

Checklist for Construction

Check the site. Is any ground going to be left bare more than a few days?

Have all the erosion control practices been installed per your permit?

Are all of your installed erosion control practices functioning as designed?

Check your site plan. Can you plant any of the permanent seedlings or plants now?

Checklist for Home Owners

Check your lawn. Are there bare spots?

Check around your shrubs and trees. Do you see bare soil?

Check your driveway and sidewalks. Are they covered with dirt?

Check your eaves and downspouts. Do they overflow during a rain?

Checklist for Farmers

Check your fields after a rain. Is the water leaving your fields muddy?

Construction Solutions

Reseed them and cover with a thin mulch

Apply mulch.

Sweep up and place around shrubs and trees and re-mulch

Check for obstructions and repair. If the downspouts empty onto bare ground, buy a concrete splash pad.

Home Owners Solutions

Seed with a fast-growing annual or apply mulch until you do.

If no, install immediately.

If not, repair or replace immediately.

If so, contact your landscaper.

Farmers Solutions

Solution A - Change your tillage practices to leave more crop residue after planting.

Solution B - Add a grass or legume to your crop rotation.

Solution C - Install erosion control practices such as buffer strips, gully erosion control structures and other practices.

Examples of Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Agriculture/Forestry:

- ~No Till or Conservation Tillage Practices
- ~Leaving Crop Residue on Fallow Fields
- ~Strip Cropping, Contour Farming, and Use of Terraces
- ~Taking Land on Steep Topography Out of Production
- ~Use of Natural Buffer Zones Around Rivers, Lakes, and Streams
- ~Use Portable Bridging when Crossing Streams

Home Owner:

- ~Replant Vegetation on Disturbed Areas
- ~Mulching Around Shrubs, Trees and House Foundation
- ~Sweep off Driveways and Sidewalks
- ~Wash Cars on the Lawn not the Driveway

Construction:

- ~Phase Construction to Limit Soil Exposure
- ~Minimize Needless Clearing and Grading
- ~Protect Waterways and Stabilize Drainage Ways
- ~Immediately Stabilize Exposed Soils
- ~Protect Steep Slopes and Cuts
- ~Install Perimeter Controls to Filter Sediments
- ~Employ Advanced Sediment Settling Controls
- ~Train Contractors on Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan Implementation
- ~Adjust Practices for Construction Site Conditions
- ~Inspect ESC Practices after Storms



Rain + bare ground =
MUD.

What's the problem?

MUD (sediment) is ugly to look at.

It suffocates fish by clogging their gills.

It is not fun to swim in.

It smothers habitats where fish and other water critters live.

It prevents fish from seeing their food or fishing lures.

It carries chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides that are harmful to the environment and to people.

It also costs considerable sums of money to strain it out of our waterways.

Tell me more!

For more information on MUD (sediment) and soil erosion, see the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. Information by the Great Lakes Commission - www.glc.org



Sault Ste. Marie Area Watershed Project

The Sault Ste. Marie Area Watershed Project is a non-point source pollution reduction project attempting to bring together the Sault Area Community to address water quality issues, including erosion and sediment deposition in area streams and the St. Mary's River. Sediment sources include, but are not limited to:

- Construction Sites
- Road/Stream crossing embankments
- Eroding stream banks
- Storm water from parking lots, farm fields, roads, etc.
- Bare soils across the watershed

Solutions: The Sault project will be pursuing funds and volunteers to eliminate erosion and sediment problems from these sources. To help, please contact Pat Carr at (906) 635-1278 or pat.carr@macd.org



Partnering with:
Chippewa East Mackinac
Conservation District

906-635-1278
www.chipmackconservation.org



Mud is the largest non-point pollution problem facing our lakes, rivers and streams.

When soil gets washed into our waterways, it smothers fish habitats and also carries dangerous pollutants that threaten our water quality.



What can I do?

We can control erosion and sedimentation while we continue activities such as farming, forestry, and construction by using Best Management Practices (BMPs). BMPs either prevent erosion from happening or keep eroded sediment from entering rivers, lakes, and streams.