Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal

Environmental Services Group

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Erosion Control for Building Sites

Observations and Practical Techniques for Builders, Designers, and Regulators



Sometimes, the project is in a tough place



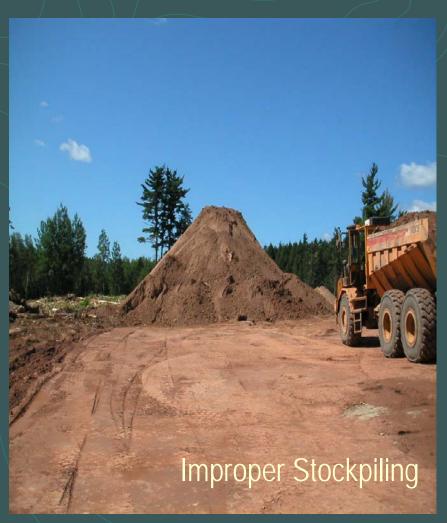
Sometimes, we create our own problems

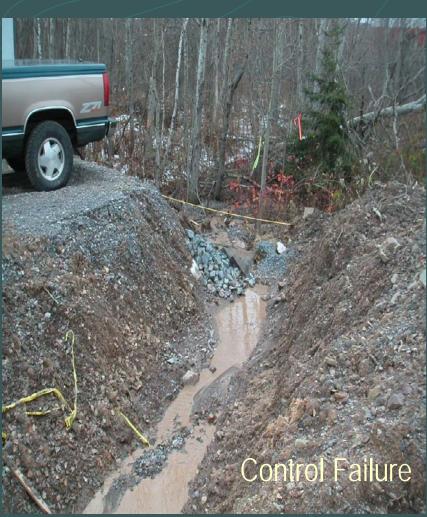


Common Causes of Problems on Construction Sites

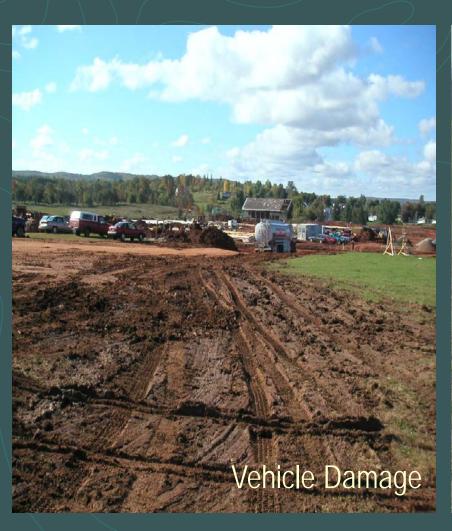
- Improper Stockpiling of Materials
- Erosion Control Failure
- Vehicle Damage
- Poor Workmanship
- Lack of Proper Water Runoff Control

Typical Erosion on Building Sites





Typical Erosion on Building Sites





Typical Problems Overland flow control and Management





Water Flow Wants to Concentrate

Sediment Collects in Ditches

- 1. Go Gently into this Good Site
- 2. Keep Clean Water Clean
- 3. Minimize the Amount of Exposed Soil
- 4. Minimize the Time of Exposure
- 5. Keep the Sediment on the Site
- 6. Steep Slopes mean Steep Costs

- 1. Go Gently into this Good Site
- Examine the site understand where drainage is coming from and going to before during and after construction
- Work with the site not against it
- Use the appropriate equipment and techniques – less is more
- Do as little as possible its cheaper that way



Context



Appropriate Equipment

2. Keep Clean Water Clean

- Divert Off-Site drainage from entering working areas of the site
- Direct On-site drainage from undisturbed areas from entering working areas of the site
- Control and treat dirty water at source before it mixes with clean water



