

### 3. Keep construction material & sediment on site

- ◆ Use 1/2 inch wire mesh screen, filter fabric covered with rock or commercially available products to cover the storm drain inlet to filter out trash, debris and sediment.
- ◆ Stabilize construction entrances with rock or other materials so the entrance and adjoining streets do not become covered with mud and sediment.
- ◆ Regular street sweeping at the construction entrance will prevent dirt from entering storm drains. Do not hose paved areas.
- ◆ Keep concrete washout on site.
- ◆ Protect waste construction materials from wind and rain and dispose of properly.



### 4. Protect & preserve the site's natural features



- ◆ Minimize clearing and the amount of soil exposed.

- ◆ Protect streams, stream buffers, wild woodlands, wetlands, or other sensitive areas from any disturbance or construction activity by fencing or otherwise clearly marking these areas.

- ◆ Protect and install vegetation buffers along waterways to slow and filter storm-water runoff.

Employing low impact construction and development techniques, whether during simple home improvement projects or on major constructions, will make a significant contribution to reducing sediment and pollutants traveling to our creeks, our natural drainages, and the North Platte River.

**For more information on low impact development, contact any of the Watershed Partners listed below or visit the low impact development web site at: <http://lowimpactdevelopment.org>.**

**Did you know that because of impervious surfaces like pavement and rooftops, a typical city block generates 5 times more runoff than a woodland area of the same size?**



#### WATERSHED COALITION PARTNERS

Casper College • City of Casper • Natrona County • Town of Evansville •  
Town of Mills • Wyoming Department of Transportation

For Stormwater Information

visit [www.casperstormwater.com](http://www.casperstormwater.com) or [www.casperwy.gov](http://www.casperwy.gov)

Call the Stormwater Hotline: 307-235-8283

## Wind, Rain & Construction



## The Problem



As stormwater runoff flows across a construction site, it can carry pollutants such as sediment, debris, and chemicals into storm drains, creeks, natural drainages and eventually into the North Platte River. These pollutants severely impact the health of natural waterways, creeks, and rivers. Polluted stormwater runoff can destroy the natural riparian areas and harm fish and wildlife.

The Wyoming wind is also a contributor to sediment and debris being carried into the storm drain system, creeks and river. Preventing soil erosion and sedimentation is an important responsibility at all construction sites.

Whether you're handling your construction project yourself or having it done by a professional, erosion and sediment control are essential elements when planning a construction or landscaping project.

## The Solution

Low impact development attempts to control the volume of runoff and the degree of wind erosion from new development sites by employing measures that conserve natural areas, reduce the spread of pollutants and sediment, maximize water infiltration opportunities, and in general disturb as little of the site and surrounding area as possible.

### 1. Erosion control fencing



Erosion control fencing can contain loose soil during wind, rain, and snow-melt runoff events. Fencing should be a minimum of 4 feet high and placed at 50 foot intervals perpendicular to the wind direction. The bottom the fence should be buried in the ground. After installation:

- ◆ Inspect and maintain erosion control fencing after each wind or runoff event.
- ◆ Ensure that the material is securely attached to the fence stakes at all times.
- ◆ Don't place erosion control fencing in the middle of a waterway or dry creek bed, or use as a check dam. It will wash away during a rain event.
- ◆ Make sure that the runoff is not flowing around the erosion control fencing.

### 2. Stabilize disturbed soil piles



Exposed soil and dirt piles are common

on construction sites. Design the site to infiltrate stormwater into the ground and keep it out of the storm drain system. Plan the project in stages to minimize the amount of area that is bare. The less soil exposed, the easier and cheaper it will be to control erosion from rain and wind. The same is true for landscaping materials. Try to store materials on site and not in the street or street gutter.

Preparation, application, effectiveness, and maintenance are important considerations in choosing the appropriate erosion control measure for a construction site.

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality now requires design and implementation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for all disturbed construction areas one acre or larger. This ruling can apply to individual home building lots that are part of a larger subdivision. For more information on the new stormwater requirements visit: <http://deq.wy.us/>