



CATEGORY: Runoff Management

USE GROUP: Permanent

ISSUED: 10-1-2008

TERRACING

DEFINITION AND PURPOSE:

Terracing involves defined swales constructed at regular intervals along the face of a slope designed to reduce erosion by capturing surface runoff and directing it to an adequate, stable outlet. Due to the steep slopes needed to create the terrace, swales may only be created by construction of earth ridges/berms.

APPROPRIATE APPLICATIONS:

Typically installed on long steep slopes on which erosion is a concern. Terraces should not be constructed in sandy or rocky soil.

CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE USE:

Type of Flow: Sheet flow.

Slope Characteristics: Maximum of 3:1 slope.

Contributing Slope Length: Maximum of 30 feet for slopes steeper than 4:1; maximum for 50 feet for 4:1 and flatter.

WHEN BMP IS TO BE INSTALLED:

Installed as fill/grade is constructed. On existing slopes, terraces should be graded prior to removal of all vegetation.

STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS:

Grade terraces as required by the design. Construct the stable outfall as designed. Vegetate the slope and terraces.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:

Inspect every week and after every ½” storm event during construction. Remove sediment accumulations along terraces. Repair settled and eroded areas. Remove sediment and stabilize eroded areas at outlet. Revegetate as needed

SITE CONDITIONS FOR REMOVAL:

Not Applicable

TYPICAL DETAILS:

RM-4