Up-grade diversion/cutoff



Up-grade diversion/cutoff



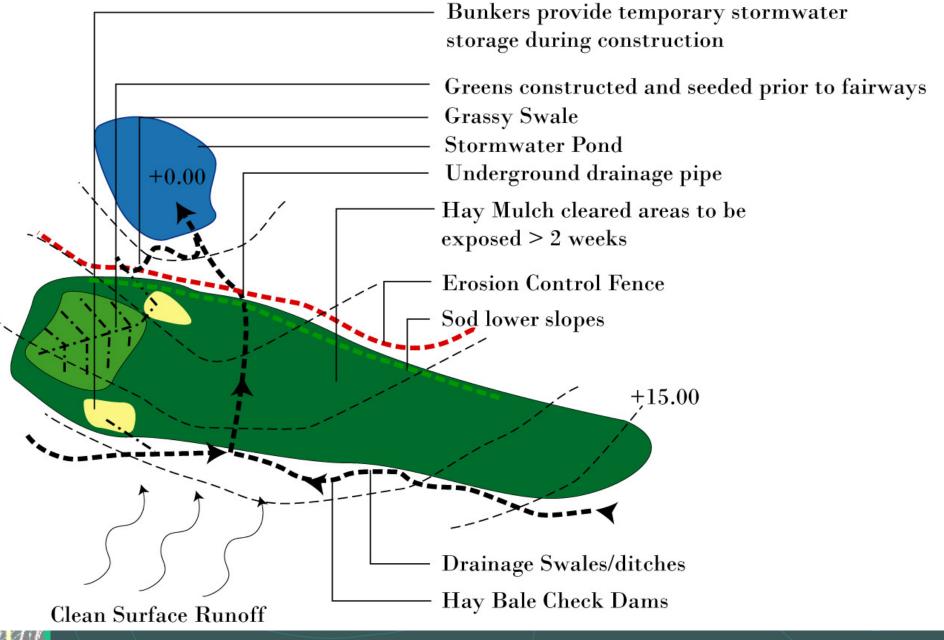
Up-grade diversion/cutoff



On-site Systems Use Intercepts in a Similar Way



Relief Drains in Cut Slopes



Surface Water Runoff Control - Golf

3. Minimize the Amount of Exposed Soil

- Never "Clear the Site"
- Disturb only the area you need to work in now
- Cover it up or stabilize surfaces temporarily when necessary
- Use vegetation in any form to stabilize areas



Surveyed Limit of Clearing



Grubbing to Rock on Same Site (use of low area)

4. Minimize the Time of Exposure

- Disturb only the area you need to work in now
- Rehabilitate Disturbed Areas Promptly
- Watch the weather bad things happen at night and on weekends!



Looks Bad, to the Civilian, but.....



Slopes Erode



Slopes Erode, Especially on Preferential Paths



Flatter Site = Lower Velocity = Less Erosion Compacted Soils = Less Surface Friction = Less Erosion

5. Keep the Sediment on the Site

- Collect and confine sediment laden water within the site
- Use ponds, infiltration strip, vegetation
- Control traffic to and from the site, parking and equipment access on the site
- Plan ahead



Slow Down Runoff with Site Features



Take advantage of existing site features



Take advantage of existing site features



An "interim" sediment control pond

6. Steep Slopes Mean Steep Costs

- Minimize creating steep slopes in either cuts or fills
- Dispersion is better than concentration
- Slow it down slow drainage = low erosion



Vegetate ASAP



Settling Ponds need maintenance...





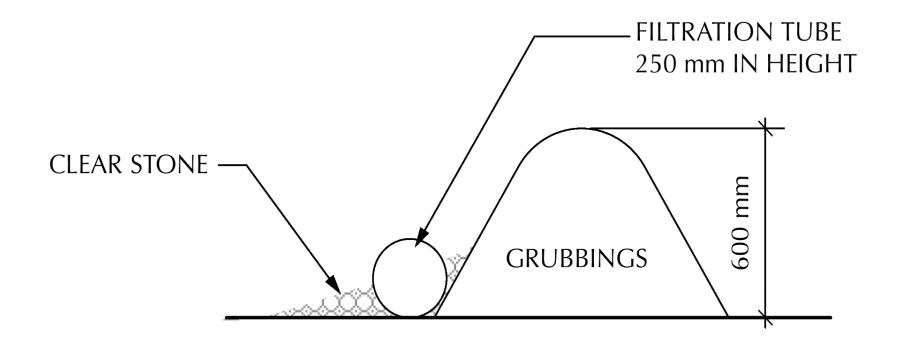
Use of grassed or wooded areas for dispersion

