



CATEGORY: Erosion Control

USE GROUP: Permanent

ISSUED: 10-1-2008

## SODDING

### DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:

A  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to 1 inch mat of vigorous turf, free from disease, insects and weeds. Sod prevents raindrops from disrupting the soil structure and causing erosion. Sod slows water runoff and acts as a filter when sediment laden runoff crosses over the sodded area.

### APPROPRIATE APPLICATIONS:

Typically installed in areas requiring immediate erosion protection, such as swales or detention ponds and as filter strips, around inlets, and adjacent to curbs. Also installed in areas requiring immediate aesthetic appearance or function such as entrances to new subdivisions and off site construction areas.

### CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE:

Type of Flow: Sheet flow and low concentrated flows with velocities less than 5 fps.

### WHEN BMP IS TO BE INSTALLED:

Immediately after finish grading, installation of area inlets, and installation of underground services and foundations of new homes.

### STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

Rough grade area and remove all debris larger than 1 inch in diameter and concentrated areas of smaller debris. Soil preparation of area to be sodded shall be determined by tests to determine lime and fertilizer requirements. Level and roll soil lightly to provide an even grade and firm the surface. Soil should not be excessively wet or dry. Lay first row of sod perpendicular to the slope or direction of flow. Butt subsequent rows tight against previous rows with strips staggered in brick-like pattern. Fill minor gaps with good soil and roll entire surface to ensure contact. Stake, staple and/or net corners and centers of sod strips as required, especially areas of concentrated flow. Water immediately after installation, enough to soak 4 inches into the soil without causing runoff.

### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:

Water sod daily for 3 weeks, enough to soak 4 inches into the soil without causing runoff. Reposition areas of sod that have moved along the slope. Remove sediment accumulations, replace sod if necessary. Repair any eroded areas, replace sod, and stabilize as needed. Do not mow until 3 inches of new growth occurs. During the first 4 months, mow no more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  the grass height.

### SITE CONDITIONS FOR REMOVAL:

Typically left in place to grow.

### TYPICAL DETAILS:

EC-9



Installation of sod in a grass-lined channel.