



# MNSPECT

HELPING YOU COMPLY WITH THE CODE

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## INSPECTION PERSONNEL:

- Scott Qualle, Designated Building Official
- Ty Turnquist, Operations Director, Senior Commercial Plans Examiner
- Dean Mau, Senior Fire Plans Examiner
- Nick Qualle, Senior Residential Plans Examiner/Field Inspector
- Dale Engelmann, Senior Plumbing Plans Examiner/Plumbing Inspector
- Derek Qualle, Rental/Field Inspector
- Thomas Krause, Field Inspector
- Tracy Montgomery, Office Manager
- Wendy Morrissey, Administrative Assistant

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

City of Silver Lake (21 yrs)  
 City of Hampton (5 yrs)  
 Waterford Township (1 year in March)

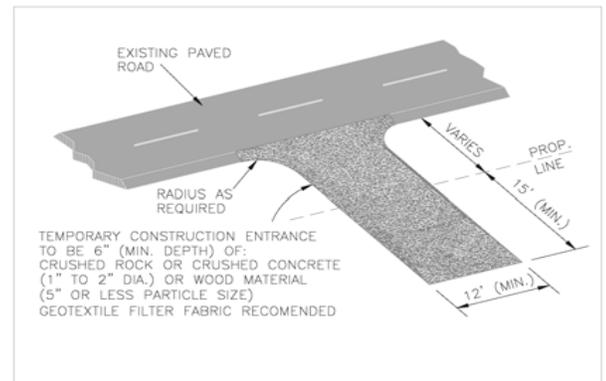
## Stay connected with the MNSPECT MINUTE

April 2015

## Sediment and Erosion Control (SEC) at Construction Sites

The SEC rules address keeping soil on the property where construction is taking place. Before you begin your building project, design your SEC Plan. This is not only for the property owner's benefit, but is most likely required by your municipality. The owner must keep the soil in their yard, the municipality wants to keep it out of the storm water system, and the waters of the state must be protected. The following areas should be considered when developing your plan:

- Perimeter Control – The entire perimeter of the construction area should have a device in place to prevent the sediment and erosion from leaving the area. This could be a silt fence, straw bales, mulch berms. There are other approved methods if you research online.
- Construction Entrance – The area where construction vehicles will be entering and leaving the property is a hotspot for tracking mud. For large projects, it may be required to create a "drive way" of 1-2" washed rock that will be at least 6" deep (the length and width may vary depending on the project area). In some entrances, a wash rack may need to be installed. In all instances, you should have a heavy-duty broom and shovel to get out and clean the street daily.
- Stockpile Control – What happens to a pile of dirt on windy days or days with rain? It gets smaller and most likely ends up in the stormwater system. You are responsible for not letting that happen. Silt fences, straw bales, tarping, or some other device will help with this.
- Turf establishment – It is never too early to start planning a long term design to keep the topsoil on the property. Check with a landscape designer or spend some time surfing the net to find some creative landscaping tricks that will ensure that your topsoil doesn't end up clogging the municipal stormwater system. It is better to pay for a nice looking yard than to pay higher taxes because the stormwater system is clogged!



With the combination of spring showers and the onset of construction season, please keep the above in mind. Without SEC protection, this could be a combination for a perfect storm!

## Code Changes...

Next month, we will continue to provide you with code changes, but felt this month it was important to remind everyone of their SEC responsibilities.

One important fact about the code changes: the code in effect on the date of the permit submittal will remain in effect throughout the project. If your residential permit application was submitted before January 24, 2015, the project will be inspected under the 2007 MN Residential Building Code.

## Last year, we gave you these words to learn. Let's see how well you remember! Match the term with the right definition.

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|---------------------------|--|
| _____ Clear Water         | A. When clear water from illegal connections of sump pumps, downspouts, and foundation drains is channeled into sanitary sewer pipes.                |
| _____ Gray Water          | B. Rain water, ground water, or melted snow. This water flows into streams, ponds, and lakes. It is safe for the environment.                        |
| _____ Black (waste) Water | C. Water that comes from the toilet or any other toxic water. It may also come from manufacturing plants and water used in an agricultural facility. |
| _____ Inflow              | D. When groundwater seeps into sewer pipes via cracks and leaky joints.  |
| _____ Infiltration        | E. Water that comes from washers, sinks, bathtubs or showers, and kitchen sinks.   |

If you have questions regarding this article or have a story idea, please call us at 952-442-7520.