



## City of San Clemente Engineering Division

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# **ENGINEERING DIVISION**

## **WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES**

Per the City of San Clemente's Grading Ordinance Erosion Control Plans prepared in accordance with Subarticle 12 of the City's Grading Manual shall be submitted by September 15<sup>th</sup> each year for projects under grading permit. The Erosion Control Plan may be waived for grading projects on single residential lot projects provided that an erosion control system, meeting the approval of the City Engineer has been installed, placed, planted or constructed before October 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Grading Manual states that Erosion Control Plans shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. The name and twenty-four (24) hour telephone number of the person responsible for performing emergency erosion control work.
- b. The signature of the registered civil engineer who prepared the grading plan and who is responsible for inspection and monitoring of the erosion control work.
- c. All desilting and erosion protection facilities necessary to protect adjacent property from sediment deposition.
- d. The streets and drainage devices that will be completed and paved by October 15.
- e. The placement of sandbags or gravelbags, slope planting or other measures to control erosion from all slopes above and adjacent to roads open to the public. Use of gravel bags are encouraged over sandbags.
- f. The plan shall indicate how access will be provided to maintain desilting facilities during wet weather.

The Grading Ordinance states under section 15.36.320 for Erosion Control and Water Quality Requirement Systems that:

- A. The faces of cut and fill slopes and project site shall be prepared and maintained to control against erosion in accordance with this article. Where cut slopes are not subject to erosion due to the erosion-resistant character of the materials, such protection may be omitted upon approval by the City Engineer.
- B. Where necessary, temporary and/or permanent erosion control devices such as desilting basins, check dams, riprap or other devices or methods, as approved by the City Engineer, shall be employed to control erosion and provide safety during the rainy season from October 15th to April 15th.
- C. No grading work in excess of two hundred (200) cubic yards will be allowed between October 15th and April 15th on any single grading site under permit unless an erosion control system has been approved or waived by the City Engineer.
- D. Paved streets, sidewalks, and other improvements shall be maintained in a neat and clean condition free of loose soil, construction debris and trash. Street sweeping or other equally effective means shall be used on a regular basis to prevent storm flows from carrying sediment and debris outside the project boundaries. Watering shall not be used to clean streets except for fine material not otherwise removed by sweeping or other mechanical means.
- E. The registered civil engineer who prepared the grading plan and designed the erosion control devices shall be responsible for inspection and modification of the devices, as necessary, during the rainy season.
- F. Desilting facilities shall be provided at drainage outlets from the graded site.
- G. Desilting basins shall be designed to provide a minimum desilting capacity equal to the current Orange County Environment Management Agency standards.
- H. Desilting basins shall be constructed around the perimeter of projects wherever and whenever feasible when it provides improved maintenance access from paved roads during wet weather.
- I. Desilting basins constructed of compacted earth shall be compacted to a relative compaction of ninety (90) percent of maximum density. A soil engineering report, prepared by the soil engineer, which includes the type of field testing performed, location and results of testing shall be submitted to the City Engineer for approval upon completion of the desilting basins.
- J. Equipment and workers for emergency work shall be made available at all times during the rainy season. Necessary materials shall be available on-site and stockpiled at convenient locations to facilitate rapid construction of temporary device when rain is imminent.
- K. Erosion protection shall consist of effective planting of all slopes in excess of five (5) feet high unless otherwise approved by the City Engineer. Slopes exceeding fifteen (15) feet high may require an adequate sprinkler system, as determined by the City Engineer. Protection for the slopes shall be installed as soon as practicable which may be prior to rough grade approval. Effective planting shall be installed, fully germinated and effectively cover the required slopes prior to final approval unless otherwise approved by the City Engineer.
- L. The erosion control provisions shall take into account drainage patterns during the current and future phases of grading throughout the rainy season.
- M. All removable protective devices shown shall be in place at the end of each working day when the five (5) day rain probability forecast exceeds forty (40) percent.
- N. Graded areas around the tract perimeter must drain away from the face of slopes at the conclusion of each working day.

- O. In addition to the requirements specified above, the permittee shall perform all work in accordance with the water quality requirements.
- P. Any violation of an applicable federal or state-issued stormwater permit, or failure to conform to the City's water quality requirements prepare pursuant to such a permit or pursuant to this article or to City Code Chapter 13.40, or failure to comply with stormwater related provisions of a City-issued grading permit or of a grading plan prepared to secure such a permit, is also a violation of this article. (Ord. 1278 § 1, 2003)

Additionally, the Grading Ordinance states under section 15.36.340 for Erosion Control and Water Quality Requirement System Maintenance that:

- A. After each rainstorm, silt and debris shall be removed from check berms and desilting basins and the basins pumped dry.
- B. After each rainstorm, the performance of the erosion control system shall be evaluated and revised and repaired as necessary.
- C. Devices shall not be moved or modified without the approval of the City Engineer.
- D. The contractor shall be responsible and shall take necessary precautions to prevent public trespass onto areas where impounded water creates a hazardous condition.
- E. The contractor and permittee or project owner shall be responsible for continual maintenance of the devices during the rainy season. In the event of failure or refusal by the contractor, permittee or project owner to properly maintain the devices, the City Engineer may cause emergency maintenance work to be done to protect adjacent private and public property and environmental resources. The cost shall be charged to the owner and shall include an initial mobilization cost plus the cost of doing the work as contained in Subarticle 5, Fees, of the Grading Manual.
- F. In the event the City Engineer must cause emergency maintenance work to be done, he or she may revoke the grading permit in writing. The permit shall not be renewed until an erosion control system and/or other systems necessary to comply with water quality requirements approved by the City Engineer are installed and a fee of one-half (1/2) the amount required for the original permit paid by the owner. The City Engineer may waive installation of an erosion control system after April 15th.
- G. If any grading, subject to Section 15.36.070, grading permits, of this chapter has commenced on private property without a valid grading permit, the property owner will be required to prepare and implement an erosion control plan as well as other plans required under the water quality requirements which have been approved by the City Engineer. In the event of failure by the property owner to install an approved erosion control system and/or other systems necessary to comply with water quality requirements, the City Engineer may cause emergency work to be done to protect adjacent private and public property. (Ord. 1278 § 1,2003)

The City of San Clemente's Environmental Engineering Division has established a section on the City's website with additional information pertaining to construction requirements for New Developments and Significant Redevelopment. All applicants should review the website to determine if their project will be subject to additional water quality requirements such as Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP) and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP). The following pages have been printed from the website to assist you in your research.