

Definition
Purpose

Reshaping of the existing land surface in accordance with a plan as determined by engineering and survey layout.

The purpose of land grading specification is to provide for erosion control and vegetative establishment on those areas where existing land surface is to be reshaped by grading according to plan.

Design Criteria
The grading plan should be based upon the incorporation of building design and street layout to provide for erosion control and vegetative establishment on those areas where existing land surface is to be reshaped by grading according to plan.

1. The permittee shall notify the Department of Permitting Services (DPS) forty-eight (48) hours before commencing any land disturbing activity and, unless waived by the Department, shall be required to hold a pre-construction meeting between them or their representative, their engineer and an authorized representative of the Department.

2. The permittee shall obtain inspection and approval by DPS at the following points:
A. Following installation of sediment control measures and prior to any other land disturbing activity.
B. During the installation of a sediment basin or stormwater management structure at the required inspection points (see Inspection Checklist on plan). Notification prior to commencing construction is mandatory.
C. Prior to removal or modification of any sediment control structure(s).

3. The permittee shall construct all erosion and sediment control measures per the approved plan and construction sequence. All erosion and sediment control measures shall have them inspected and approved by DPS. Erosion and sediment control measures shall not be removed or modified until they are approved by DPS. Erosion and sediment control measures shall not be removed or modified until they are approved by DPS.

4. The permittee shall protect all points of construction ingress and egress to prevent the deposition of materials onto traversed public thoroughfares(s). All materials deposited on public thoroughfares(s) shall be removed immediately.

5. The permittee shall inspect periodically and maintain continuously in effective operating condition, all erosion and sediment control measures until such time as they are removed with prior permission from the Department. The permittee is responsible for immediately resurfacing or replacing any sediment control measures which have been damaged or removed by the permittee or any other person.

6. The permittee shall not allow any sediment control measures to be bypassed, overtopped, or otherwise rendered ineffective. Sediment control measures shall be maintained in good operating condition and shall not be removed or modified until they are approved by DPS.

7. The permittee shall apply sod, seed, and anchored straw mulch, or other approved stabilization measures to all disturbed areas within fourteen (14) calendar days after stripping and grading activities have ceased on that area. Maintenance shall be performed as necessary to ensure continued stabilization. Active construction areas, such as borrow or stockpile areas, roadway improvements, and areas within fifty (50) feet of a building under construction may be exempt from this requirement, provided that erosion and sediment control measures are installed and maintained to protect those areas.

8. Prior to removal of sediment control measures, the permittee shall stabilize all contributory disturbed areas with required soil amendments and topsoil, using sod or an approved permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Sediment control measures shall be removed within ten (10) calendar days after the seeding season shall be permanently finished during the months of October, November, and December. When property is brought to finished grade during the months of November through February, and permanent stabilization is found to be impractical, an approved temporary seed and straw anchored mulch shall be applied to disturbed areas. The final permanent stabilization of such property shall be completed prior to the following April 15.

9. The site permit, work, materials, approved SC/SM plans, and test reports shall be available at the site for inspection by duly authorized officials of Montgomery County.

10. Surface drainage flows over unexcavated cut and fill slopes shall be controlled by a series of low profile drainage structures. Areas through 10% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 15% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 20% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 25% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 30% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 35% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 40% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 45% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 50% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 55% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 60% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 65% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 70% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 75% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 80% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 85% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 90% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 95% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch. Areas through 100% slopes shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch.

11. Permanent swales or other points of concentrated water flow shall be stabilized within 7 calendar days of establishment with sod or seed with an approved erosion control matting or by other approved stabilization measures.

12. Temporary sediment control devices shall be removed, with permission of the Department, within thirty (30) calendar days following establishment of permanent stabilization in all contributory drainage areas. Stormwater management structures used primarily for sediment control shall be converted to the permanent configuration within this time period.

13. No permanent cut or fill slopes with a gradient steeper than 3:1 will be permitted in lawn maintenance areas or on residential lots. A slope gradient of up to 2:1 will be permitted in non-maintenance areas provided that those areas are indicated on the erosion and sediment control plan with a low-maintenance ground cover specified for permanent stabilization. Slope gradient steeper than 2:1 will not be permitted with vegetative stabilization.

14. The permittee shall install a splashblock at the bottom of each downspout unless the downspout is connected by a drain line to an acceptable outlet.

15. For finished grading, the permittee shall provide adequate gradients so as to prevent water from standing on the surface of lawns more than twenty-four (24) hours after the end of a rainfall, except in designated drainage courses and swale flow areas, which shall be stabilized with sod or permanent seed-mulch and an approved anchored mulch, rock fiber mulch, or straw mulch.

16. Sediment traps or basins are not permitted within 20 feet of a building which is existing or under construction. No building may be constructed within 20 feet of a sediment trap or basin.

17. All inlets in non-sump areas shall have asphalt berms installed at the time of base paving establishment.

18. The sediment control inspector has the option of requiring additional sediment control measures, as deemed necessary.

19. All trap elevations are relative to the outlet elevation, which must be on an existing undisturbed ground.

20. Vegetative stabilization shall be performed in accordance with the Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control.

21. Temporary sediment traps(s) shall be cleaned out and restored to the original dimensions when sediment has accumulated to the point of one-half (1/2) the wet depth of the trap or when required by the sediment control inspector.

22. Sediment traps and basins shall be placed and stabilized in approved areas, but not within floodplains.

23. All sediment basins and traps must be surrounded with a welded wire safety fence. The fence must be at least 42 inches high, have posts spaced no further apart than 8 feet, have mesh openings no greater than two inches in width and four inches in height, with a minimum of 14 gauge wire. Safety fence must be maintained in good condition at all times.

