



GEOTEXTILES AND PLASTIC COVERS

DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:

This BMP involves the placement of geotextiles or plastic covers to stabilize disturbed soil areas and protect soils from erosion by wind or water.

APPROPRIATE APPLICATIONS:

Limited applications include very small graded areas, stockpiles, and temporary channel linings.

CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE:

Type of Flow: Sheet and concentrated flows.

Geotextiles and plastic covers have maximum flow rate limitations; consult the manufacturer for proper selection. The use of plastic covers shall be limited to covering stockpiles, or very small graded areas for short periods of time. The use of plastics and impermeable geotextiles may result in 100% runoff, which may cause serious erosion problems in the areas receiving the increased velocities and flow-**Use With Caution.** Plastic sheeting is easily vandalized, easily torn, and photodegradable.

WHEN BMP IS TO BE INSTALLED:

Dependent upon intended use-immediately after completion of a phase of grading.

STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

Geotextile blankets shall be secured in place with wire staples or sandbags and by keying into tops of slopes and edges to prevent infiltration of surface water under the geotextile. Plastic sheeting shall be keyed in at the top of the slope and firmly held in place with sandbags or other weights placed no more than 10 feet apart. Seams are typically taped or weighted down their entire length. Anchoring the sheeting is crucial in keep the sheeting from becoming a very large kite in windy weather.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:

All geotextile and plastic sheeting shall be inspected on a weekly basis and after ½” storms to check for erosion, undermining, and anchorage failure. Any failures shall be repaired immediately. If washout or breakages occur, the material shall be re-installed after repairing the damage to the slope.



Plastic cover protecting a stockpile from erosion.

SITE CONDITIONS FOR REMOVAL:

Upon establishment of other temporary stabilizations or after permanent stabilization has occurred.

TYPICAL DETAILS:

EC-12