

## ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

### Existing Sediment Control Problems

Under existing Maryland State law, districts are empowered to require the repair of existing sediment control or erosion problems, even if outside the planned scope of the development. Engineers should plan to address such problems during the plan review process to meet *1994 Maryland Standards & Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*.

### Water & Sewer Plans

When a water or sewer line leaves the limits of disturbance of an approved road or site development plan, please show the necessary sediment controls to protect the site. Also, on the water and sewer plan, show the approved sediment controls at the point where the utility leaves the limits of disturbance of the approved "SDP" or "F" plan.

**Effective immediately**, water and sewer drawings will be required to comply with the *1994 Maryland Standards and Specifications for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*. This shall include, but not be limited to, showing contours, placement of controls, limits of disturbance, seeding notes signature blocks, sequence of construction, etc., as identified by the standards.



### Baffles for Basins

When sediment basins do not achieve the "length to width" ratio specified in the *1994*

*Standards and Specifications*,

please be sure to show the required baffles in order to achieve this ratio.

### Topsoil Specifications

Please include the topsoil specifications from the *1994 Standards and Specifications* that would be applicable for a given project, for all plans submitted to the Howard SCD.

### Interim Stormwater Management

When interim stormwater management (not temporary which is just for the graded conditions) is required, the Howard SCD will require stormwater management pond design criteria in accordance with MD-378.

Design as a permanent pond is necessary as "the duration of time the pond must function" cannot be determined at the time of review.

### Grading Plans

Grading plans that are subject to waiver petitions will have a due date assigned to them that is 12-working days from the date of the waiver approval.

## Infiltration Trenches

Please be careful not to place infiltration trenches too close to basements (houses). The Howard SCD office has experienced complaints regarding wet basements which can be attributed to nearby stormwater management facilities, especially those which are designed to infiltrate runoff.

## MD-378 Routing

Current MD-378 specifications state that the "routing shall start with the water surface at the crest of the principal spillway." The Howard SCD has allowed the "crest" in stormwater management structures to be lowered to that opening which would not likely clog, either by accident (trash and/or debris) or by vandalism. Safety design of ponds from overtopping must assume small orifices are clogged (8/93 *HSCD Engineering Newsletter*, Freeboard...) to account for the lost volume and runoff. Several sources, including the current MD-378, the 2/95 draft of MD-378, and feedback from the maintenance crews of the Howard County Department of Public Works (DPW) have contributed to the following list of requirements.

- ◆ All orifices and weirs with a diameter, width or height of eight inches or less shall be considered clogged for design of all MD-378 related criteria (e.g., freeboard, antiseep collar, top-of-core, outfall protection, etc.), up to the invert of the next non-clogging opening. No volume or outflow may be accounted for below the invert elevation of the first non-clogging orifice or weir.
- ◆ For ponds across streams, all orifices and weirs with a diameter, width or height of 12 inches or less shall be considered clogged for design of all MD-378 related criteria up to the invert of the next non-clogging opening.

Note that these requirements generally do not increase embankment height, core elevation, collars, etc. by any more than 0.5 feet, due to the high efficiency of upper weirs. Also, note that the Howard SCD does not apply these criteria to the stormwater management (no-clogging assumed) routings allowed by DPW. All previous *Howard SCD Engineering Newsletters* continue to apply.

## Howard County Erosion and Sediment Control Training Class

Maryland's Sediment Control Act requires that personnel on construction sites with responsibility for the implementation and maintenance of erosion and sediment control plans be certified as having attended a Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) approved training program. The Howard County Erosion and Sediment Control Training Class and the MDE approved training program will be offered periodically.

Pre-registration is required due to limited space. To find out more information on training classes, please contact the Sediment Control Division at 313-1855 or by writing to the Sediment Control Division at 3485 South Chevrolet Drive, Ellicott City, Maryland 21042.

## Updating/Digitizing the Soil Survey

Soil surveys are being updated across Maryland based on available funding support at the county level. At the time of the update, soil maps will also be digitized for ease in use with GIS maps. To find out more information about this update, you may contact District Conservationist Cheryl Simmons, NRCS, at 410-465-3180.