EPA's Construction General Permit (CGP) Small Residential Lot Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Template

Who needs to seek coverage under the EPA CGP?

Stormwater discharges from construction activities that disturb one or more acres, or smaller sites disturbing less than one acre that are part of a common plan of development or sale, are regulated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permitting program. Prior to the start of construction, construction operators must obtain coverage under an NPDES permit, which is administered either by the state (if it is authorized to operate the NPDES program) or EPA. Where EPA is the permitting authority, operators may seek coverage under the EPA CGP. The CGP requires operators of construction sites to meet effluent limits (i.e., through the implementation of erosion and sediment controls) and requires operators to develop a SWPPP detailing erosion and sediment controls and pollution prevention measures that will be implemented to meet the requirements of the CGP.

What is the Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template?

The Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template is designed to help operators of small residential sites develop a streamlined SWPPP that meets the minimum requirements of EPA's CGP. This simplified template does not change, relax, or modify any existing conditions in the CGP, including the requirement to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for permit coverage.

How does it work?

Think of the Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template as a 1040EZ tax form for small construction sites. All of the same requirements apply, but compliance options are focused on only those controls that apply to small residential lot construction, and they are presented in a simplified, user-friendly format.

The Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template streamlines SWPPP development by providing a simplified menu of erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention practices that operators can select from to complete a SWPPP consistent with the minimum requirements in the CGP.

Easy to Use BMP Menu

The Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template provides operators with a walk-through menu of typical erosion and sediment control and pollution prevention practices (i.e., Best Management Practices or BMPs) appropriate for small construction sites.

Illustrated Appendix with Pull-Out BMP Spec Sheets

Clear, step-by-step BMP spec sheets for each practice you choose are provided in an illustrated appendix that you may edit based on your site-specific conditions.

Does my project qualify for EPA's Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template?

In order to use EPA's streamlined template, your site must meet a series of criteria, including:

- ✔ Projects must disturb less than one acre of land;
- ✔ Projects must be located outside of sensitive areas (areas with endangered species concerns, historic preservation issues, wetlands, etc.);
- ✔ Projects must not cause disturbance within 50 ft of a water of the U.S.;
- ✔ Projects must not require the use of chemical treatment for stormwater; and
- ✔ Projects must not disturb steep slopes.

To access EPA's streamlined Small Residential Lot SWPPP Template, visit:
www.epa.gov/national-pollutant-discharge-elimination-system-npdes/stormwater-discharges-construction-activities

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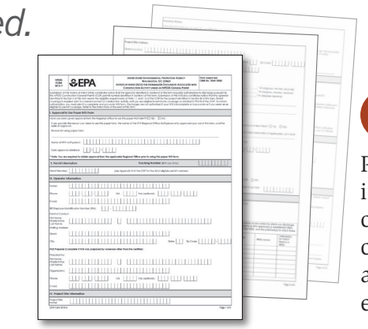
Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Small Residential Construction Sites

10 Steps to Stormwater Pollution Prevention on Small Residential Construction Sites

Stormwater management on small residential construction sites need not be complicated.



1 Protect Any Areas Reserved for Vegetation or Infiltration and Preserve Existing Trees

If you will be installing infiltration-based features such as rain gardens or bioswales, make sure these areas are designated as off limits to avoid compaction.

Save time and money by preserving existing mature trees during construction. Preserving mature trees minimizes the amount of soil that needs to be stabilized once construction is complete, and minimizes the amount of runoff during and after construction activity.

2 Stockpile Your Soil

EPA's CGP requires operators to preserve native topsoil on site unless infeasible and protect all soil storage piles from run-on and runoff. For smaller stockpiles, covering the entire pile with a tarp may be sufficient.

3 Protect Construction Materials from Run-On and Runoff

At the end of every workday and during precipitation events, provide cover for materials that could leach pollutants.

4 Designate Waste Disposal Areas

Clearly identify separate waste disposal areas on site for hazardous waste, construction waste, and domestic waste by designating with signage, and protect from run-on and runoff.

5 Install Perimeter Controls on Downhill Lot Line

Install perimeter controls such as sediment filter logs or silt fences around the downhill boundaries of your site.

