

**EROSION CONTROL BLANKETS**

ISSUED: 10-1-2008

**DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:**

An erosion control blanket is a preformed protective blanket of plastic fibers, straw or other plant residue designed to protect soil from the impact of precipitation and overland flow, and retain moisture to facilitate establishment of vegetation. Erosion control blankets are sometimes referred to as Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs).

**APPROPRIATE APPLICATIONS:**

Typically installed on seeded areas for temporary use, and in landscaped areas for permanent use.

**CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE:**

Several factors, such as soil conditions, steepness and length of slope, depth of flow, runoff velocities, and time required to establish desired vegetation influence the choice of product. Manufacturer's recommendations should be followed. Products are available for a variety of uses: Netting-synthetic or natural fiber mesh installed over disturbed areas to hold organic mulch and/or seed in place, biodegradable erosion control blanket-natural fiber blanket held together by netting to provide temporary erosion protection on slopes and channels, and permanent erosion control blanket-synthetic blanket material which provides permanent erosion control on slopes and channels with increased water flow velocities.



Staking of an erosion control blanket

**WHEN BMP IS TO BE INSTALLED:**

Dependent upon intended use-immediately after completion of a phase of grading, or installation of vegetation.

**STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS:**

Follow manufacturer's recommendations and specifications, particularly noting requirements for check slots, fastening devices (staples), and need for firm contact with soil.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:**

Inspect at least every week and after every storm until adequate vegetation is established. Repair erosion and/or undermining at top of slope. Repair undermining beneath blankets-pull back the blanket(s), fill compact eroded area, revegetate and then firmly secure the blanket(s). Reposition or replace blanket(s) that have moved along the slope or have been damaged.

**SITE CONDITIONS FOR REMOVAL:**

Temporary blankets will generally degrade naturally; permanent blankets remain in place.

**TYPICAL DETAILS:**

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