Is Your Construction Site In Compliance?

Find Out How the RIDEM Measures Success

RI Department of Environmental Management
Topics of Discussion

- Why Is My Site Being Inspected?
- Remembering the Goal
- Know Who is Responsible For Compliance
- Understand Your Permit Requirements
Why Is My Site Being Inspected?

- All RIPDES Permitted Facilities are Subject to Inspection
  - Section 308 of the Clean Water Act provides the RI DEM with this authority

- Compliance Evaluation Inspections Are:
  - Generally Random
  - May Be Targeted Due to a Complaint Received by the RI DEM
  - Generally Unannounced – Be Prepared, Not Surprised!

- Purpose: To Evaluate and Enforce Compliance
Remembering the Goal

- Your Permit Requires You To **Protect Resources** During Construction and/or Land Development Activities

- Protect Waterways, Streams, Wetlands

- Protect Adjacent Property

- Protect Roadways

- Protect Storm Drains
Know Who Is Responsible For Compliance

- **The Site Owner** – Legal property owner as defined in RIPDES Construction General Permit.

- **The Site Operator** – Entity in operational control over plans and activities occurring at the construction site.
Understand Your Permit Requirements

Control Erosion, Runoff, and Sediment

Prevent Pollution Associated with Construction Activities
Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

- Erosion, Runoff, and Sediment Control
- Recordkeeping
- Construction Activity Pollution Prevention
- Control Practice Installation, Inspection, and Maintenance
Erosion, Runoff, and Sediment Control
When Earth Disturbance Activities Have Ceased For More Than 14 days, Initiate Temporary or Permanent Soil Stabilization Measures.

Vegetative Measures

Structural Measures
Surface Outlets

Protect Storm Drain Inlets
Protect Storm Drain Outlets
Establish Temporary Controls For the Protection of Post Construction Stormwater Practices
Establish Sediment Barriers
Divert or Manage Run-on From Upgradient Areas
Retain Sediment Onsite

Temporary Sediment Traps

Temporary Sediment Basins
Utilize Surface Outlets When Discharging From Temporary Sediment Basins
Utilize Surface Outlets When Discharging From Temporary Sediment Basins
Prohibited Discharges

- Fuels, Oils, Soaps, Solvents
- Contaminated Groundwater
- Concrete Washout
- Hazardous Waste
  - Handle with care!
Minimize Off-Site Tracking of Sediment

Stone Stabilized Track Pad

Mud Rack
Proper Waste Disposal
Spill Prevention and Control
Control Dewatering Practices

Pump Intake Protection

Dewatering Bag

Pumping Settling Tank
Control Discharges from Stockpiled Sediment or Soil
Minimize Dust
Establish Proper Equipment and Vehicle Fueling and Maintenance Practices
Properly Manage Chemicals Used for Erosion and Sediment Control

- When Utilizing Polymers, Flocculants, and Treatment Chemicals Use:
  - Good Engineering Judgment
  - Appendix J – *RI SESC Handbook*

- General Guidelines:
  - Avoid applying directly to surface waters
  - Use conventional erosion and sediment controls adequately first
  - Select appropriate treatment chemicals by conducting site specific soil tests
  - Properly store chemicals to avoid spills and unnecessary exposure to stormwater
  - Consider Toxicity (ex. Anionic Polymers Are Generally Less Toxic to Fish)
Control Measure
Installation, Inspection, and Maintenance Requirements
- Complete Installation Prior to Beginning Each Phase of Earth Disturbance

- Install in Accordance With:
  - The RI Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook
  - Manufacturer Specifications
  - Good Engineering Practices
Control Measure
Inspection Requirements

- **Minimum Frequency**
  - 1/Week and
  - After 0.25 Inches of Rain in 24 Hrs
  - During Frozen Conditions – 1/Month

- **Inspections and Records of Corrective Actions**
  - Must Be Signed and Dated by Inspector and Operator
  - Must Be Kept Onsite with SESC Plan

- **Your Failure to Provide Documentation Of Inspections Constitutes a Permit Violation and Will Subject You to Enforcement**
Control Measure Maintenance Requirements

- Maintain in Accordance With:
  - RI SESC Handbook
  - Manufacturer Specifications
  - When You Aren’t Achieving the Goal

- Quick Fixes
  - Address Immediately Upon Discovery
  - Complete By Close of Next Work Day

- Significant Repair or Replacement
  - Make Repair or New Control Measure Operational Within 7 Days of Discovery
Record Keeping
Records Must Be Available Onsite

- Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (SESC) Plan
- SESC Site Plans or Full Construction Plan Set
- Record of SESC Plan Amendments
  - Amendments which involve practice of engineering must be PE Stamped.
- Signed Records of Inspections, Maintenance, Corrective Actions
- Copy of Permit Application and RI DEM Permit

* If onsite location is unavailable when no personnel are present on the site, notice of the Plan’s location must be posted near the main entrance of the construction site.
The Keys To Success

- #1. Remember The Goal – Protect Resources
- #2 Let Your Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Be Your Guide
  - Keep It Onsite
  - Modify When Not Meeting #1
- #3. Conduct and Document Inspections
- #4. Properly Install and Maintain All Control Measures
Who Do I Contact If I Have Questions?

RI Department of Environmental Management
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767
Tel. (401) 222-4700
www.dem.ri.gov