6 Install Inlet Controls

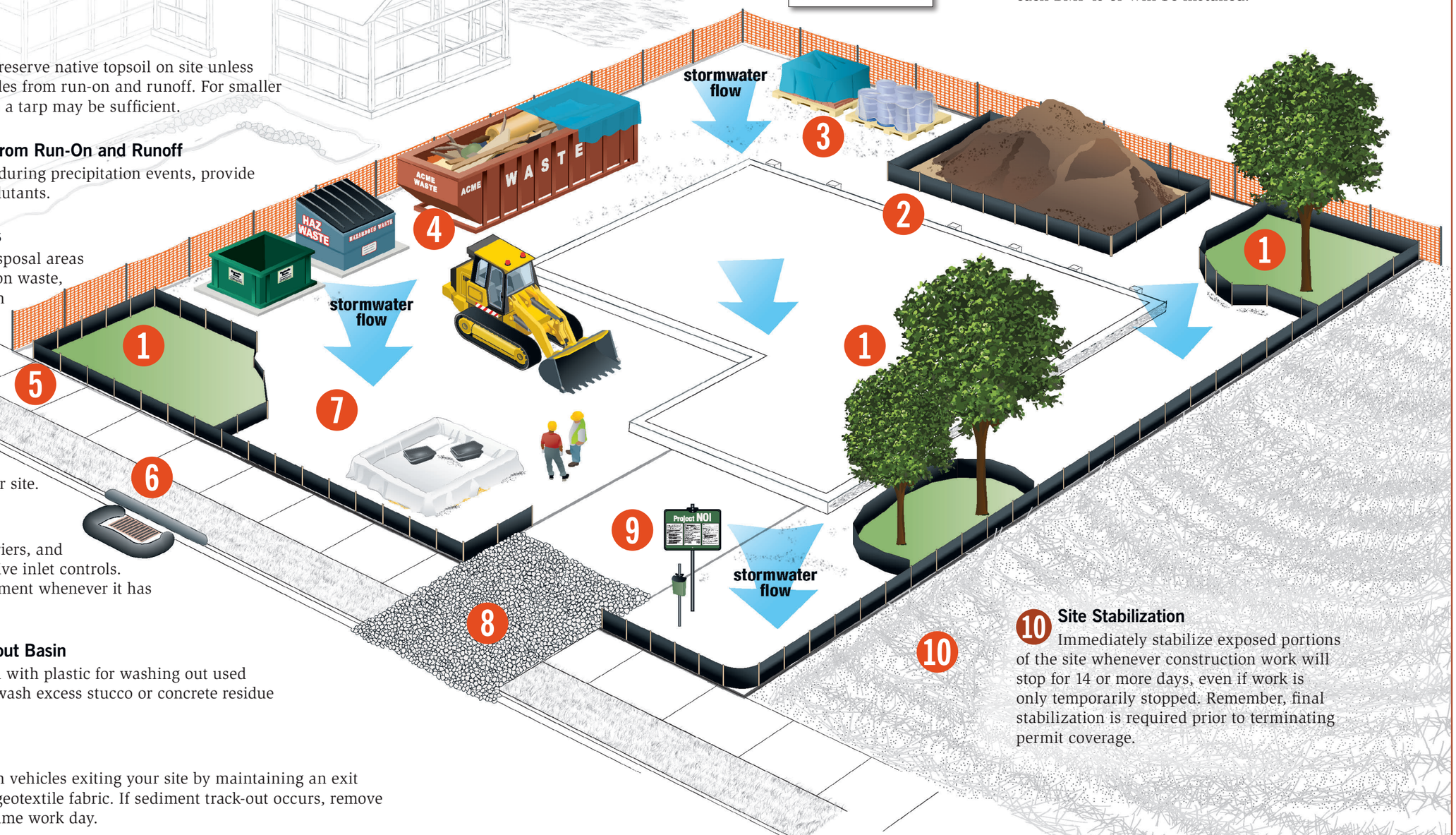
Sediment control logs, gravel barriers, and sand or rock bags are options for effective inlet controls. Make sure to remove accumulated sediment whenever it has reached halfway up the control.

7 Install a Concrete/Stucco Washout Basin

Designate a leak-proof basin lined with plastic for washing out used concrete and stucco containers. Never wash excess stucco or concrete residue down a storm drain or into a stream!

8 Maintain a Stabilized Exit Pad

Minimize sediment track-out from vehicles exiting your site by maintaining an exit pad made of crushed rock spread over geotextile fabric. If sediment track-out occurs, remove deposited sediment by the end of the same work day.



9 Post Your NOI and Keep an Up-to-Date Copy of Your SWPPP on Site

Post a sign or other notice of your permit coverage, including your NPDES tracking number and site contact information. Also, keep a copy of your complete and up-to-date SWPPP on site and easily accessible, including site maps showing where each BMP is or will be installed.

10 Site Stabilization

Immediately stabilize exposed portions of the site whenever construction work will stop for 14 or more days, even if work is only temporarily stopped. Remember, final stabilization is required prior to terminating permit coverage.