

6.84



DUST CONTROL

**Definition** The control of dust resulting from land-disturbing activities.

**Purpose** To prevent surface and air movement of dust from disturbed soil surfaces that may cause off-site damage, health hazards, and traffic safety problems.

**Conditions Where Practice Applies** On construction routes and other disturbed areas subject to surface dust movement, and dust blowing where off-site damage may occur if dust is not controlled.

**Planning Considerations** Construction activities that disturb soil can be a significant source of air pollution. Large quantities of dust can be generated, especially in "heavy" construction activities such as land grading for road construction and commercial, industrial, or subdivision development.

In planning for dust control, it is important to schedule construction operations so that the least area is disturbed at one time.

Leave undisturbed buffer areas between graded areas wherever possible.

The greatest dust problems occur when the probability of rainfall erosion is least. Therefore, do not expose large areas of soil, especially during drought conditions.

Install temporary or permanent surface stabilization measures immediately after completing land grading.

**Design Criteria** No formal design procedure is given for dust control. See Construction Specifications below for the most common dust control methods.

**Construction Specifications** **Vegetative cover**—For disturbed areas not subject to traffic, vegetation provides the most practical method of dust control (*References: Surface Stabilization*).

**Mulch (including gravel mulch)**—When properly applied, mulch offers a fast, effective means of controlling dust.

**Spray on adhesive**—Examples of spray-on adhesives for use on mineral soils are presented in Table 6.84a.

Table 6.84a Spray-on Adhesive for Dust Control on Mineral Soil	Water Dilution	Type of Nozzle	Apply Gallons/Acre
Anionic asphalt emulsion	7:1	Coarse Spray	1,200
Latex emulsion	12.5:1	Fine Spray	235
Resin in water	4:1	Fine Spray	300

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1 DUST CONTROL NTS

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SODDING

**Definition** Permanently stabilizing areas by laying a continuous cover of grass sod.

**Purpose** To prevent erosion and damage from sediment and runoff by stabilizing the soil surface with permanent vegetation where specific goals might be:

- to provide immediate vegetative cover of critical areas,
- to stabilize disturbed areas with a suitable plant material that cannot be established by seed, or
- to stabilize drainageways, channels, and other areas of concentrated flow where flow velocities will not exceed that specified for a grass lining (*Appendix 8.05*).

**Conditions Where Practice Applies** Disturbed areas which require immediate and permanent vegetative cover, or where sodding is preferred to other means of grass establishment. Locations particularly suited to stabilization with sod are:

- waterways and channels carrying intermittent flow at acceptable velocities (*Appendix 6.05*),
- areas around drop inlets, when the drainage area has been stabilized (*Practice 6.53, Sod Drop Inlet Protection*),
- residential or commercial lawns and golf courses where prompt use and aesthetics are important, and
- steep critical areas.

**Planning Considerations** Quality turf can be established with either seed or sod; site preparation for the two methods is similar. The practice of sodding for soil stabilization eliminates both the seeding and mulching operations, and is a much more reliable method of producing adequate cover and sediment control. However, compared to seed, sod is more difficult to obtain, transport, and store.

Advantages of properly installed sod include:

- immediate erosion and dust control,
- nearly year-round establishment capability,
- less chance of failure than with seedings,
- freedom from weeds, and
- rapid stabilization of surfaces for traffic areas, channel linings, or critical areas.

Sod can be laid during times of the year when seeded grasses may fail, provided there is adequate water available for irrigation in the early weeks. Irrigation is essential, at all times of the year, to install sod. It is initially more costly to install sod than to plant seed. However, the higher cost may be justified for specific applications where sod performs better than seed.

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NOTE: SEE LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR DETAILS

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TEMPORARY SEEDING

**Definition** Planting rapid-growing annual grasses, small grains, or legumes to provide initial, temporary cover for erosion control on disturbed areas.

**Purpose** To temporarily stabilize denuded areas that will not be brought to final grade for a period of more than 21 calendar days.

Temporary seeding controls runoff and erosion until permanent vegetation or other erosion control measures can be established. In addition, it provides residue for soil protection and seedbed preparation, and reduces problems of mud and dust production from bare soil surfaces during construction.

**Conditions Where Practice Applies** On any cleared, unvegetated, or sparsely vegetated soil surface where vegetative cover is needed for less than 1 year. Applications of this practice include diversions, dams, temporary sediment basins, temporary road banks, and topsoil stockpiles.

**Planning Considerations** Annual plants, which sprout and grow rapidly and survive for only one season, are suitable for establishing initial or temporary vegetative cover. Temporary seeding preserves the integrity of earthen sediment control structures such as dikes, diversions, and the banks of dams and sediment basins. It can also reduce the amount of maintenance associated with these devices. For example, the frequency of sediment basin cleanouts will be reduced if watershed areas, outside the active construction zone, are stabilized.