Erosion and Sediment Control Plan

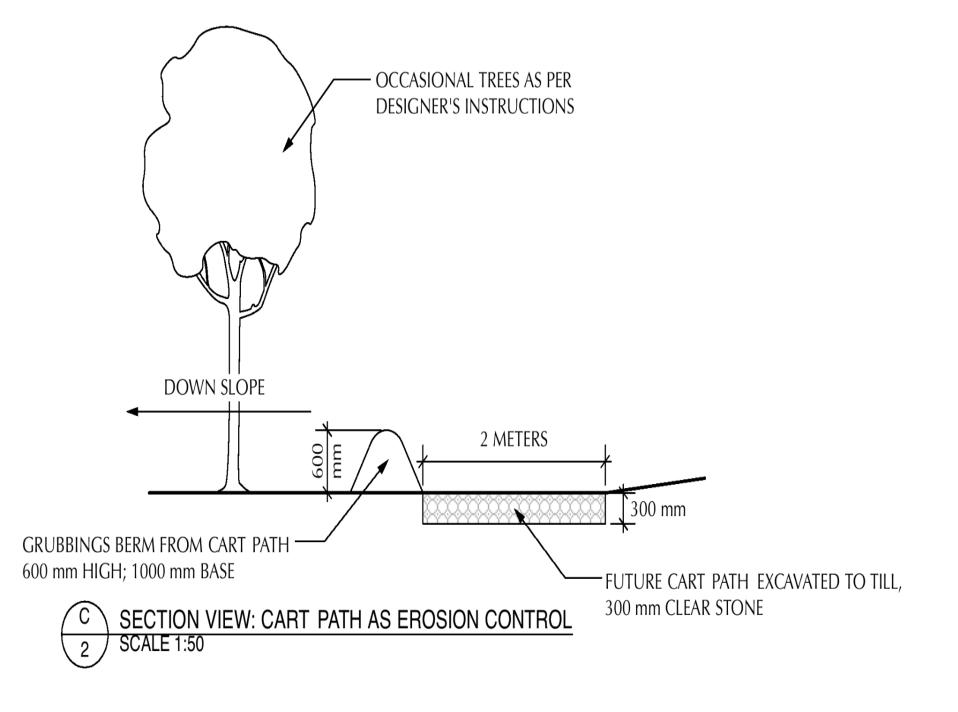
- 1. Required for all TPW Projects
- 2. LEED Certified Buildings require a plan
- 3. Must be submitted to TPW Project manager and accepted prior to entering the site
- 4. Sealed by a Professional Engineer Licensed to practice in the Province of Nova Scotia
- 5. Is a START needs to be updated as construction proceeds, a "Living Plan"
- 6. Work progression notes to anticipate progress

