

Stormwater Fact Sheet

Construction Site - Stormwater Runoff Control

When it rains, stormwater washes over loose soil on a construction site, along with various materials and products stored outside. As stormwater flows over the site, it can pick up pollutants like sediment, debris, and chemicals, from that loose soil and carry them to nearby storm sewer systems or directly into rivers and lakes.

According to the EPA, "Sediment runoff rates from construction sites are typically ten to twenty times greater than those of agricultural lands, and one thousand to two thousand times greater than those of forest lands. During a short period of time, construction sites can contribute more sediment to streams than can be deposited naturally during several decades. The resulting situation, and the contribution of other pollutants from construction sites, can cause physical, chemical, and biological harm to our nation's waters." [EPA Fact Sheet on Construction Site Runoff Control]

Construction site pollutants commonly include: sediment, solid and sanitary wastes, phosphorus, nitrogen, oil and grease, concrete truck washout, construction chemicals, construction debris, and pesticides.

The Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Division of Buncombe County regulates certain land disturbing activities in order to prevent the pollution and damage of water sources, lakes, streams and rivers, and other public and private property. The Division is a delegated authority by the State of North Carolina, and enforces the "Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973" in the Town. Buncombe County regulations concerning temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures apply to all development within the Town of Weaverville and requires temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures be incorporated into the design. The construction documents must identify specific controls and locations as well as contractor implementation and inspection responsibilities. Additionally, any storm water discharge from a construction site must be visibly free of sediment. Some land development also requires Buncombe County issued Stormwater Permits.



All land disturbing activities must utilize protective measures, such as silt fencing and mud mats, to prevent sedimentation from moving off-site.

A Buncombe County Sedimentation and Erosion Control permit is required for land disturbing activities of one acre or more.

Town Code requires that all loose debris, waste or scrap building materials, and trash to be placed in onsite refuse containers at the end of each day; that the construction site be kept reasonably clean and litter-free; and that dirt, mud, construction materials, and other debris be removed from public streets and private property on a daily basis.

Sediment can be controlled through the use of silt fences, biologs, sediment traps, check dams, and sandbag barriers. Erosion can be prevented using existing vegetation, mulch, sod, and geotextiles. In addition, sites should be kept free of loose trash and debris.

Please contact the following for construction site runoff control questions:

**Town of Weaverville
Stormwater Administrator
15 Quarry Road
Weaverville, NC 28787
(828-645-0606)**

**Buncombe County
Sedimentation/Erosion Control
46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801
(828)250-4848**

**Buncombe County
Stormwater
46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801
(828)250-4854**