

C.3.1 STABILIZED CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE

Purpose

Construction entrances are stabilized to reduce the amount of sediment transported onto paved roads by motor vehicles or runoff by constructing a stabilized pad of quarry spalls at the entrances to construction sites.

Application

Construction entrances shall be stabilized wherever traffic will be leaving a construction site and traveling on paved roads or other paved areas within 1,000 feet of the *site*.

Design and Installation Specifications

1. See Figure C.3.1.A for details.
2. A separation geotextile shall be placed under the spalls to prevent fine sediment from pumping up into the rock pad. The geotextile shall meet the following standards:

Grab Tensile Strength (ASTM D4751)	200 psi min.
Grab Tensile Elongation (ASTM D4632)	30% max.
Mullen Burst Strength (ASTM D3786-80a)	400 psi min.
AOS (ASTM D4751)	20-45 (U.S. standard sieve size)

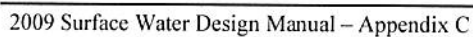
3. Hog fuel (wood based mulch) may be substituted for or combined with quarry spalls in areas that will not be used for permanent roads. The effectiveness of hog fuel is highly variable, but it has been used successfully on many construction sites. It generally requires more maintenance than quarry spalls. Hog fuel is not recommended for entrance stabilization in urban areas. The inspector may at any time require the use of quarry spalls if the hog fuel is not preventing sediment from being tracked onto pavement or if the hog fuel is being carried onto pavement. Hog fuel is prohibited in permanent roadbeds because organics in the subgrade soils cause difficulties with compaction.

4. Whenever possible, the entrance shall be constructed on a firm, compacted subgrade. This can substantially increase the effectiveness of the pad and reduce the need for maintenance.

Maintenance

1. Quarry spalls (or hog fuel) shall be added if the pad is no longer in accordance with the specifications.
2. If the entrance is not preventing sediment from being tracked onto pavement, then alternative measures to keep the streets free of sediment shall be used. This may include street sweeping, an increase in the dimensions of the entrance, or the installation of a wheel wash. If washing is used, it shall be done on an area covered with crushed rock, and wash water shall drain to a sediment trap or pond.
3. Any sediment that is tracked onto pavement shall be removed immediately by sweeping. The sediment collected by sweeping shall be removed or stabilized onsite. The pavement shall not be

- FIGURE C.3.1.A STABILIZED CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE**



C.3.2 MULCHING

Purpose

The purpose of mulching soils is to provide immediate temporary protection from erosion. Mulch also enhances plant establishment by conserving moisture, holding fertilizer, seed, and topsoil in place, and moderating soil temperatures. There is an enormous variety of mulches that may be used. Only the most common types are discussed in this section.

Conditions of Use

As a temporary cover measure, mulch should be used:

1. On disturbed areas that require cover measures for less than 30 days
2. As a cover for seed during the wet season and during the hot summer months
3. During the wet season on slopes steeper than 3H:1V with more than 10 feet of vertical relief.

Design and Installation Specifications

For mulch materials, application rates, and specifications, see Table C.3.2.A. *Note: Thicknesses may be increased for disturbed areas in or near critical areas or other areas highly susceptible to erosion.*

Maintenance Standards

1. The thickness of the mulch cover must be maintained.
2. Any areas that experience erosion shall be re-mulched and/or protected with a net or blanket. If the erosion problem is drainage related, then the drainage problem shall be assessed and alternate drainage such as interceptor swales may be needed to fix the problem and the eroded area re-mulched.

