

How to include the Best Management Practise in your Industry

The building and construction can prevent the degradation of waterways by implementing stormwater best management practices.

Stormwater best management practices can be included in environmental management systems and as part of the staff training.

Legal Context

The Greater Shepparton City Council has introduced a local law for the protection of councils assets. This means that building sites must now be prepared in a manner which allows for the containment of all mud and rubbish. Fines may be imposed on those builders and tradesmen who do not follow the rules.



Getting the fish back on side.

Be an industry leader. Be environmentally proactive. By setting the standard for others to follow, you will be protecting the health of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers for generations to come.

For more information on building site best practise methods, and the new local law.



**If fish can't live in it
you can't drink it.**

Only Rain Should Go Down The Drain.

**BUILDING AND
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**



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Everything which goes onto the road and into the gutters ends up in our waterways.

Building sites have traditionally been places where packing material, timber, soil and general rubbish is piled up close to the footpath or indeed even in the driveway to prevent it being in the way of building work. Unfortunately whenever it rains, this practice leads to large quantities of sediment flowing into our drains and consequently into our rivers and creeks.

Urban development is a major contributor to our degrading river systems through discharges of sediment, litter and significant loads of nutrients which impact our waterways.

The now all too common sight of blue green algae is familiar to all of us. Its affects are well known, particularly to those living anywhere near the Goulburn and Broken Rivers. It not only effects the fish, it prevents dairy farmers from irrigating their pastures, restricts swimming, or bathing in effected areas and causes major problems to our drinking water. Sediment is a major source of phosphorous and high levels of phosphorous promotes the growth of blue green algae. Improved building site management will help improve our waterways.



The Six Steps to Stop Stormwater Sediment Spills

Step 1: Plan your site before you start work.

Things to consider before starting work are:

- * Where is the lowest point on the site?
- * Where will the crossover/access road go?
- * Where is the best place to store your stockpiles?
- * Where will the sediment fence go/who will install it?

Step2: Keep mud off the roads

Mud on the roads is a major problem. Not only does it look unsightly it is one of the main sources of pollution entering our stormwater system.

The picture below shows how much mud can enter our waterways if sites are not managed correctly.

The best method in reducing the amount of mud/dust leaving your site is laying crushed rock down on your crossover/access points.

Step 3: Contain litter on site

Adequate litter bins are to be placed on site. Mesh bins are suitable, also site fencing is a great way to contain any litter from being carried off site.

Step 4: Contain erosion on site

Erosion from building sites can create large amounts of pollution, especially in high rainfall events. Sediment fences are one method to trap sediment from leaving the site.

Temporary down pipes are needed if you cannot connect to the stormwater system. They allow water to be transported from your roof to a vegetated area, and prevent sediment runoff.

Step 5: Soil must be deposited on site, not on the curb and gutter.

Sand and gravel stockpiles left on the curb or footpath are not only a major environmental hazard it is also a cause of road risk for both cars and pedestrians.

Soils must be stockpiled onsite, with a sediment fence around the perimeter of the allotment to prevent sediment being carried off site. Temporary bunding (using sausage filters or hay bales) around the stockpile and covering up stock piles with tarp is also recommended.

Step 6: Clean up on site

Paints, concrete, and soils are all contaminants that can easily be transported into the stormwater system.

Follow these simple methods when cleaning your site:

- * Have a set washing up area.
- * Get rid of concrete slurry on site.
- * Clean equipment off before washing.
- * Clean painting tools carefully.

