



## Preventing Stormwater Pollution at Construction Sites



### OUR WATER



Take it personally!

### Minimizing the Impact of Development on Water Quality

Polluted stormwater runoff from construction sites is ultimately discharged into local streams, rivers and lakes. Of the pollutants discharged from construction sites, sediment is usually the main pollutant of concern. During a short period of time, construction sites can contribute more sediment to streams than can be deposited naturally during several decades. The resulting siltation, and the contribution of other pollutants from construction sites, can cause physical, chemical, and biological harm to our nation's waters.

Why should we be concerned about the water quality in our waterways? Because we depend on our rivers and lakes to provide:

- A safe drinking water supply
- An opportunity for water recreation
- A healthy environment for wildlife

Sediment is the number one pollutant of receiving waters in Texas. However, the effects of this pollutant can be minimized at construction sites with correctly implemented and maintained Best Management Practices (BMPs).

### Correcting the Problem

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and City of Grand Prairie have established guidelines and regulations to assist developers, contractors and project designers minimize pollutant runoff. The following information may serve as a guide to these requirements.

### Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activities: Am I Regulated?

Under the existing Construction General Permit TXR150000, issued March 5, 2008, construction activities are regulated according to the area of land disturbed.

- Large construction activities which disturb 5 or more acres, or are part of a larger common plan of development that will disturb 5 or more acres, are regulated under this general permit.
- Small construction activities which disturb at least 1 but less than 5 acres, or are part of a larger common plan of development that will disturb at least 1 but less than 5 acres, are also regulated under this general permit.

- Construction activities that disturb less than 1 acre, and are not part of a larger common plan of development that would disturb 1 or more acres, are not required to obtain coverage under this general permit.

If you determine that your construction activity is regulated, you must comply with the following (*please see the Construction General Permit TXR150000 for a complete description of the requirements*):

### Prepare Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

Your SWPPP must be prepared or signed by a Registered Professional Engineer or a Qualified Stormwater Professional.

#### Plan must include:

- Site description-maps, construction sequence
- Erosion/sediment control techniques-preventive/structural
- Hazardous materials management guidelines
- Waste collection/disposal
- Maintenance requirements/procedures
- Inspection schedules
- Subcontractors' certified compliance statements
- Receiving waters
- Signed documents of the Owner and Operator which include: Delegation Letter and SWPPP Certification pages
- Signed copy of NOI (if applicable) and copy of the TPDES Construction General Permit (TXR150000)

#### Plan should be prepared in accordance with local requirements

- Read and utilize the City of Grand Prairie Stormwater Ordinance relating to construction discharges (Article XXIII Section 13-600)
- Use the City of Grand Prairie standard details for erosion control
- *Practices for Construction Activities-North Central Texas* (NCTCOG) may also be used as a guide

*A copy of the SWPPP must be filed on site with contractor certifications and inspection reports. Submittal and/or review of the SWPPP may be required by the City of Grand Prairie.*

### Submit Notice of Intent (NOI) to TCEQ

- File after all City reviews and a minimum of 2 days prior to beginning of construction activities
- Indicate operator will comply with terms of General Permit and will implement SWPPP

- The City of Grand Prairie will require a copy of the NOI

### Submit a Construction Site Notification

The City of Grand Prairie requires that the contractor and developer submit an appropriate construction site notification for the project per the TCEQ prior to release of a Clearing, Grubbing and Earthwork permit.

### Proceed with Construction

Provide information, training, and monitoring for all personnel employed at the construction site to ensure compliance with SWPPP.

### File Notice of Termination (NOT) with TCEQ

- Certifies completed final stabilization of disturbed areas
- The developer and/or contractor are responsible for filing the NOT
- The City of Grand Prairie will require a copy of the NOT

### Cost Effective BMPs

#### Prevent Erosion

- Design the development to fit the terrain; limit clearing and grading
- Schedule construction activities to minimize amount of exposed areas at any given time and to coincide with the region's dry season. *Note:* The City of Grand Prairie has regulations to control dust pollution; erosion is not just a wet weather problem
- Retain as much existing vegetation as possible
- Maintain erosion control BMPs

#### Control erosion

- Re-vegetate and mulch any disturbed areas
- Divert runoff away from disturbed areas with temporary dikes, ditches and swales and/or silt fences or sediment basins
- Minimize length and steepness of slopes to keep runoff velocities low

### Remain in Compliance

- Inspect per the frequency according to your SWPPP and maintain all BMPs associated with your construction site
- Failure to comply with local, state, and federal regulations may result in holds placed on inspections, stop work orders, and potential citations