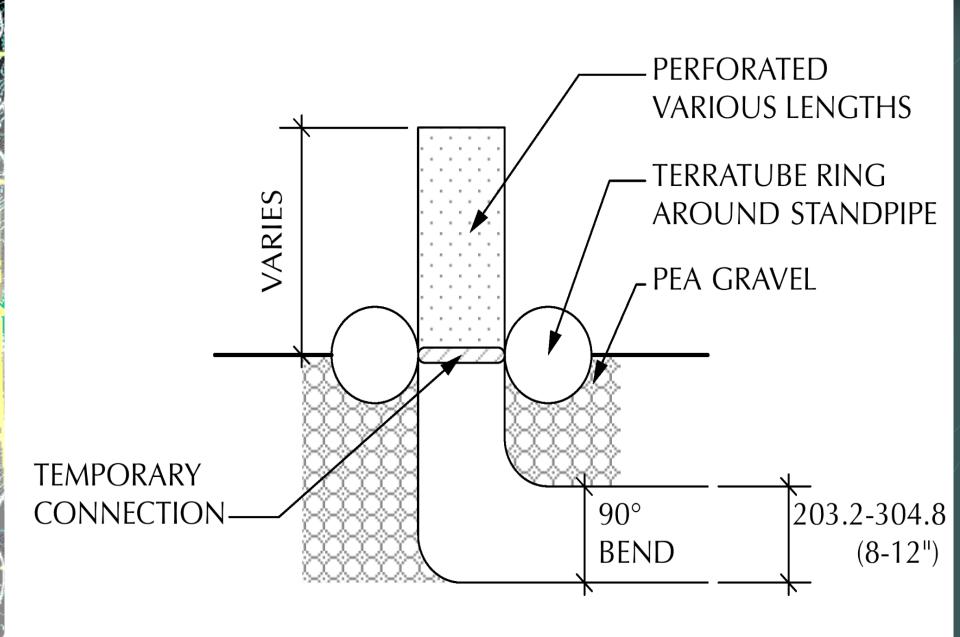


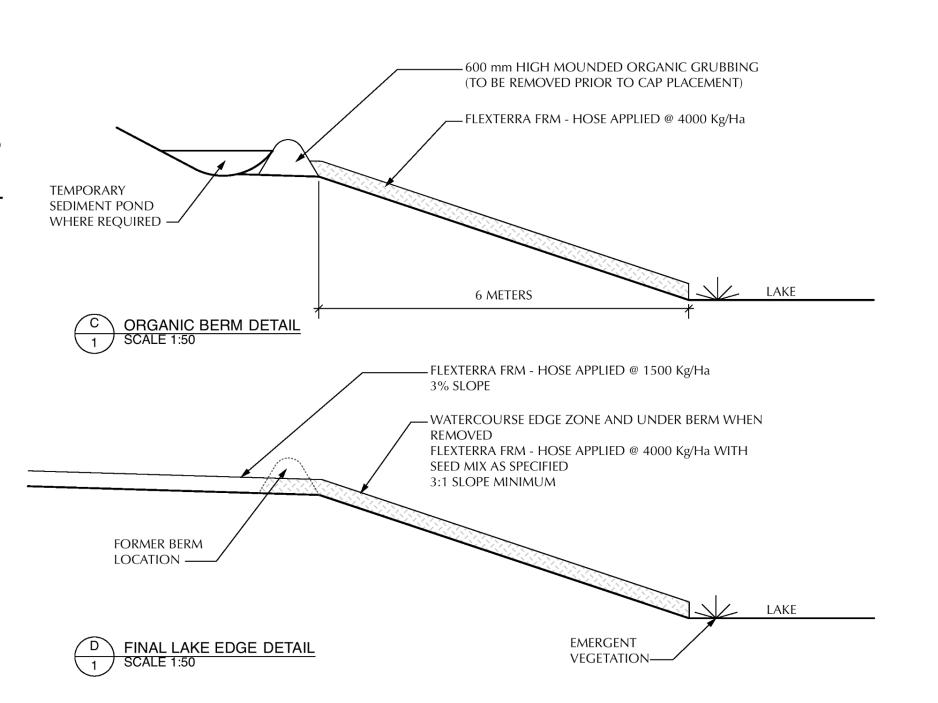


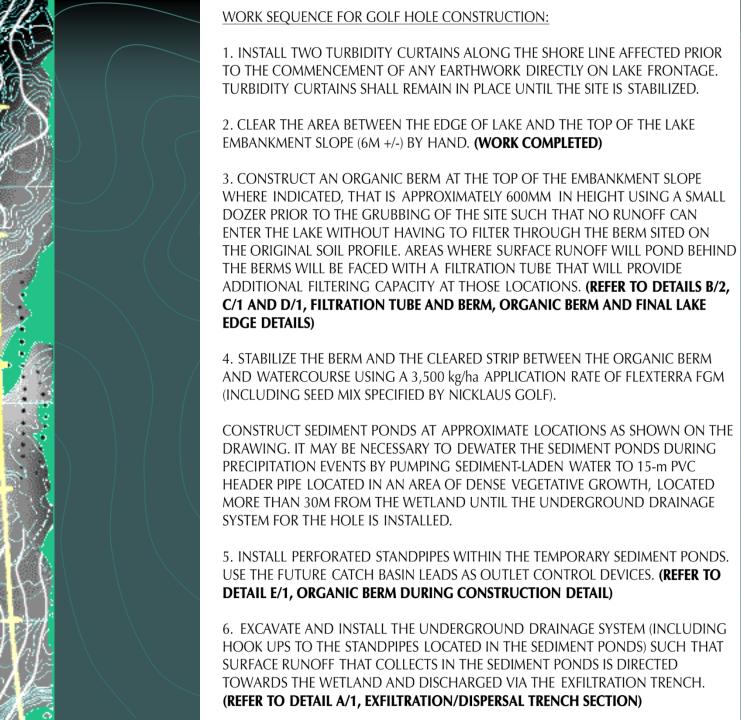












7. COMMENCE AND COMPLETE THE ROUGH GRADING OF THE HOLE, INCLUDING HOOKUPS OF THE UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE SYSTEM TO THE GREEN AND BUNKERS AND THE INSTALLATION OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM. CONNECT IRRIGATION PIPE CLEANOUTS FOR WINTER FREEZE PROTECTION (IF LOCATED ON THE HOLE) DIRECTLY TO THE UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE SYSTEM. SEDIMENT-LADEN RUNOFF WILL CONTINUE TO BE DIRECTED TO THE DESIGNATED. SEDIMENT PONDS (AND BUNKERS ONCE CONNECTED TO THE UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE SYSTEM). IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ASSIST DEWATERING OF THE SEDIMENT PONDS DURING HEAVY PRECIPITATION EVENTS, BY PUMPING SEDIMENT-LADEN WATER TO 15-m PVC HEADER PIPE LOCATED IN AN AREA OF DENSE VEGETATIVE GROWTH, LOCATED MORE THAN 30M FROM THE WETLAND. 8. ONCE UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ARE INSTALLED, COMMENCE FINAL GRADING AND PLACEMENT OF FAIRWAY SAND CAP REMOVE THE ORGANIC BERM IN COORDINATION WITH THE PLACEMENT OF THE SAND CAP. STABILIZATION OF THE SAND CAP WILL COMMENCE WITH THE