TABLE C.3.2.A MULCH STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Mulch Material	Quality Standards	Application Rates	Remarks
Straw	Air-dried; free from undesirable seed and coarse material	2"-3" thick; 2-3 bales per 1000 sf or 2-3 tons per acre	Cost-effective protection when applied with adequate thickness. Hand-application generally requires greater thickness than blown straw. Straw should be crimped to avoid wind blow. The thickness of straw may be reduced by half when used in conjunction with seeding.
Wood Fiber Cellulose	No growth inhibiting factors	Approx. 25-30 lbs per 1000 sf or 1000-1500 lbs per acre	Shall be applied with hydromulcher. Shall not be used without seed and tackifier unless the application rate is at least doubled. Some wood fiber with very long fibers can be effective at lower application rates and without seed or tackifier.
Compost	No visible water or dust during handling. Must be purchased from supplier with Solid Waste Handling Permit.	2" thick min.; approx. 100 tons per acre (approx. 800 lbs per cubic yard)	More effective control can be obtained by increasing thickness to 3". Excellent mulch for protecting final grades until landscaping because it can be directly seeded or tilled into soil as an amendment. Sources for compost are available from the King County Commission for Marketing Recyclable Materials at (206) 296-4439.
Hydraulic Matrices (Bonded Fiber Matrix)	This mulch category includes hydraulic slurries composed of wood fiber, paper fiber or a combination of the two held together by a binding system. The BFM shall be a mixture of long wood fibers and various bonding agents.	Apply at rates from 3,000 lbs per acre to 4,000 lbs per acre and based on manufacturers recommendations	The BFM shall not be applied immediately before, during or immediately after rainfall so that the matrix will have an opportunity to dry for 24 hours after installation. Application rates beyond 2,500 pounds may interfere with germination and are not usually recommended for turf establishment. BFM is generally a matrix where all fiber and binders are in one bag, rather than having to mix components from various manufacturers to create a matrix. BFMs can be installed via helicopter in remote areas. They are approximately \$1,000 per acre cheaper to install.
Chipped Site Vegetation	Average size shall be several inches.	2" minimum thickness	This is a cost-effective way to dispose of debris from clearing and grubbing, and it eliminates the problems associated with burning. Generally, it should not be used on slopes above approx. 10% because of its tendency to be transported by runoff. It is not recommended within 200 feet of surface waters. If seeding is expected shortly after mulch, the decomposition of the chipped vegetation may tie up nutrients important to grass establishment.

C.3.4 PLASTIC COVERING

Purpose

Plastic covering provides immediate, short-term erosion protection to slopes and disturbed areas.

Conditions of Use

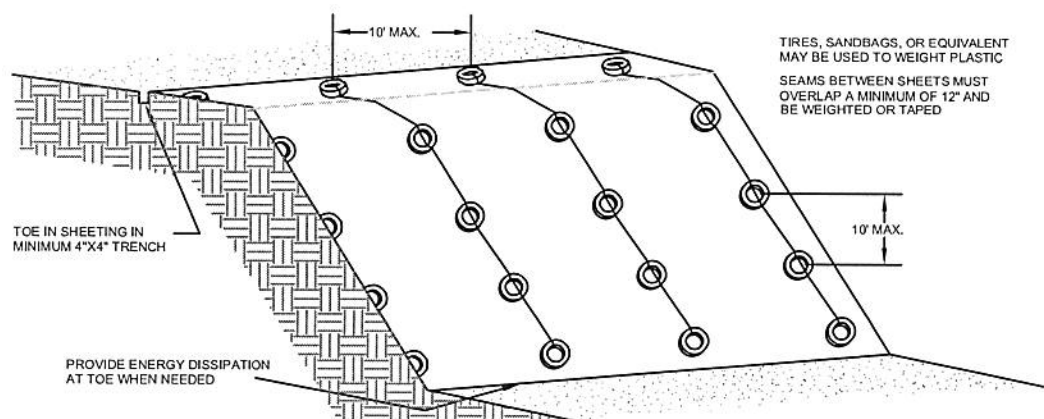
1. Plastic covering may be used on disturbed areas that require cover measures for less than 30 days.
2. Plastic is particularly useful for protecting cut and fill slopes and stockpiles. *Note: The relatively rapid breakdown of most polyethylene sheeting makes it unsuitable for long-term applications.*
3. Clear plastic sheeting may be used over newly-seeded areas to create a greenhouse effect and encourage grass growth. Clear plastic should not be used for this purpose during the summer months because the resulting high temperatures can kill the grass.
4. Due to rapid runoff caused by plastic sheeting, this method shall not be used upslope of areas that might be adversely impacted by concentrated runoff. Such areas include steep and/or unstable slopes.

Note: There have been many problems with plastic, usually attributable to poor installation and maintenance. However, the material itself can cause problems, even when correctly installed and maintained, because it generates high-velocity runoff and breaks down quickly due to ultraviolet radiation. In addition, if the plastic is not completely removed, it can clog drainage system inlets and outlets. It is highly recommended that alternatives to plastic sheeting be used whenever possible and that its use be limited.

Design and Installation Specifications

1. See Figure C.3.4.A for details.
2. Plastic sheeting shall have a minimum thickness of 0.06 millimeters.
3. If erosion at the toe of a slope is likely, a gravel berm, riprap, or other suitable protection shall be installed at the toe of the slope in order to reduce the velocity of runoff.

FIGURE C.3.4.A PLASTIC COVERING



C.3.6 SILT FENCE

Purpose

Use of a silt fence reduces the transport of coarse sediment from a construction site by providing a temporary physical barrier to sediment and reducing the runoff velocities of overland flow.

