



PERMIT PROCESS

FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

To protect local waterways, all construction sites within Eugene city limits that disturb the land need to include erosion prevention and construction site management practices. All sites must meet a set of outcomes to protect water quality but not all sites will be required to obtain a permit. Construction sites that disturb 1 or more acres or are within environmentally sensitive land areas must be permitted by the City.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

What's affected? All construction activities that will cause land disturbance or otherwise negatively impact stormwater quality are affected by the program. Construction activities that do not disturb the land such as interior remodeling and emergency-related circumstances such as those caused by floods and fires, are excluded.

What are examples of land disturbing activities? Land disturbance including, but not limited to grading, grubbing, logging, excavating or filling.

Are permits required? Yes and no. An erosion prevention permit is required for construction sites that disturb *1 or more acres, or are located within a "sensitive area, unless the land disturbance is less than 500 square feet or 20 cubic yards."* Other construction permits (e.g. building, grading) will not be issued until the erosion permit is approved.

For all other conditions, permits are *not* required but property owners must meet a minimum set of outcomes. For these situations, a fact sheet of these outcomes will be provided at time of permit application describing the requirements of the program.

What are sensitive areas? Areas with highly erodible soils, steep slopes (greater than 10%), and those near water features or their designated buffers that receive direct discharge from upstream construction sites. A map and list of all affected lots sorted by map and tax lot is available for review at the City's Permit and Information Center (PIC), 99 West 10th Avenue (Atrium) in downtown Eugene.

What does the erosion prevention permit require? Applicants must prepare a plan that identifies potential water quality impacts from the construction activity and stipulates steps they will take to eliminate or minimize these impacts.

Are there qualifications to prepare these plans? Yes and no. For construction of one single-family dwelling or duplex dwelling, an Erosion Prevention Permit template application packet is provided by the City (PIC) and completed by the applicant. For other construction projects a construction site management plan application packet is provided. This

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packet requires a professional design be submitted by a person licensed in Oregon as an: environmental engineer, architect, landscape architect, certified geologist, or a person certified as a professional in erosion control; or any other qualified person determined by the City Manager.

Are fees required? Yes, the amount varies depending on the type of permit and the size of the disturbance.

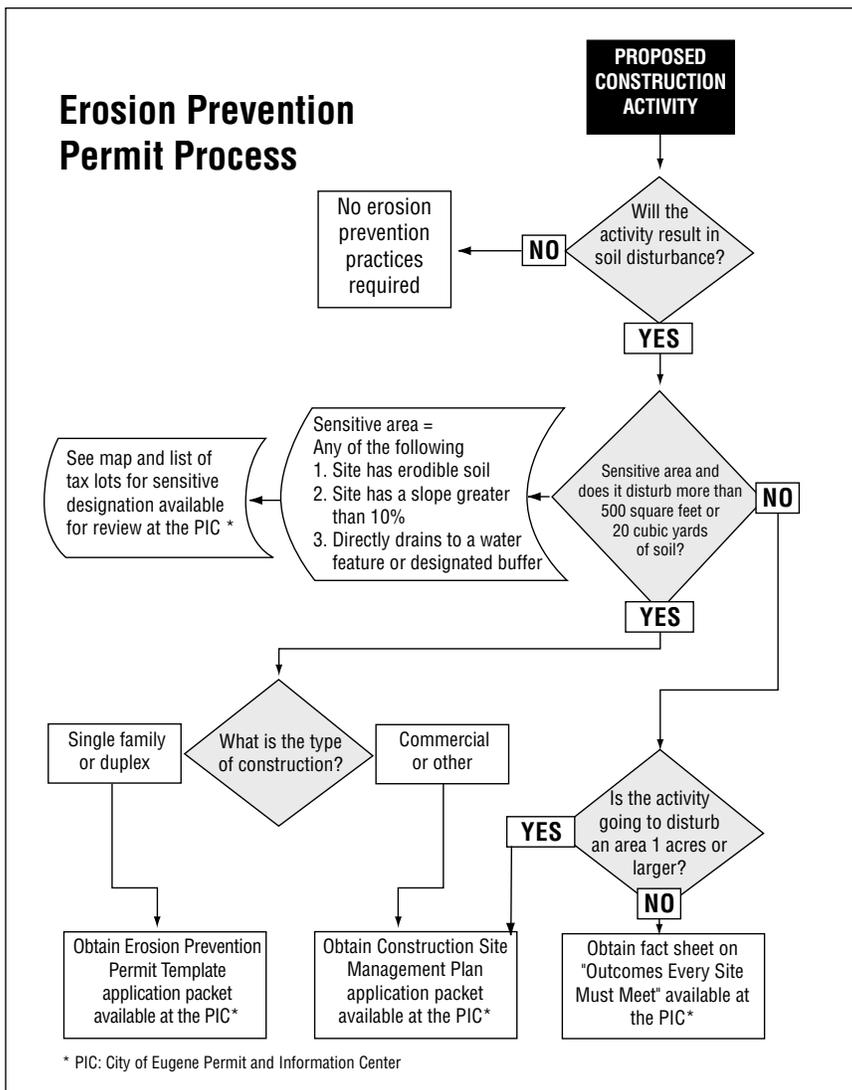
BACKGROUND

On October 16, 1996, the Eugene City Council adopted an ordinance (#20067) to protect the local stormwater system from the impact of construction-related activities. To implement the ordinance, an Administrative Rule (R-6.645) was adopted. The program began February 1, 1997.

The erosion program is part of the City's Comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan which addresses federal water quality mandates and sets local policies to protect stormwater-related waterways. These include the Mill Race, Amazon Creek and the Willamette River in addition to open drainage ways, creeks and wetlands.

Why are construction sites a problem? The City's stormwater system consists of open channels, creeks, wetlands, and pipes that carry untreated runoff into receiving waters such as Amazon Creek, Fern Ridge Reservoir and the Willamette River. Construction activities can cause erosion and sedimentation which reduces the capacity of the stormwater system to convey water away from homes and businesses and reduces water quality. This can lead to drainage and flood problems, pollute drinking water sources and harm fish and other aquatic life and otherwise reduce beneficial uses.

What are examples of stormwater pollutants? Anything other than rain that enters the stormwater system is considered a pollutant. These include soil sediment, fertilizer, paint, solvents, concrete-washout, and any other garbage, trash or debris.



FOR MORE INFORMATION



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