

**VILLAGE OF ISLANDIA**

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

**STORMWATER**

**AND THE**

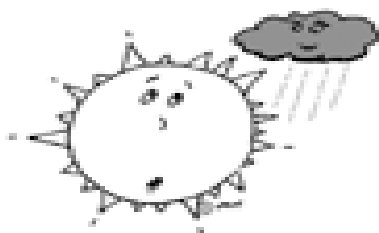
**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**



Runoff from construction sites can contain significant pollution including sediment, concrete fines, lubricants and fuels, solvents, fertilizers, pesticides and many other contaminants which, if allowed to enter storm drains, will pollute area waterways, and potentially our groundwater. Mitigation steps must be taken to ensure that no runoff leaves the site during the dry season and that stormwater contamination during rain events is minimized.

Sediment runoff rates from construction sites are typically 10 to 20 times greater than those of agricultural lands, and 1,000 to 2,000 times greater than that of forest lands. The New York State Stormwater Program requires operators of construction sites one acre or larger (including smaller sites that are part of a larger common plan of development) to obtain authorization to discharge stormwater under an NYS Department of Environmental Conservation construction storm water permit. All construction projects in the Village of Islandia must follow specific construction Best Management Practices, or BMPs. BMPs ensure that hazardous materials and pollutants stay onsite and don't get washed or dumped into the storm drain system. These BMPs are discussed in detail following this summary.

Typical techniques used to contain runoff are swales, diversion ditches, and stormwater treatment devices such as dry wells, sediment control ponds (on large sites) and several proprietary fixtures. Where stormwater is collected on site it can be recycled for dust control and irrigation. Stabilizing excavated material, stockpiled soil and fill to prevent wind loss and erosion by storms is essential to stormwater protection. It is far easier and more economical to prevent stormwater contamination at the source than to attempt to capture and clean it later.



# **Best Management Practices (BMPs) for All Construction Sites**

The following information provides a summary of guidance on a variety of BMPs typically used on construction sites.

## **Construction Phasing**

- ◆ Sequence construction activities so that soil is not exposed for long periods of time.
- ◆ Schedule or limit grading to small areas.
- ◆ Immediately seed areas that will be exposed for 7 days or longer.
- ◆ Install sediment control practices before any soil disturbance begins.
- ◆ Schedule site stabilization activities immediately after the land has been graded to its final contours.

## **Dirt Stockpiles**

- ◆ Cover or seed all dirt stockpiles.

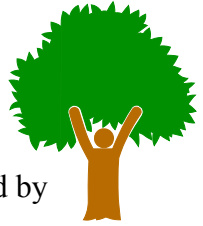
## **Storm Drain Inlet Protection**

- ◆ Use appropriate methods to protect the storm drain to filter out trash and debris.
- ◆ If inlet filters are used, maintain them regularly.

## **Silt Fence**

- ◆ Inspect silt fences after each rainstorm and weekly.
- ◆ Make sure the bottom of the silt fence is buried in the ground 6 inches.
- ◆ Make sure the stormwater does not flow around the silt fence during storm events.
- ◆ Attach fence securely to stakes. Stakes should be on a downslope side of the fence.
- ◆ Use hay bales for added support and protection.

### Protect Natural Features



- ◆ Identify and protect areas where existing vegetation, such as trees, should not be disturbed by construction activities.
- ◆ Protect streams, stream buffers, wild woodlands, wetlands and other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity with fencing or by clearly marking the areas.

### Vegetative Buffers

- ◆ Protect and install vegetative buffers along waterbodies to slow and filter stormwater runoff.
- ◆ Maintain buffers by replanting periodically to ensure their effectiveness (mowing discourages growth of woody vegetation, which actually takes up more runoff)

*For More Information, contact:*

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