

## **Drainage District ~ Erosion Control**

Any removal of vegetation is best done in the summer months when there is less rain. The drier soil is less likely to create erosion to surrounding ground surface. The Port Ludlow Drainage District (PLDD) has developed the following outline of Best Management Practices (BMP), which may be a helpful reference if you are considering tree or brush removal.

### **Land Clearing Erosion Prevention Best Management Practices**

Land clearing on your property, including tree removal, can cause erosion and transport sediments off your property if disturbed soil is left exposed to rain. Sediment-laden runoff contributes to clogging of driveway culverts, ditches, and storm pipes. To prevent the discharge of sediment off your property, please follow these recommended erosion prevention practices:

1. Limit site disturbance as much as possible. Maintaining trees and existing vegetation is the most effective method for reducing erosion.
2. Leave an undisturbed area or strip of existing vegetation between the land clearing activity and property lines. This area will provide a living filter to reduce soil erosion and limit sediment leaving the site.
3. Install sediment controls such as hay bales, straw rolls, or silt fences prior to land clearing activities.
4. Prevent erosion of exposed soil by covering with plastic, hay, mulch, or seeding. Cover exposed soils within 2 days during wet season (October 1 - April 30) or within 7 days during dry season (May 1 - September 30)
5. If land clearing activity is going to occur on a slope, divert stormwater away from the slope prior to clearing by collecting drainage at the top of the slope.
6. Clean up any dirt that is deposited on roadways by construction equipment and clean out dirt or debris that has accumulated in ditches or culverts.