

## Construction Checklist

The process of building a home or adding to your existing residence has a few key steps that must be remembered. The following checklist will give you an aid in this process:

**Evaluate the Site:** Before any land disturbance has taken place on the site; mark any trees and the areas to be preserved; streams; wetlands; potential, erodible soils such as cherty soils (high rock %); and vegetation that could be useful for filter strips, especially on the perimeter areas. always call Alabama One Call at 1-800-292-8525 or 252-4444 in the Birmingham area.

**Permitting:** Before any land disturbance has occurred on site, make sure that all necessary permits have been secured through the proper municipality; or if more information is needed on the permitting process, call (205)-930-1230.

**Install Perimeter Controls:** Identify potential runoff areas where sediment could be channeled offsite. Install perimeter controls such as buffer strips, silt fences, storm drain inlet protection devices, or other BMP control measures to minimize sediment runoff.

**Build House and Install Utilities**

**Maintain Erosion and Sedimentation**

**Controls:** Inspect at least once per week or every 0.75 inch rain event, whichever is more frequent. Maintain until construction is complete. Clean off roadway and site of all debris and sediment.

**Revegetate Site:** Immediately after house construction is complete, the lot should be stabilized with seed, sod, mulch, or mats. redistribute the stockpiled soil and spread to a depth of 4-6 inches over graded areas. Mulch newly seeded areas.

**Remove all Erosion Control Measures**

## Resources

- Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance
- Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas - includes detailed information for the following construction BMPs:

Stabilized Construction Entrance

Gradient Terraces & Surface Roughening

Topsoil & Mulch

Seeding & Sodding

Trees, Shrubs, & Vines

Erosion Control Matting & Geotextiles

Check Dams & Silt Fence

Straw Bale & Sandbag Barrier

Brush or Rock Filter Berm

Temporary Sediment Trap & Basin

Bank Stabilization & Soil Bioengineering

Diversions & Swales

Channel Linings, Gabions, & Riprap

Temporary Inlet & Outlet Protection

Level Spreader

Floating Sediment Curtain

To access the handbook online go to :  
[http://swcc.alabama.gov/pages/erosion\\_control.aspx](http://swcc.alabama.gov/pages/erosion_control.aspx)

**Please report illegal dumping or discharges in streams, ditches, catch basins, or streets to the Jefferson County Department of Health Stormwater Hotline: (205)-930-1999**

**Clean Water**

**IS**

*Everybody's Business*

Information for this brochure was taken in part from the City of Knoxville Erosion and Sedimentation Control Brochure and the Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control, and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas, referred to as the Alabama Handbook in this guide.

Jefferson County  
Department of Health  
**Watershed  
Protection Program**

in Cooperation with the

**Stormwater  
Management  
Authority**

**Erosion and  
Sedimentation Control:  
Individual Lot Construction**



**Stormwater  
Hotline  
205 930-1999**



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## Erosion Control is Important

This brochure contains an abbreviated version of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for individual lot construction. These practices should be used as aids to keep sediment on the construction site. Contact Jefferson County Department of Health at (205) 930-1230 for any further regulations.

The result of improper BMP installation on single family homes and construction sites contributes greatly to the amount of sediment released into Alabama's streams and waterways. Sediment is the number one pollutant of waterways in Alabama and the surrounding states.

Sediment can adversely affect our water quality by destroying the habitat that is critical to aquatic organisms and fish. It can also lower property value by destroying the chances for recreational water activities, promoting the growth of weeds and algae, and increasing the chances of flooding.

The cities of the **Storm Water Management Authority** (Adamsville, Brighton, Brookside, Center Point, Clay, Fairfield, Gardendale, Homewood, Hueytown, Irondale, Lipscomb, Maytown, Midfield, Mulga, Mountain Brook, Pinson, Pleasant Grove, Tarrant, Trussville, and Vestavia Hills) must regulate construction sites to ensure that sediment stays on-site for all construction sites. This regulation is mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is enforced in the *Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance*.



## Best Management Practices for Individual Lot Constructions

The use of properly installed BMPs can aid in keeping the sediment on-site. The following are a few useful BMPs for construction on individual lots.

### Construction Exit Pad/ Entry

- Prevents tracking soil and debris into roadways.
- Requires 6" aggregate or more if needed.
- Install during clearing and grubbing stage- should be maintained throughout construction.



- Install geotextile under entrance.

### Silt Fences

- Used as most common BMP to trap sediment and intercept runoff.
- Install filter fabric correctly by entrenching a portion of it in ground and always remember to place stakes downhill.
- Maintain until permanent vegetation is established.
- Never use on steep slopes or concentrated flow areas.
- Know the difference between Type A, Type B, and Type C silt fences and where applicable.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Volume 1, Page 282.



### Sediment Cleanup and Good Housekeeping

- Clean up site after each work day by sweeping or scraping off soil tracked onto roads.
- Inspect all BMP measures and repair as need after each storm event.
- Don't allow sediment to build up on silt fence. Clean before the mid-point of the fence is reached.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Volume 2, Page 45.



### Outlet Protection

- Used on concentrated flows to dissipate energy.
- Cuts down on bank erosion in streams.
- Install over-sized stone (riprap) for calculated design velocities.
- Install geotextile fabric under riprap.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Volume 2, Page 111.



### Inlet Protection

- All inlets must have some form of protection provided
- Install before any sediment is moved on-site.
- Must be inspected and maintained regularly.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Volume 2, Page 127.



### Stockpile Placement and Protection

- Build stockpiles away from streams, drainage ways, wetlands, and storm water inlets.
- Temporary seeding or mulching must be performed if sediment is to remain unmoved for 14 working days.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Volume 1, Page 69.



### Re-vegetation/ Run-off Protection

- Stabilize all exposed surface from erosion.
- Seed, sod, or mat final graded surface.
- Seed all swales, rights-of-way, curb inlet areas, and buffers along streams and wetlands.
- Mulching can be used where acceptable.
- Refer to Alabama Handbook, Vol. 1, Pages 75-161.

