

Don't Let Storm Water Run Off with Your Money and Our Community!

What Builders need to know about managing Storm Water in Darby Borough in the Darby and Cobbs Creeks watersheds.

The construction industry plays an important role in improving our community's quality of life by protecting our streams and rivers through smart business practices that prevent pollution from leaving construction sites. Here's what you as a builder need to do:

1. Comply with local storm water permit requirements.
2. Practice erosion control and pollution prevention practices to keep construction sites "clean."
3. Conduct advance planning and training to ensure control measures are well maintained.

Permit Requirements for Construction Activity

- Pennsylvania's Erosion and Sediment Control Pollution Program (25 Pa. Code, Chapter 102) requires Erosion and Sediment Control Plans for all earth disturbance activities. The Delaware County Conservation District approves these plans for Darby.
- The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program (25 Pa. Code, Chapter 92) requires that construction activities disturbing greater than one acre submit a Notice of Intent for coverage under a general NPDES permit. Contact the DEP Southeast Regional office.
- Local permits require use of erosion and pollution prevention practices.

Planning is Nice, But...

Your carefully laid plans and permit compliance will be quickly undone without training and supervision. If you don't make regular inspections of your controls, you can't expect your employees to take it seriously -- and that leads to violations that hit you in the wallet.

Teach your employees to treat the storm water controls like they would any other tool of their trade. If it's well maintained, it will function properly. Don't allow a "shortcut" mentality. If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing right.

What is Storm Water?

Storm water is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what are commonly known as storm sewers. Collectively, the draining water is called storm water runoff.

Erosion Control and Pollution Prevention Practices

- ~~Perimeter controls (e.g. silt fence)~~
- Sediment traps
- Immediate revegetation
- Phased, minimized grading
- Construction entrance
- Protection of streams and drainage ways.
- Inlet protection
- Fuelling and vehicle maintenance away from streams
- Remove trash and litter
- Clean up leaks immediately
- Never wash down dirty pavement
- Place dumpsters under cover
- Dispose of all wastes properly

For More Information

Darby Borough Engineer (610) 586-1102
Delaware County Conservation District (610) 892-9484
www.delcocd.org

PA Handbook of Best Management Practices for Developing Areas
www.pacd.org/products/bmp/bmp_handbook.html
Storm Water Manager's Resource Center
www.stormwatercenter.net

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (484) 250-5970
www.dep.state.pa.us Keyword: Stormwater