APPLICATION OF HYDRAULIC MULCH (FLEXTERRA FGM) PLACED AT AN APPLICATION RATE OF 1,500 kg/ha, WHICH ALSO INCLUDES THE FERTILIZER AND SEED MIX SPECIFIED BY NICKLAUS GOLF. NICKLAUS GOLF MAY WANT TO MECHANICALLY FERTILIZE PRIOR TO THE APPLICATION OF HYDRAULIC MULCH. 9. A WORK PROGRESSION SCHEDULE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON THIS HOLE THAT REQUIRES THE CONTRACTOR TO LIMIT THE AREA BETWEEN THE PLACEMENT OF SAND CAP AND THE APPLICATION OF HYDRAULIC MULCH TO AN AREA NO GREATER THAN 0.5ha (5,000 SQ. METERS) AT ANY ONE TIME. 10. IN SITUATIONS WHERE THE ORGANIC BERM IS REMOVED AND A PRECIPITATION EVENT IS PREDICTED BY ENVIRONMENT CANADA OR THE WEATHER NETWORK TO BE ≥ 5MM, THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO INSTALL A FILTRATION TUBE ALONG THE TOP OF THE LAKE EMBANKMENT SLOPE OVER THE LENGTH OF BERM SECTION REMOVED OR TO APPLY HYDRAULIC MULCH, AT AN APPLICATION RATE OF 1,500 kg/ha, OVER THE AREA OF EXPOSED SOIL THAT COULD POTENTIALLY CONTRIBUTE RUNOFF TO THE LAKE. (REFER TO MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OF FILTRATION TUBE) 11. MAINTAIN THE USE OF THE SEDIMENT BASINS (PERFORATED STANDPIPE) TO DIRECT RUNOFF BACK TO THE WETLAND AREA, UNTIL THE SITE IS STABILIZED AND THE PERMANENT CATCH BASINS ARE INSTALLED.