Conditions of Use

Silt fence may be used downslope of all disturbed areas. Silt fence is not intended to treat concentrated flows, nor is it intended to treat substantial amounts of overland flow.

Design and Installation Specifications

1. See Figure C.3.6.A and Figure C.3.6.B for details.
2. The geotextile used must meet the standards listed below. A copy of the manufacturer's fabric specifications must be available onsite.

AOS (ASTM D4751)	30-100 sieve size (0.60-0.15 mm) for slit film 50-100 sieve size (0.30-0.15 mm) for other fabrics
Water Permittivity (ASTM D4491)	0.02 sec ⁻¹ minimum
Grab Tensile Strength (ASTM D4632)	180 lbs. min. for extra strength fabric 100 lbs. min. for standard strength fabric
Grab Tensile Elongation (ASTM D4632)	30% max.
Ultraviolet Resistance (ASTM D4355)	70% min.

3. Standard strength fabric requires wire backing to increase the strength of the fence. Wire backing or closer post spacing may be required for extra strength fabric if field performance warrants a stronger fence.
4. Where the fence is installed, the slope shall be no steeper than 2H:1V.
5. If a typical silt fence (per Figure C.3.6.A) is used, the standard 4 x 4 trench may not be reduced as long as the bottom 8 inches of the silt fence is well buried and secured in a trench that stabilizes the fence and does not allow water to bypass or undermine the silt fence.
6. Silt fences shall be located so as to avoid interfering with the movement of juvenile salmonids attempting to enter off-channel areas or drainages.

Maintenance Standards

1. Any damage shall be repaired immediately.
2. If concentrated flows are evident uphill of the fence, they must be intercepted and conveyed to a sediment trap or pond.
3. It is important to check the uphill side of the fence for signs of the fence clogging and acting as a barrier to flow and then causing channelization of flows parallel to the fence. If this occurs, replace the fence or remove the trapped sediment.
4. Sediment must be removed when the sediment is 6 inches high.
5. If the filter fabric (geotextile) has deteriorated due to ultraviolet breakdown, it shall be replaced.

