

## Remember ....

- What we do on land affects the quality of water we use in so many ways.
- Many small sources of pollution add up to cause big water quality problems.
- Even natural things such as soil, can cause water pollution.
- Erosion and sediments that get into storm sewers end up in our local lakes, streams and the Mississippi River without treatment.
- Proper planning, implementation, regular inspection and repair can help ensure that construction sites do not degrade our water resources.

**Everyone can make a difference !**



## Reporting Construction Site Erosion



To control erosion, sedimentation and waste from construction sites, vigilance from the public is vital.

To maximize protection of our waterways, time is of the essence.

If you observe dirt being tracked on the street, dirty water running in the gutters, or general debris blowing from a construction site, contact the City immediately by phone and/or email to report the problem.

We appreciate your help.



City of Robbinsdale

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4100 Lakeview Avenue

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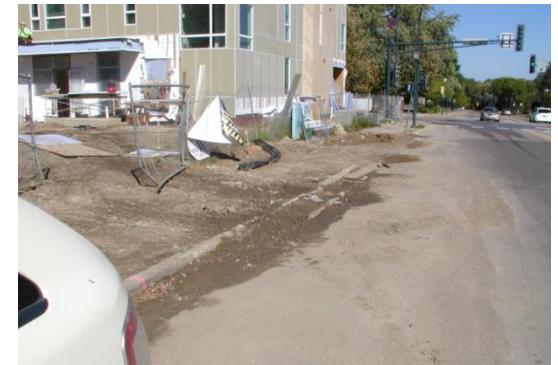
Email: [webmaster@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:webmaster@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

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City of Robbinsdale

## Erosion, Sedimentation & Waste Control for Land Disturbing Activities



## How You Can Help Keep Our Lakes and Creeks Clean

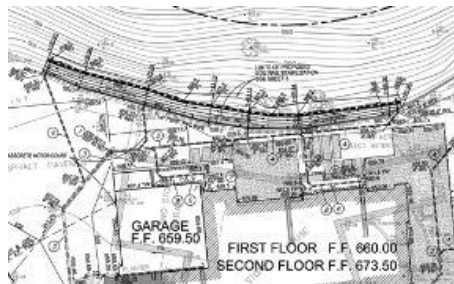
## You Need to Know ....

When sites are disturbed, topsoil is often stripped and vegetation removed to allow construction. Exposed soil can erode if there is nothing to protect it from rain and wind. The eroded soil typically finds its way into the storm sewer system and ultimately into one of our lakes or creeks where it has an adverse impact. The sediment can smother fish eggs, block sunlight to aquatic plant life, and in extreme circumstances create navigational problems by filling in waterways. All these actions act to degrade the water quality and diversity of life in the waterway.

## Tips for Erosion, Sediment and Waste Control

- **Fit the Development to the Existing Site**

Assess the physical characteristics of the site including topography, soils and drainage, to determine how best to develop with minimal environmental damage. Utilize the natural drainage patterns where possible. Preserve any natural vegetation or wetlands wherever possible.



- **Develop an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan before Land Disturbing Activities begin, then follow it.**

If necessary, get professional help to develop the plan, which should identify the areas where erosion and sedimentation problems are likely to occur on the construction site and specify the measures to reduce those problems.

- **Retain Existing Vegetation**

If existing vegetation must be cleared, retain and protect until it the area must be disturbed. Maintain a buffer strip of existing vegetation around the perimeter of the site to reduce site run-off and sedimentation.

- **Minimize the Exposure of Bare Soil**

On larger sites, use staged clearing and grading to reduce the amount of bare soil and other disturbed area. Use stabilizing measures, such as seeding temporary or permanent vegetation, sodding, mulching, sediment basins, erosion control blankets or other protective practices within seven days after the land has been disturbed.

- **Keep Sediment on the Construction Site**

Retain sediment from unavoidable erosion on site by trapping it with sediment basins or by filtering it with vegetative or man-made barriers. Install any needed sediment traps, site entrances and basins before construction activities begin.



- **If Possible, Divert off-site Runoff**

Use diversions and perimeter dikes to intercept off-site runoff and divert it away from the construction site. Install these measures before clearing and grading to reduce the potential for erosion.

- **Minimize Length and Steepness of Slopes**

Use terracing, diversions and sediment barriers to break up long, steep slopes. Incorporate measures to slow runoff and allow deposition of sediment.

- **Keep Runoff Velocity Low**

Reduce runoff velocity by maintaining a buffer strip around the lower perimeter of the land disturbance and installing perimeter controls such as sediment barriers, silt fences, filters, dikes or sediment traps.

- **Inspect and Maintain Erosion Control Measures**

Inspect all measures for damage on a weekly basis and after each storm event. Repair any damage immediately.

- **Litter and Waste Control**

All hard waste and litter must be stored on site in a manner that prevents any materials from entering the stormwater system or adjacent areas by wind or water action.



- **Clean up**

Tracking of dirt from the site onto adjacent roads should be cleaned by means of sweeping before it has the opportunity to travel into the storm sewer system. Waste receptacles should be emptied on a regular basis to avoid overflow.