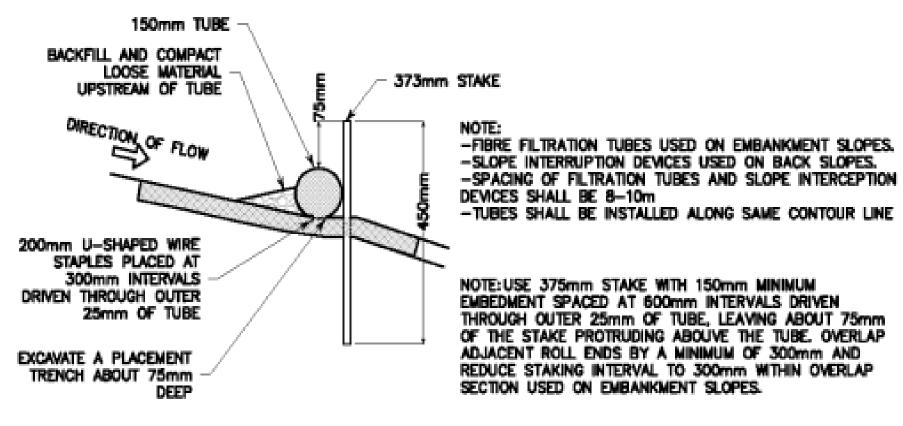




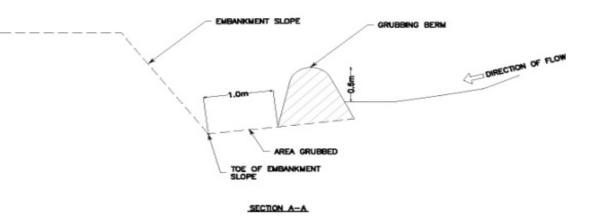
Enforcement

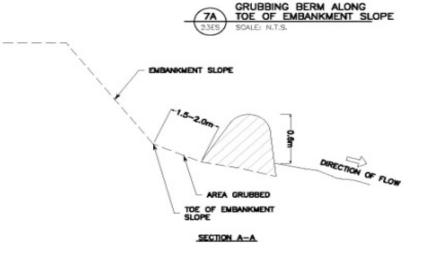
- 1. Is everywhere
- 2. You don't want to go there
- 3. Costs everyone money
- 4. Is not just done by government employees on weekdays



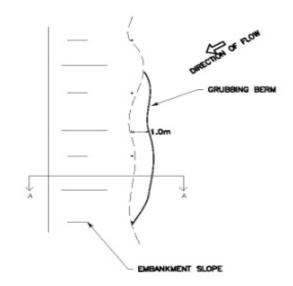




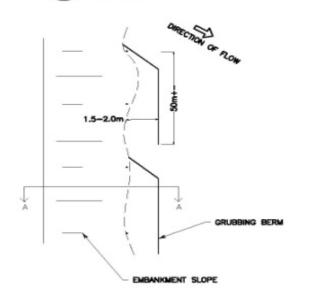








GRUBBING BERM ALONG TOE OF EMBANKMENT SLOPE (PLAN VIEW) 23ES SCALE: N.T.S.



GRUBBING BERM ALONG
TOE OF EMBANKMENT SLOPE (PLAN VIEW)

23E5 SCALE: N.T.S.