FIGURE C.3.6.A SILT FENCE

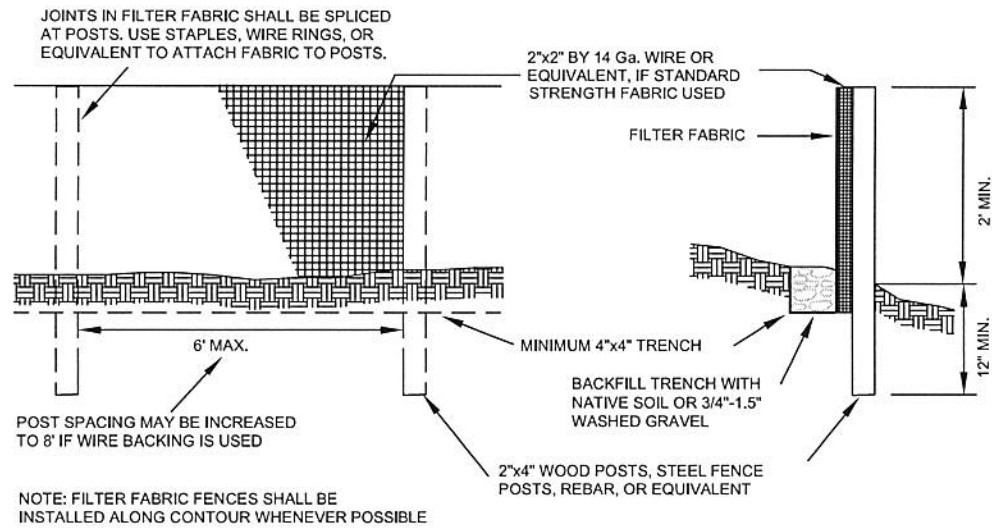
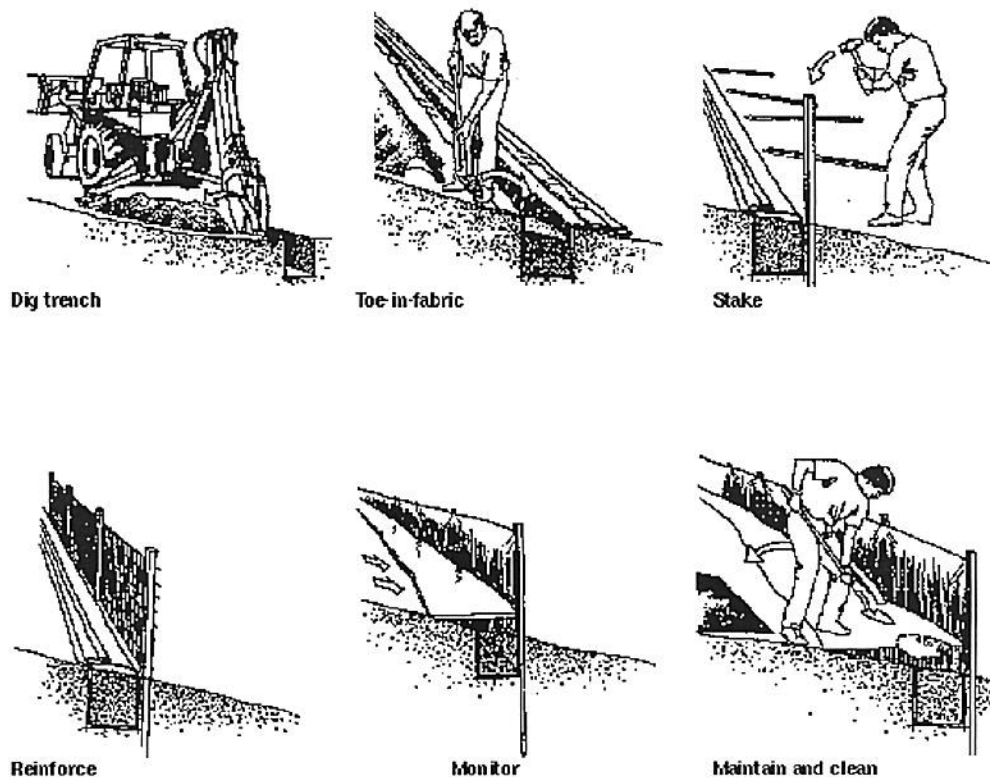
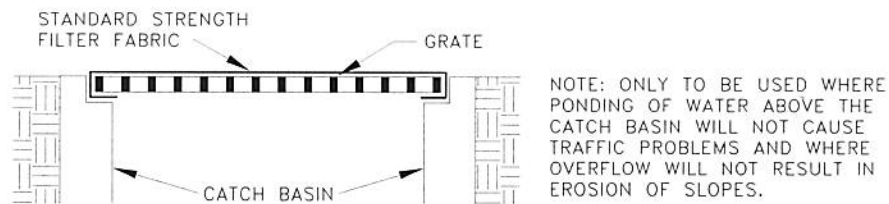
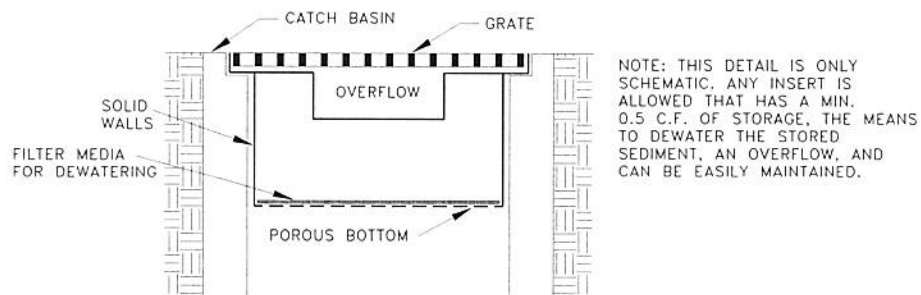


FIGURE C.3.6.B SILT FENCE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE



Maintenance Standards

1. Any accumulated sediment on or around inlet protection shall be removed immediately. Sediment shall not be removed with water, and all sediment must be disposed of as fill on site or hauled off site.
2. Any sediment in the catch basin insert shall be removed when the sediment has filled one-third of the available storage. The filter media for the insert shall be cleaned or replaced at least monthly.
3. Regular maintenance is critical for all forms of catch basin/inlet protection. Unlike many forms of protection that fail gradually, catch basin protection will fail suddenly and completely if not maintained properly.

FIGURE C.3.9.A FILTER FABRIC PROTECTION**FIGURE C.3.9.B CATCH BASIN INSERT**

C.3.10 SEEDING

Purpose

Seeding is intended to reduce erosion by stabilizing exposed soils. A well-established vegetative cover is one of the most effective methods of reducing erosion.