Proper seedbed preparation, selection of appropriate species, and use of quality seed are as important in this Practice as in Practice 6.11, *Permanent Seeding*. Failure to follow established guidelines and recommendations carefully may result in an inadequate or short-lived stand of vegetation that will not control erosion.

Temporary seeding provides protection for no more than 1 year, during which time permanent stabilization should be initiated.

**Specifications** Complete grading before preparing seedbeds, and install all necessary erosion control practices such as, dikes, waterways, and basins. Minimize steep slopes because they make seedbed preparation difficult and increase the erosion hazard. If soils become compacted during grading, loosen them to a depth of 6-8 inches using a ripper, harrow, or chisel plow.

**SEEDBED PREPARATION** Good seedbed preparation is essential to successful plant establishment. A good seedbed is well-pulverized, loose, and uniform. Where hydroseeding methods are used, the surface may be left with a more irregular surface of large clods and stones.

**Liming**—Apply lime according to soil test recommendations. If the pH (acidity) of the soil is not known, an application of ground agricultural limestone at the

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Table 6.10b  
Temporary Seeding Recommendations for Summer

Seeding mixture Species	Rate (lb/acre)
German millet	40
In the Piedmont and Mountains, a small-stemmed Sudangrass may be substituted at a rate of 50 lb/acre.	
<b>Seeding dates</b> Mountains—May 15 - Aug. 15 Piedmont—May 1 - Aug. 15 Coastal Plain—Apr. 15 - Aug. 15	
<b>Soil amendments</b> Follow recommendations of soil tests or apply 2,000 lb/acre ground agricultural limestone and 750 lb/acre 10-10-10 fertilizer.	
<b>Mulch</b> Apply 4,000 lb/acre straw. Anchor straw by tacking with asphalt, netting, or a mulch anchoring tool. A disk with blades set nearly straight can be used as a mulch anchoring tool.	
<b>Maintenance</b> Refertilize if growth is not fully adequate. Reseed, refertilize and mulch immediately following erosion or other damage.	

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**Maintenance** Reseed and mulch areas where seedling emergence is poor, or where erosion occurs, as soon as possible. Do not mow. Protect from traffic as much as possible.

**References** *Site Preparation*  
6.03, Surface Roughening  
6.04, Topsoiling

*Surface Stabilization*  
6.11, Permanent Seeding  
6.14, Mulching

*Appendix*  
8.02, Vegetation Tables

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Table 6.10a  
Temporary Seeding Recommendations for Late Winter and Early Spring

Seeding mixture Species	Rate (lb/acre)
Rye (grain)	120
Annual lespedeza (Kobe in Piedmont and Coastal Plain, Korean in Mountains)	50
Omit annual lespedeza when duration of temporary cover is not to extend beyond June.	
<b>Seeding dates</b> Mountains—Above 2500 feet: Feb. 15 - May 15 Below 2500 feet: Feb. 1 - May 1 Piedmont—Jan. 1 - May 1 Coastal Plain—Dec. 1 - Apr. 15	
<b>Soil amendments</b> Follow recommendations of soil tests or apply 2,000 lb/acre ground agricultural limestone and 750 lb/acre 10-10-10 fertilizer.	
<b>Mulch</b> Apply 4,000 lb/acre straw. Anchor straw by tacking with asphalt, netting, or a mulch anchoring tool. A disk with blades set nearly straight can be used as a mulch anchoring tool.	
<b>Maintenance</b> Refertilize if growth is not fully adequate. Reseed, refertilize and mulch immediately following erosion or other damage.	

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Table 6.10c  
Temporary Seeding Recommendations for Fall

Seeding mixture Species	Rate (lb/acre)
Rye (grain)	120
<b>Seeding dates</b> Mountains—Aug. 15 - Dec. 15 Coastal Plain and Piedmont—Aug. 15 - Dec. 30	
<b>Soil amendments</b> Follow soil tests or apply 2,000 lb/acre ground agricultural limestone and 1,000 lb/acre 10-10-10 fertilizer.	
<b>Mulch</b> Apply 4,000 lb/acre straw. Anchor straw by tacking with asphalt, netting, or a mulch anchoring tool. A disk with blades set nearly straight can be used as a mulch anchoring tool.	
<b>Maintenance</b> Repair and refertilize damaged areas immediately. Topdress with 50 lb/acre of nitrogen in March. If it is necessary to extend temporary cover beyond June 15, overseed with 50 lb/acre Kobe (Piedmont and Coastal Plain) or Korean (Mountains) lespedeza in late February or early March.	

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