maintain until construction is complete and site is stabilized. Remove soil tracked onto roadways.
- ☐ **Revegetate Site:** Immediately after all outside activities are complete, the lot should be stabilized with seed, sod, mulch, or erosion control blankets.
- ☐ **Prepare for Final Inspection:** Remove temporary erosion controls and complete permanent stabilization before final inspection.
- ☐ **Complete Final Inspection:** Once the site has passed final inspection, bonding can be released.

Resources

- Local Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance
- Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas (Blue Book)
(<https://alabamasoilandwater.gov/>)
- Alabama Soil & Water Conservation Committee Field Guide App (QR Code below)



Android



iPhone

Please report illegal dumping or discharges in streams, ditches, catch basins, or streets to the local municipality or to the Jefferson County Department of Health Stormwater Hotline: (205)-930-1999

Information for this brochure was taken in part from the City of Knoxville Erosion and Sedimentation Control Brochure, The Mid-America Regional Council the Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control, and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas.

Jefferson County Department of Health **Watershed Protection Program**

Erosion and Sedimentation Control: Individual Lot Construction



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Erosion and Sedimentation

Sediment is the loose sand, clay, silt and other soil particles that settle in waterways due to the erosion of soil. The accumulation of this sediment (sedimentation) adversely affects our water quality by destroying the habitat critical to aquatic organisms and fish. Nutrients transported by sediment also promote the growth of algae causing additional water quality issues for aquatic life and humans.

Sedimentation also reduces the capacity of downstream ditches and waterbodies increasing the chance of flooding. Sediment is the most common pollutant in rivers, streams, and lakes

Due to state and federal mandates, construction is regulated to ensure that sediment stays on-site during construction activity. Review local erosion and sedimentation control ordinances before beginning any site work or construction.

This brochure contains an abbreviated version of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for individual lot construction. These practices should be used as aids to keep soil and litter from leaving a construction site.



Best Management Practices for Individual Lots

Construction Exit Pad

- Prevents tracking soil and debris into roadways.
- Install geotextile fabric under recommended stone size.
- Install during clearing and grubbing stage and maintain throughout construction.



Sediment Barrier (Silt Fencing)

- Traps sediment and intercepts runoff.
- Install filter fabric by entrenching a portion in the ground and placing the stakes downhill.
- Maintain until permanent vegetation is established.



Trash Receptacle

- Stops trash and debris from leaving the site.
- Place trash and leftover construction materials in designated receptacle on a regular basis.



Good Housekeeping

- Clean-up site after each work day by removing soil tracked onto roads.
- Inspect all BMP measures and repair as need after each storm event.
- Remove sediment from silt fencing to prevent failure.



Outlet Protection

- Dissipates the energy of concentrated flows.
- Install geotextile fabric under appropriate stone (riprap) sized for design velocities.
- Inspect outlet for repair or replacement of riprap.



Inlet Protection

- Protects water quality since infrastructure leads to streams and rivers.
- Install before any clearing or grubbing.
- Must be inspected and maintained regularly.



Stockpile Placement and Protection

- Build stockpiles away from streams, drainage ways, wetlands, and storm water inlets.
- Temporary seeding must be performed if not in use for over 13 calendar days.



Re-vegetation/ Run-off Protection

- Stabilized surfaces minimize erosion.
- Seed or sod final graded surface.
- Mulch (straw, etc.) protects against erosion until seeding is established.

