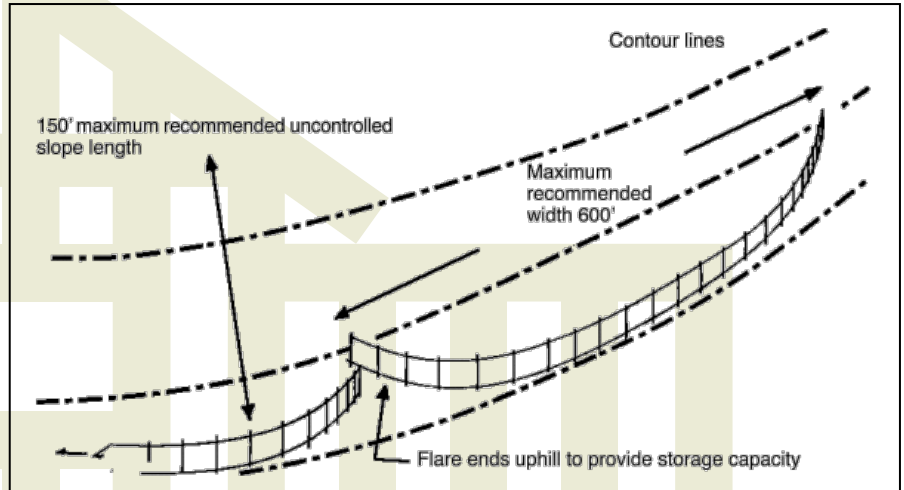


Silt Fences

This handout is meant as a reminder and a guide for residential developers/contractors so that they can avoid fines and keep silt from entering our area's ponds, lakes and rivers. It explains the basics of silt fence planning, installation and maintenance.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- A. Silt fences must be installed to protect adjacent properties and public streets from sediment deposits.
- B. Silt fences should not be used in areas of concentrated flow, such as ditches; in those cases use soil berms, silt dikes, straw wattles and excelsior logs, or rock check dams.
- C. Pond formation behind the silt fence should be expected and planned for by providing sufficient storage areas and overflow outlets.
- D. Tie the ends of a silt fence into the landscape to prevent flow around the end of the fence.
- E. A crescent shape performs better than a silt fence installed in a straight line.
- F. Silt fences are not terraces; they cannot be put in sequence to extend the slope length allowable
- G. Provide stabilized outlets to protect the fence system and release storm flows that exceed the design storm.
- H. Plan deposition areas (storage pools in front of the fence) at accessible points to facilitate routine cleanout and maintenance.
- I. Silt fences should be installed on the contour of the site—not up or down a hill.
- J. Ensure that the drainage area is no greater than 1/4 acre per 100 feet of fence.
- K. By design, ensure that the depth of water trapped by the fence does not exceed 2 feet at any point along the fence.



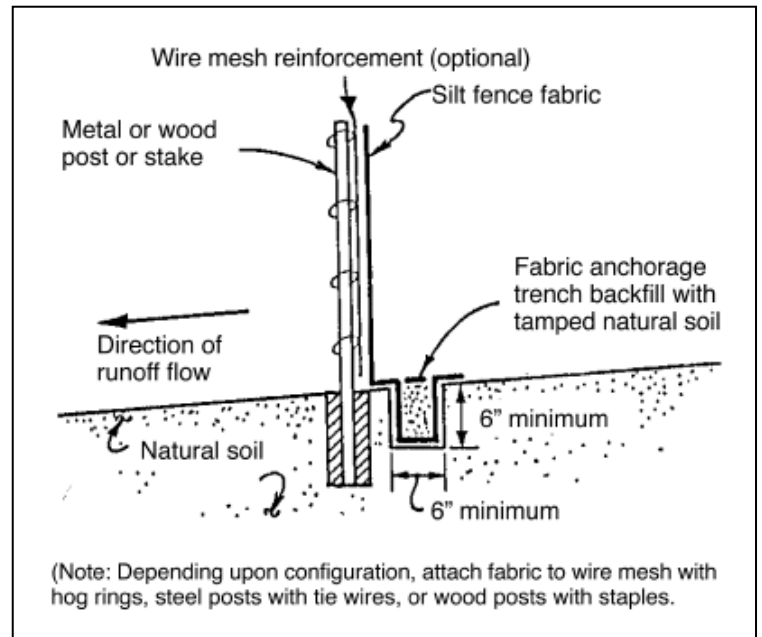
Mandated by Congress under the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program is a comprehensive national program for addressing polluted stormwater runoff. Minnesota regulates the disposal of stormwater through State Disposal System (SDS) permits. The MPCA issues combined NPDES/SDS permits for construction sites between one and five acres.

Furthermore, the City of Faribault requires erosion control on all construction sites. The property owner and/or permit holder is responsible for complying with the requirements listed on the erosion control document which is part of the building permit application.

Silt Fences

INSTALLATION

- A. An approved geotextile should be attached to the upstream side of the post and any backing.
- B. Construct the silt fence from a continuous roll of geotextile if possible. When joints are necessary, it is preferred that the material be overlapped to the next post.
- C. The bottom edge of the geotextile should be buried at least 6 inches deep in a vertical slot or trench, with the soil pressed firmly against the embedded geotextile. (Machine-slice methods are also acceptable.)
- D. Posts should be either 1.5-inch hardwood with a minimum length of 4 ft or 1.25 lb/linear ft steel with a minimum length of 5 ft.
- E. Posts should be set in the ground at least 1.5 ft deep.
- F. Post spacing depends on the site conditions, but 6-8 ft on center is a standard maximum.
- G. Each post should be securely fastened to the geotextile and net backing by ties or staples suitable for such purpose.
- H. Never attach silt fence to trees.



MAINTENANCE

- A. Inspect silt fences at least once a week and after each 1/2-inch rainfall within 24 hours. Make any required repairs immediately.
- B. Should the fabric of a silt fence collapse, tear, decompose or otherwise become ineffective, replace it within 24 hours of discovery.
- C. Remove silt deposits once they reach one-third the height of the silt fence to provide adequate storage volume for the next rain and to reduce pressure on the fence.
- D. Remove all fencing materials and unstable sediment deposits and bring the area to grade and stabilize it after the contributing drainage area has been properly stabilized.

ROADWAY DEPOSITS

- A. A temporary construction entrance should be constructed out of rock to clean vehicles' tires before they reach the roadway.
- B. All materials tracked or otherwise deposited on roadways shall be cleaned at least daily.
- C. All material, which is deposited on adjacent roadways as a result of a precipitation event, shall be removed, including the cleaning of storm sewers and drainage ditches, within 24 hours.