BMP: Preservation of Existing Vegetation



OBJECTIVES

- Housekeeping Practices
- Contain Waste
- × Minimize Disturbed Areas
- Stabilize Disturbed Areas ×
- Protect Slopes/Channels ×
- Control Site Perimeter × **Control Internal Erosion**



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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DESCRIPTION:

Carefully planned preservation of existing vegetation minimizes the potential of removing or injuring existing trees, vines, shrubs and/or grasses that serve as erosion controls.

APPLICATIONS:

This technique is applicable to all types of sites. Areas where preserving ► vegetation can be particularly beneficial are floodplains, wetlands, stream banks, steep slopes, and other areas where erosion controls would be difficult to establish, install, or maintain.

INSTALLATION/APPLICATION CRITERIA:

- Clearly mark, flag or fence vegetation or areas where vegetation should be ► preserved.
- Prepare landscaping plans which include as much existing vegetation as possible and state proper care during and after construction.
- Define and protect with berms, fencing, signs, etc. a setback area from vegetation to be preserved.
- Propose landscaping plans which do not include plant species that compete with the existing vegetation.
- Do not locate construction traffic routes, spoil piles, etc. where significant adverse impact on existing vegetation may occur.

LIMITATIONS:

- Requires forward planning by the owner/developer, contractor and design staff.
- For sites with diverse topography, it is often difficult and expensive to save existing trees while grading the site satisfactorily for the planned development.
- May not be cost effective with high land costs.

MAINTENANCE:

- Inspection and maintenance requirements for protection of vegetation are low.
- Maintenance of native trees or vegetation should conform to landscape plan specifications.

TARGETED POLLUTANTS

- Sediment
- Nutrients
- **Toxic Materials**
- Oil & Grease
- П Floatable Materials
- П Other Waste
- High Impact
- × Medium Impact
- Low or Unknown Impact

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Capital Costs**
- **O&M** Costs Maintenance
- Training
- High
- Medium ×
- Low