Did you know?

- **Just 1/8 of an inch of soil eroded from an acre of land comes out to about 25 tons of sediment.**
- **Sediment deposits in streams can impact the habitats of fish by fouling spawning areas, and disrupt the life cycle of the stream-bottom macroinvertebrates that fish rely on for food.**
- Suspended solids (e.g. eroded soil and sediments in stormwater) are the primary water pollutants associated with construction activities.
- **Suspended solids in waterways reduces sunlight transmission, limiting in-stream photosynthesis and reducing the oxygen available to fish and other important aquatic life forms.**
- **Suspended solids transport phosphorus, nitrogen, and metals, among other things, into local water ways, which further reduce water quality.**
- **The use of Best Management Practices makes it possible to keep soils and sediments onsite and out of stormwater.**

Stormwater Resources

This brochure is an informational resource intended to provide high level stormwater guidance for construction projects within the City of Spokane municipal boundary. Detailed guidance is available from the following city departments and external agencies:

City of Spokane
Wastewater Management Department

Call **509-625-7900** with general stormwater management questions.

City of Spokane
Developer Services Center Engineer

Email **eradscepr@spokanecity.org** or call **509-625-6300** for information on managing stormwater for development or redevelopment projects.

Washington State Department of Ecology
Stormwater & Runoff Information

For information on construction, industrial, and municipal stormwater, **visit ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/water-quality/runoff-pollution**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For additional information on construction stormwater, **visit epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-construction-activities**.

Visit **SpokaneStormwater.org** for more stormwater information.

SPOKANE STORMWATER

Managing Construction Stormwater

CITY OF SPOKANE

Erosion and Sediment Control

By the nature of the business, construction sites expose soils by removing the ground cover that keeps the soil stable. If the site is unprepared, soils can migrate onto roadways as trackout from equipment, and into storm sewer drains. Heavy sediment loads to the storm sewer system can contribute to roadway flooding, and to discharges of total suspended solids into the Spokane River, which is a water quality pollutant and can be a violation of the law. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are available to prevent the offsite migration of soils have been compiled in the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW), published by Ecology,and the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual (SRSM). Both manuals are available online.

Rules and Regulations

The Spokane Municipal Code (SMC) details the local requirements for managing stormwater in Chapter 17D.060 - *Stormwater Facilities* and Chapter 17D.090 - *Erosion and Sediment Control* . The SMC is available online at: **my.spokanecity.org/smc/.**

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to identify any and all local, state, and/or federal laws that may be applicable to a project. However, the Development Services Center is available to help projects navigate the various federal, state, and local permit requirements. The Center can be reached via email at permitteam@spokanecity.org, or by phone at 509-625-6300.

Site Owner/Operator Responsibilities

Owners and/or occupants of construction sites must install and maintain erosion and sediment controls in accordance with the requirements of the SMC and any applicable permits. This includes:

- Implementing and maintaining appropriate administrative and structural erosion and sediment control BMPs,
- Ensuring that the requirements of the ESCP or SWPPP are being performed during the lifetime of the project, and
- Ensuring that the guidance provided in the Spokane Regional Stormwater Manual is incorporated into project design and followed during site construction.

Permitting

Stormwater in the City of Spokane is regulated by the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit issued by Ecology. The permit requires the city to implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from earth disturbing construction activities.

In accordance with the permit, the city requires projects to obtain a city issued permit to construct prior to breaking ground. Additionally, sites that will disturb an acre or more, or are part of larger plan of development, must obtain a Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSWGP) from Ecology prior to the city issuing a permit to construct.

ESCPs and SWPPPs

Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (ESCPs) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) detail how a project will manage erosion, sediment, and other stormwater pollutants at construction sites. ESCPs and SWPPPs must be submitted to the city in order to obtain a permit to construct .

The Fundamental Elements of ESCPs and SWPPPs:

- Provide Construction Sequence
- Mark Clearing Limits
- Identify material storage and concrete washout locations
- Control Flow Rates and De-Watering
- Establish Construction Access
- Install Sediment Controls
- Stabilize Soils
- Protect Drain Inlets
- Protect Slopes
- Stabilize Channels and Outlets
- Control Pollutants
- Maintain BMPs / Remove Temporary BMPs
- Protect Infiltration BMPs

In addition to the fundamental elements, SWPPPs are also required to address inspection, monitoring, sampling, reporting, and document retention requirements, among others.

Guidance on developing ESCPs and SWPPPs is provided in the SRSM and SWMMEW, respectively.