

Water Quality Inspection Requirements For All Construction Sites

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The County of Orange is subject to requirements set forth by the Santa Ana and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards regarding the use, installation, operation and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent pollutants associated with construction activities from impacting stormwater runoff. Water quality inspections can occur at any time after a grading or building permit is issued and will continue during the entire term of open grading and building permits, including periods of inactivity.

Water quality inspections are not requested by the applicant/developer/construction site manager but are conducted on a random basis according to the following criteria:

	Criteria within the SANTA ANA REGION (North Orange County) Only one need apply			Inspection Frequency	
Priority				Wet Season (Oct. – Apr.)	Dry Season (May – Sep.)
High	All sites 20 acres and larger	Sites over 1 acre tributary to Clean Water Act Section 303(d) waters listed for sediment or turbidity impairments.	Sites tributary to and within 500 feet of an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS).	Monthly	Conduct at a frequency to ensure that sediment and other pollutants
Medium	All sites between	een 5 to 20 acres where none of	Twice during wet season	are properly controlled and that unauthorized, nonstormwater discharges are prevented.	
Low	All sites less t	han 5 acres where none of the o	Once during wet season		

When BMPs or BMP maintenance is deemed inadequate or out of compliance, an inspection frequency of once every week will be maintained until BMPs and BMP maintenance are brought into compliance (regardless of site prioritization).

Criteria within	the SAN DIEGO REGION (South Ora	Inspection Frequency			
Onteria within	Only one need apply	Wet Season (Oct. – Apr.)	Dry Season (May – Sep.)		
All sites 30 acres or more in size with rough grading or active slopes occurring during wet season.	All sites one acre or more, and tributary to a CWA section 303(d) water body segment impaired for sediment or within or directly adjacent to, or discharging directly to, the ocean or a receiving water within an ESA.	Other sites determined by the Copermittees or the Regional Board as a significant threat to water quality.	Biweekly (Once every two weeks)	As needed during the dry season. Sites that meet any of the criteria for biweekly inspections during	
All sites one acre or lar	ger where none of the above criteria a	Monthly	the wet season must be inspected at least once in August or September each year.		
All sites less than one a	acre where none of the above criteria a	As needed to ensure compliance with ordinances and MS4 Permit.			

Reinspection frequencies must be determined by each Copermittee based upon the severity of deficiencies, the nature of the construction activity, and the characteristics of soils and receiving water quality.

Construction site inspection frequency will be determined during plan check and is based upon the above criteria as defined in <u>Section A-8</u>, <u>Construction</u>, <u>of the County's Stormwater Local Implementation Plan</u>. Applicants/developers/construction site managers are responsible for meeting the following minimum NPDES requirements for construction and building sites:

Minimum Construction Site/Project Management Measures

- i. Pollution prevention where appropriate;
- ii. Development and implementation of a site specific run-off management plan;
- iii. Minimization of areas that are cleared and graded to only the portion of the site that is necessary for construction:
- iv. Minimization of exposure time of disturbed soil areas;
- v. Minimization of grading during the wet season and correlation of grading with seasonal dry weather periods to the extent feasible;
- vi. Limitation of grading to a maximum disturbed area as determined by the City before either temporary or permanent erosion controls are implemented to prevent storm water pollution. The City has the option of temporarily increasing the size of disturbed soil areas by a set amount beyond the maximum, if the individual site is in compliance with applicable storm water regulations and the site has adequate control practices implemented to prevent storm water pollution;
- vii. Temporary stabilization and reseeding of disturbed soil areas as rapidly as feasible;
- viii. Wind erosion controls;
- ix. Tracking controls;
- x. Non-stormwater management measures to prevent illicit discharges and control storm water pollution sources:
- xi. Waste management measures;
- xii. Preservation of natural hydrologic features where feasible;
- xiii. Preservation of riparian buffers and corridors where feasible;
- xiv. Evaluation and maintenance of all BMPs, until removed; and
- xv. Retention, reduction, and proper management of all storm water pollutant discharges on site to the MEP standard.

Minimum Erosion and Sediment Controls

- i. Erosion prevention is to be used as the most important measure for keeping sediment on site during construction:
- ii. Sediment controls are to be used as a supplement to erosion prevention for keeping sediment on-site during construction;
- iii. Slope stabilization must be used on all active slopes during rain events regardless of the season and on all inactive slopes during the rainy season and during rain events in the dry season; and
- iv. Permanent revegetation or landscaping as early as feasible.

For access to construction activity BMP fact sheets, please use the following link: http://www.ocwatersheds.com/ConstructionActivities.aspx