Chapter 3 - OVERVIEW OF EROSION, SEDIMENT, AND STORMWATER CONTROL PRACTICES (BMPs)

DIVERSION

Diversions are among the most effective and least costly practices for controlling erosion and sedimentation. They can be permanent or temporary and can serve special purposes such as perimeter protection.

Diversions subdivide a development site and control the direction and velocity of runoff throughout the life of the development. They should be located during initial site planning and sloped and stabilized as appropriate to enhance site appearance. Permanent diversions may be used as temporary diversions until the site is stabilized and then completed as a permanent measure.

Diversions may control runoff above steep slopes, across long slopes, below steep grades, and around buildings or other areas subject to damage from runoff. The capacity of the diversion should be based on the runoff characteristics of the completed site and the potential damage from runoff after development.

It is important that diversions be designed, constructed, and maintained properly since they concentrate flow and increase erosion potential if failure occurs. Outlets for diversions must be stable for the expected flow and reinforced before the diversion is installed.

Functional need, velocity control, outlet stability, site aesthetics, and maintenance requirements are key considerations in the planning and design of permanent diversions.

Permanent diversion controls the direction and velocity of runoff for erosion control and flood protection.