

**PRESERVATION OF EXISTING VEGETATION****DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:**

Preservation of existing vegetation and topsoil is the identification and protection of desirable vegetation that provides erosion and sediment control benefits.

**APPROPRIATE APPLICATIONS:**

Preserve existing vegetation at areas on a site where no construction activity is planned or will occur at a later date.

**CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE:**

Protection of existing vegetation requires planning, and may limit the area available for construction activities.

**WHEN BMP IS TO BE INSTALLED:**

Preservation of existing vegetation shall be provided prior to the commencement of clearing and grubbing operations or other soil-disturbing activities in areas identified on the plans to be preserved.

**STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS:**

Minimize the disturbed areas by locating temporary roadways to avoid stands of trees and shrubs and to follow existing contours to reduce cutting and filling. Mark vegetated/natural resource areas to be preserved with temporary fencing that is at least 1 meter (3.2 ft.) tall. The fence post spacing and depth shall be adequate to completely support the fence in an upright position. Construction materials, equipment storage, and parking areas shall be located where they will not cause root compaction. Keep equipment away from trees to prevent trunk and root damage. Employees and subcontractors shall be instructed to honor protective devices. No heavy equipment, vehicular traffic, or storage piles of any construction materials shall be permitted within the drip line of any tree to be retained. Trenching shall be as far away from tree trunks as possible, usually outside of the tree drip line or canopy. The ends of damaged or cut roots shall be cut off smoothly.

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:**

During construction, limits of disturbance shall remain clearly marked at all times. If damage to protected trees occurs, the injured tree shall be attended to by an arborist.

**SITE CONDITIONS FOR REMOVAL:**

Temporary fencing shall be removed after final stabilization of the site has occurred.

**TYPICAL DETAILS:**

Not Applicable