Debris and Trash Management

Applications

- Perimeter Control
- Slope Protection
- Sediment Trapping
- Channel Protection
- Temporary Stabilization
- Permanent Stabilization
- Waste Management
- Housekeeping Practices

Targeted Constituents

- ○ Sediment
- ● Nutrients Toxic Materials
- ○ Oil & Grease
- ● Floatable Materials
- ● Other Construction Wastes

Implementation Requirements

- ◒ Capital Costs
- ◒ Maintenance
- ◒ Training
- ○ Suitability for Slopes > 5%

Legend

- ● Significant Impact
- ◒ Medium Impact
- ○ Low Impact
- ? Unknown or Questionable Impact

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DESCRIPTION

Large volumes of debris and trash are often generated at construction sites including: packaging, pallets, wood waste, concrete waste, soil, electrical wiring, cuttings, and a variety of other materials. There are several techniques and procedures to minimize the potential of storm water contamination from solid waste through appropriate storage and disposal practices. Recycling of construction debris also reduces the volume of material to be disposed of and associated costs.

PRIMARY USE

Debris and trash management should be a part of all construction practices. By limiting the trash and debris on site, storm water quality is improved along with reduced clean up requirements at the completion of the project.

APPLICATIONS

Solid waste management for construction sites is based on proper storage and disposal practices by construction workers and supervisors. Key elements of the program are education and modification of improper disposal habits. Cooperation and vigilance is required on the part of supervisors and workers to ensure that the recommendations and procedures are followed. Following are lists describing the targeted materials and recommended procedures:

- ❑ Construction (and Demolition) Debris
  - Dimensional lumber
  - Miscellaneous wood (pallets, plywood, etc)
  - Copper (pipe and electrical wiring)
  - Miscellaneous metal (studs, pipe, conduit, sheathing, nails, etc)
  - Insulation
  - Concrete, brick, and mortar
  - Shingles
  - Roofing materials
  - Gypsum board

- ❑ Trash
  - Paper and cardboard (packaging, containers, wrappers)
  - Plastic (packaging, bottles, containers)
  - Styrofoam (cups, packing, and forms)
  - Food and beverage containers
  - Food waste

Storage Procedures

- ❑ Wherever possible, minimize production of debris and trash.
- ❑ Designate a foreman or supervisor to oversee and enforce proper debris and trash procedures.
- ❑ Instruct construction workers in proper debris and trash storage and handling procedures.
- ❑ Segregate potentially hazardous waste from non-hazardous construction site debris.
- ❑ Segregate recyclable construction debris from other non-recyclable materials.

Debris and Trash Management

- ❑ Keep debris and trash under cover in either a closed dumpster or other enclosed trash container that limits contact with rain and runoff and prevents light materials from blowing out.
- ❑ Store waste materials away from drainage ditches, swales and catch basins.
- ❑ Do not allow trash containers to overflow.
- ❑ Do not allow waste materials to accumulate on the ground.
- ❑ Prohibit littering by workers and visitors.
- ❑ Police site daily for litter and debris.
- ❑ Enforce solid waste handling and storage procedures.

Disposal Procedures
- ❑ If feasible, recycle construction and demolition debris such as wood, metal, and concrete.
- ❑ General construction debris may be hauled to a licensed construction debris landfill (typically less expensive than a sanitary landfill).
- ❑ Use waste and recycling haulers/facilities approved by the local jurisdiction.

Education
- ❑ Educate all workers on solid waste storage and disposal procedures.
- ❑ Instruct workers in identification of solid waste and hazardous waste.
- ❑ Have regular meetings to discuss and reinforce disposal procedures (incorporate in regular safety seminars).
- ❑ Clearly mark on all debris and trash containers which materials are acceptable.

Quality Control
- ❑ Foreman and/or construction supervisor shall monitor on-site solid waste storage and disposal procedures.
- ❑ Discipline workers who repeatedly violate procedures.

Requirements
- ❑ Job-site waste handling and disposal education and awareness program.
- ❑ Compliance by workers.
- ❑ Sufficient and appropriate waste storage containers.
- ❑ Timely removal of stored solid waste materials.
- ❑ Training workers and monitoring compliance.

LIMITATIONS

Only addresses non-hazardous solid waste.
One part of a comprehensive construction site management program.