

SEDIMENT PREVENTION FOR RESIDENTS



Pollutant of Concern: Sediments

Help Keep Excess Sediment Out of Our Rivers & Stormwater Facilities.

What is sediment?

Sediment is loose soil like sand, clay, small rocks like gravel, or silt that can come as a result of soil erosion, winter traction materials, or plant decomposition.

Soils are Natural, So What's the Problem?

While some sediment is natural in surface water, in urban areas the amount of man-made sediment is high above natural levels. Sediment covers, compacts and clogs.

- ◆ Sediment can make water cloudy (turbid) and prevent animals from seeing food. The Deschutes River through Bend is listed for sediment and turbidity as a pollutant of concern.
- ◆ Sediment can clog fish gills, cover spawning areas and the habitats where the small organisms that form the basis for the food chain live.
- ◆ Nutrients transported by sediment can accelerate algae and plant growth that can ultimately affect oxygen levels in the water. The Deschutes River through Bend are listed for these types of pollutants of concern.
- ◆ Sediment deposits in rivers can alter the flow of water and reduce water depth, which makes navigation and recreational use more difficult.
- ◆ Sediment can clog stormwater facilities and result in flooding problems. If the sediment clogs beyond the drywell cylinder and into the surrounding drainage rock, the entire drywell would need to be replaced, which unnecessarily adds costs. Drill holes clog even more easily.



What can you do as a Bend resident?

Prevention is key. Use best management practices (BMPs) to keep soils from moving in the first place, and to keep sediments swept up and managed.

- Vegetate bare spots in your landscaping. Sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of hosing them off. Washing these areas results in sediment and other pollutants running off into streams, rivers and lakes.
- Avoid mowing within 10 to 25 feet from the edge of a stream or river. This will create a safe buffer zone that will help minimize erosion and naturally filter stormwater runoff that may contain sediment.
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash or on a surface that absorbs water, such as grass or gravel.
- Stockpile bark dust or other landscaping material on site and away from stormwater facilities.
- Ask before you hire a commercial landscaper or builder/contractor what steps they take to prevent sediments and debris from entering the street and storm drain system.
- If you are building, know that **Sediment is not allowed to come off any construction site**, whether or not your site is required to have an erosion and sediment control plan or a grading and drainage permit. For additional information, review the Central Oregon Stormwater Manual, Chapter 9 and the "ACWA Construction Site Stormwater Guide" (see Other Resources, below).

POLLUTANT: SEDIMENT



What can you do as a Bend resident? (Continued)

- Excess sediment is considered an illicit discharge. If you spot excess sediment in the roadway or sediment that could potential reach stormwater facilities, such as shown in the pictures at right, contact the City of Bend at 541-317-3000.
- Keep landscape bark on site.
- Do not allow sediment access berms (see top picture).
- Do not sweep or blow sediment and debris materials onto the street or in the storm drain.



Other Resources:

ACWA Construction Guide

www.oracwa.org/documents/ACWASWSiteGuide0313w.pdf

Central Oregon Stormwater Manual, Chapter 9

<https://newcoic.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/2010rev-chapter-9-esc.pdf>

Bend Code Title 16.10, Clearing Grading, and Erosion Control on Construction Sites

<http://www.bend.or.us/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=7216>

See Sections 16.20 (Illicit Discharge); 16.10.20 (Grading Permits)

Oregon DEQ 1200-C Permits

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/stormwater/constappl.htm>

For additional information on permitting requirements contact the City of Bend Permit Center at 541-388-5570.

Fines & Penalties

Violating Bend Code Title 16 is a Class-A Civil Infraction, and could result in a maximum civil penalty of \$750.00 per day. Each day that a violation remains uncured in effect is a separate violation.



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats and audio cassette tape please contact Karen Morris at 541-693-2141 or email kmorris@bendoregon.gov.



UTILITY DEPARTMENT