

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 of 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.**