

2018 VEGETATIVE ESTABLISHMENT

Following initial soil disturbances or redisturbance, permanent or temporary stabilization shall be completed within three calendar days for the surface of all perimeter controls, dikes, swales, ditches, perimeter slopes, and all slopes greater than 3 horizontal to 1 vertical (3:1) and seven days for all other disturbed or graded areas on the project site.

1. Permanent Seeding:

A. **Soil Tests:** Lime and fertilizer will be applied per soil tests results for sites greater than 5 acres. Soil tests will be done at completion of initial rough grading or as recommended by the sediment control inspector. Rates and analyses will be provided to the grading inspector as well as the contractor.

Occurrence of acid sulfate soils (grayish black color) will require covering with a minimum of 12 inches of clean soil with 6 inches minimum capping of top soil. No stockpiling of material is allowed. If needed, soil tests should be done before and after a 6-week incubation period to allow oxidation of sulfates.

The minimum soil conditions required for permanent vegetative establishment are:

- a. Soil pH shall be between 6.0 and 7.0.
- b. Soluble salts shall be less than 500 parts per million (ppm).
- c. The soil shall contain less than 40% clay but enough fine grained material (> 30% silt plus clay) to provide the capacity to hold a moderate amount of moisture. An exception is if lovegrass or serecia lespedeza is to be planted, then a sandy soil (< 30% silt plus clay) would be acceptable.
- d. Soil shall contain 1.5% minimum organic matter by weight.
- e. Soil must contain sufficient pore space to permit adequate root penetration.
- f. If these conditions cannot be met by soils on site, adding topsoil is required in accordance with the Standard and Specification for Soil Preparation, Topsoiling and Soil Amendments from the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control or amendments made as recommended by a certified agronomist.

B. **Seedbed Preparation:** Area to be seeded shall be loose and friable to a depth of at least 3-5 inches. The top layer shall be loosened by raking, disking or other acceptable means before seeding occurs. For sites less than 5 acres, apply 100 pounds dolomitic limestone and 21 pounds of 10-10-10 fertilizer per 1,000 square feet. Harrow or disk lime and fertilizer into the soil to a depth of at least 3-5 inches on slopes flatter than 3:1.

C. **Seeding:** Apply 5-6 pounds per 1,000 square feet of tall fescue between February 1 and April 30 or between August 15 and October 31. Apply seed uniformly on a moist firm seedbed with a cyclone seeder, cultipacker seeder or hydroseeder (slurry includes seeds and fertilizer, recommended on steep slopes only). Maximum seed depth should be $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in clayey soils and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in sandy soils when using other than the hydroseeder method. Irrigate where necessary to support adequate growth until vegetation is firmly established. If other seed mixes are to be used, select from Table B3 and B5 of the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.

D. **Mulching:** Mulch shall be applied to all seeded areas immediately after seeding. During the time periods when seeding is not permitted, mulch shall be applied immediately after grading. Mulch shall be unrotted, unchopped, small grain straw applied at a rate of 2 tons per acre or 90 pounds per 1,000 square feet (2 bales). Apply mulch to achieve a uniform distribution and depth so that the soil surface is not exposed. If a mulch-anchoring tool is used, apply 2.5 tons per acre. Mulch materials shall be relatively free of all kinds of weeds and shall be completely free of prohibited noxious weeds. Spread mulch uniformly, mechanically or by hand, to a depth of 1-2 inches.

E. **Securing Straw Mulch:** Straw mulch shall be secured immediately following mulch application to minimize movement by wind or water. The following methods are permitted:

- i. Use a mulch-anchoring tool which is designed to punch and anchor mulch into the soil surface to a minimum depth of 2 inches. This is the most effective method for securing mulch, however, it is limited to relatively flat areas where equipment can operate safely.
- ii. Wood cellulose fiber may be used for anchoring straw. Apply the fiber binder at a net dry weight of 750 pounds per acre. If mixed with water, use 50 pounds of wood cellulose fiber per 100 gallons of water.
- iii. Liquid binders may be used. Apply at higher rates at the edges where wind catches mulch, such as in valleys and on crests of slopes. The remainder of the area should appear uniform after binder application. Binders listed in the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control or approved equal shall be applied at rates recommended by the manufacturers.
- iv. Lightweight plastic netting may be used to secure mulch. The netting will be stapled to the ground according to manufacturer's recommendations.

2. Temporary Seeding:

Lime:	100 pounds of dolomitic limestone per 1,000 square feet.
Fertilizer:	15 pounds of 10-10-10 per 1,000 square feet.
Seed:	Perennial rye – 0.92 pounds per 1,000 square feet (February 1 through April 30 or August 15 through October 31). Millet – 0.92 pounds per 1,000 square feet (May 1 through August 15).
Mulch:	Same as 1 D and E above.

3. No fills may be placed on frozen ground. All fill is to be placed in approximately horizontal layers, each layer having a loose thickness of not more than 8 inches. All compaction requirements are in accordance to Anne Arundel County Standard Specifications for Construction as well as the AA County Design Manual and Standard Details. Fills for pond embankments shall be compacted as per MD-378 Construction Specifications. All other fills shall be compacted sufficiently so as to be stable and prevent erosion and slippage.

4. Permanent Sod:

Installation of sod should follow permanent seeding dates. Seedbed preparation for sod shall be as noted in section (B) above. Permanent sod is to be tall fescue, state approved sod; lime and fertilizer per permanent seeding specifications and lightly irrigate soil prior to laying sod. Sod is to be laid on the contour with all ends tightly abutting. Joints are to be staggered between rows. Water and roll or tamp sod to insure positive root contact with the soil. All slopes steeper than 3:1, as shown, are to be permanently sodded or protected with an approved erosion control netting. Additional watering for establishment may be required. Sod is not to be installed on frozen ground. Sod shall not be transplanted when moisture content (dry or wet) and/or extreme temperature may adversely affect its survival. In the absence of adequate rainfall, irrigation should be performed to ensure establishment of sod.

5. Mining Operations:

Sediment control plans for mining operations must include the following seeding dates and mixtures:

For seeding dates of February 1 through April 30 and August 15 through October 31, use seed mixture of tall fescue at the rate of 2 pounds per 1,000 square feet and sericea lespedeza at the minimum rate of 0.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

6. Topsoil shall be applied as per the Standard and Specifications for Soil Preparation, Topsoiling, and Soil Amendments from the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.
7. Use of these Vegetative Establishment Specifications does not preclude the permittee or contractor from meeting all of the requirements set forth in the 2011 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.