

# **Common Compliance Problems at Construction Sites**

## **Problem #1 – No temporary or permanent cover**

All exposed soil areas must have stabilization initiated immediately to limit soil erosion whenever any construction activity has permanently or temporarily ceased on any portion of the site and will not resume for a period exceeding **14 calendar days**. Ask the contractor when particular exposed soils were last worked to help you determine if there is compliance.

## **Problem #2 – No sediment controls on site**

The permit requires established sediment control practices (e.g., sediment traps/ basins, down-gradient silt fences or sediment barriers, check dams, etc.) on down-gradient perimeters before up-gradient land disturbing activities begin.

## **Problem #3 – No sediment control for temporary stock piles**

Temporary stockpiles must have a properly installed silt fence or other effective sediment controls, and cannot be placed in surface waters (or curb and gutter systems).

## **Problem #4 – No inlet protection**

All storm drain inlets that receive a discharge from the construction site must be protected before construction begins, and must be maintained until the site is stabilized. Inlet protection may be removed for a particular inlet if a specific safety concern has been identified. Written correspondence must be documented in the SWPPP or available within 72 hours upon request.

## **Problem #5 – No BMPs to minimize vehicle tracking on to the road**

Vehicle exits must use BMPs such as stone pads, concrete or steel wash racks, or equivalent systems to prevent vehicles tracking sediment off site.

## **Problem #6 – Sediment on the road**

If BMPs are not adequately keeping sediment off the street, then the permit requires tracked sediment to be removed (e.g., street sweeping).

## **Problem #7 – Improper solid waste or hazardous materials management**

Solid waste must be disposed of properly, and hazardous materials (including oil, gasoline, and paint) must be properly stored (which includes secondary containment).

## **Problem #8 – Dewatering at the construction site**

Typically dewatering occurs where building footings are being constructed. Measures should be taken to ensure that the pumped discharge is not causing erosion. If discharge is turbid it should be treated before discharging from the site. Ditching used to dewater should not result in the discharge of sediment or other water quality impairments.