24. No excavation in the areas of existing utilities is permitted unless their location has been determined. Call "Miss Utility" at 1-800-257-7777, 48 hours prior to the start of work.

25. On-site spill or borrow areas must have prior approval by DPS.

26. Sediment control measures shall be removed or replaced only by the permittee or the DPS Inspector's permission. The contractor may be considered responsible for each application. The following methods may be considered:

A. Pump discharge may be directed to another on-site sediment trap or basin, provided it is of sufficient volume and the pump intake is floated to prevent agitation or suction of deposited sediments; or

B. The pump intake may utilize a Removable Pumping Station and must discharge into an undisturbed area through a non-erosive outlet; or

C. The pump intake may be floated and discharge into a Disturb (12 oz. non-woven fabric), or approved equivalent, located in an undisturbed buffer area.

Remember: Dewatering operation and method must have prior approval by the DPS Inspector.

27. The permittee must notify the Department of all utility construction activities within the permitted limits of disturbance prior to the commencement of any activities. The permittee shall be responsible for the location of all utility lines within the limits of disturbance prior to permanent stabilization in accordance with Montgomery County standards and specifications for topsoil.

28. Topsoil must be applied to all previous areas within the limits of disturbance standards and specifications for topsoil.

29. Topsoil shall be tested and amended as per soil test recommendations.

Topsoil Application
1. When topsoiling, maintain needed erosion and sediment control practices.

2. Topsoil shall be uniformly distributed in a 4-8 inch layer and lightly compacted to a minimum thickness of 4 inches. Any irregularities in the surface resulting from topsoiling or other erosion control practices shall be corrected.

3. Topsoil shall not be placed while the topsoil is in a frozen or muddy condition. When the topsoil is excessively wet or in a condition that may otherwise be detrimental to proper grading and seeded preparation.

Topsoil salvaged from the existing site may be used provided that it meets the standards as set forth in these specifications.

Topsoil Specifications - Soil to be used as topsoil must meet the following:
1. Topsoil shall be a loam, sandy loam, clay loam, silt loam, sandy clay loam, loamy sand, or other soil may be used if recommended by an agronomist or soil scientist and approved by DPS. Regardless, topsoil shall not be a mixture of contrasting textured subsoils and shall not contain any rocks, roots, or other materials larger than 1 1/2" in diameter.

The subsoil shall be tilled to a minimum depth of 6 inches before placement of topsoil.

Where the subsoil is either highly acidic or composed of heavy clays, ground limestone shall be spread at the rate of 4-8 tons/acre (200-400 lbs per 1000 sq ft) prior to the placement of topsoil. Lime shall be distributed uniformly over designated areas and worked into the soil.

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19.0 STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR LANDGRADING

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21.0 STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR TOPSOIL

Definition
Purpose

Placement of topsoil over a prepared subsoil prior to establishment of permanent vegetation.

To provide a suitable soil medium for vegetative growth. Soils of concern have low moisture content, low nutrient levels, low pH, materials toxic to plants, and/or unacceptable soil gradation.

Conditions Where Practice Applies
This practice is limited to areas having 2:1 or flatter slopes.

For the purpose of these Standards and Specifications, areas having slopes steeper than 2:1 require special consideration and design to adequate stabilization. Areas having slopes steeper than 2:1 shall have the appropriate stabilization shown on the plans.

Construction and Material Specifications
Topsoil salvaged from the existing site may be used provided that it meets the standards as set forth in these specifications.

Topsoil Specifications - Soil to be used as topsoil must meet the following:
1. Topsoil shall be a loam, sandy loam, clay loam, silt loam, sandy clay loam, loamy sand, or other soil may be used if recommended by an agronomist or soil scientist and approved by DPS. Regardless, topsoil shall not be a mixture of contrasting textured subsoils and shall not contain any rocks, roots, or other materials larger than 1 1/2" in diameter.

The subsoil shall be tilled to a minimum depth of 6 inches before placement of topsoil.

Where the subsoil is either highly acidic or composed of heavy clays, ground limestone shall be spread at the rate of 4-8 tons/acre (200-400 lbs per 1000 sq ft) prior to the placement of topsoil. Lime shall be distributed uniformly over designated areas and worked into the soil.

Topsoil shall be tested and amended as per soil test recommendations.

Topsoil Application
1. When topsoiling, maintain needed erosion and sediment control practices.

2. Topsoil shall be uniformly distributed in a 4-8 inch layer and lightly compacted to a minimum thickness of 4 inches. Any irregularities in the surface resulting from topsoiling or other erosion control practices shall be corrected.

3. Topsoil shall not be placed while the topsoil is in a frozen or muddy condition. When the topsoil is excessively wet or in a condition that may otherwise be detrimental to proper grading and seeded preparation.

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24.0 MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS

Table 26 - Stone Size

Table with 4 columns: SIZE RANGE, D100, ASSHTO, WEIGHT. Rows include NUMBER 57, NUMBER 1, RIP-RAP, CLASS I, CLASS II, CLASS III.

This classification is to be used on the inside face of stone outlets and check dams.

This classification is to be used wherever small rip-rap is required. The State Highway Administration designation for this stone is Stones for Gabions (903.01.04)

Professional Certification
I hereby certify that these documents were prepared or approved by me, and that I am a duly licensed professional engineer under the laws of the State of Maryland, License No. 8231

Expiration Date: 11/28/11

Chander S. Dhanwani, P.E. Maryland Registration No. 8231

Date: 3/14/2011

Professional Engineer Seal