Conditions of Use

1. Seeding shall be used throughout the project on **disturbed areas** that have reached final grade or that will remain unworked for more than 30 days.
2. At the County's discretion, seeding without mulch during the **dry season** is allowed even though it will take more than seven days to develop an effective cover. Mulch is, however, recommended at all times because it protects seeds from heat, moisture loss, and transport due to runoff.
3. At final site stabilization, all disturbed areas not otherwise vegetated or stabilized shall be seeded and mulched.

Design and Installation Specifications

1. The best **time to seed** is April 1 through June 30, and September 1 through October 15. Areas may be seeded between July 1 and August 31, but irrigation may be required in order to grow adequate cover. Areas may also be seeded during the winter months, but it may take several months to develop a dense groundcover due to cold temperatures. The application and maintenance of mulch is critical for winter seeding.
2. To prevent seed from being washed away, confirm that **all required surface water control measures** have been installed.
3. The **seedbed** should be firm but not compacted because soils that are well compacted will not vegetate as quickly or thoroughly.
4. In general, 10-20-20 N-P-K (nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium) **fertilizer** may be used at a rate of 90 pounds per acre. Slow-release fertilizers are preferred because they are more efficient and have fewer environmental impacts. It is recommended that areas being seeded for final landscaping conduct soil tests to determine the exact type and quantity of fertilizer needed. This will prevent the over-application of fertilizer. Disturbed areas within 200 feet of water bodies and wetlands must use slow-release low-phosphorus fertilizer (typical proportions 3-1-2 N-P-K).
5. The following requirements apply to **mulching**:
 - a) Mulch is always required for seeding slopes greater than 3H:1V (see Section D.4.2.1).
 - b) If seeding during the wet season, mulch is required.
 - c) The use of mulch may be required during the dry season at the County's discretion if grass growth is expected to be slow, the soils are highly erodible due to soil type or gradient, there is a water body close to the disturbed area, or significant precipitation is anticipated before the grass will provide effective cover.
 - d) Mulch may be applied on top of the seed or simultaneously by hydroseeding.
6. **Hydroseeding** is allowed as long as tackifier is included. Hydroseeding with wood fiber mulch is adequate during the dry season. During the wet season, the application rate shall be doubled because the mulch and tackifier used in hydroseeding break down fairly rapidly. It may be necessary in some applications to include straw with the wood fiber, but this can be detrimental to germination.
7. Areas to be permanently landscaped shall use **soil amendments**. Good quality topsoil shall be tilled into the top six inches to reduce the need for fertilizer and improve the overall soil quality. Most native soils will require the addition of four inches of well-rotted compost to be tilled into the soil to

provide a good quality topsoil. Compost used should meet Ecology publication 98-38 specifications for Grade A quality compost.

8. The **seed mixes** listed below include recommended mixes for both temporary and permanent seeding. These mixes, with the exception of the wetland mix, shall be applied at a rate of 120 pounds per acre. This rate may be reduced if soil amendments or slow-release fertilizers are used. Local suppliers should be consulted for their recommendations because the appropriate mix depends on a variety of factors, including exposure, soil type, slope, and expected foot traffic. Alternative seed mixes approved by the County may be used.

TABLE C.3.10.A TEMPORARY EROSION CONTROL SEED MIX

	% Weight	% Purity	% Germination
Chewings or red fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i> var. <i>commutata</i> or <i>Festuca rubra</i>)	40	98	90
Annual or perennial rye (<i>Lolium multiflorum</i> or <i>Lolium perenne</i>)	40	98	90
Redtop or colonial bentgrass (<i>Agrostis alba</i> or <i>Agrostis tenuis</i>)	10	92	85
White dutch clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>)	10	98	90

TABLE C.3.10.B LANDSCAPING SEED MIX

	% Weight	% Purity	% Germination
Perennial rye blend (<i>Lolium perenne</i>)	70	98	90
Chewings and red fescue blend (<i>Festuca rubra</i> var. <i>commutata</i> or <i>Festuca rubra</i>)	30	98	90

Maintenance Standards for Seeding

1. Any seeded areas that fail to establish at least 80 percent cover within one month shall be reseeded. If reseeding is ineffective, an alternate method, such as sodding or nets/blankets, shall be used. If winter weather prevents adequate grass growth, this time limit may be relaxed at the discretion of the County when critical areas would otherwise be protected.
2. After adequate cover is achieved, any areas that experience erosion shall be re-seeded and protected by mulch. If the erosion problem is drainage related, the problem shall be fixed and the eroded area re-seeded and protected by mulch.
3. Seeded areas shall be supplied with adequate moisture, but not watered to the extent that it causes runoff.