

City of Beaufort

SILT FENCE REQUIREMENTS



DESCRIPTION: Silt fence consisting of geotextile fabric stretched across steel or wood posts is required when there is any site disturbance. The lower edge of the fence is vertically trenched into the ground and covered by compacted backfill. Fencing is placed along front, side and rear property lines allowing for construction entrance.

GEOTEXTILE FILTER FABRIC: Cut to a minimum width of 36 inches.

INSTALLATION: Hay bales are to be used in place of silt fencing in areas where trenching would occur through minimum tree root protection area (defined as ½' per inch caliper of trunk at 4.5' above grade).

Leave 10 feet between silt fence and creek or wetland. Six (6) inches of geotextile fabric to be placed into a 6-inch minimum depth trench. Trench to be backfilled and compacted securely holding bottom of fabric in place. Install steel or wood posts at 8' o.c. and at a minimum depth of 24-inches. Fabric to extend a minimum of 24-inches above the ground. In tidal areas, extra silt fence height may be required.

CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE: Install gravel or stone at entrance to prevent tracking of soil from construction vehicles onto paved street.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE:

- Inspect every 7 calendar days and within 24-hours after each rainfall event that produces ½-inches or more of precipitation. Check for sediment buildup and fence integrity. Check where runoff has eroded a channel beneath the fence, or where the fence has sagged or collapsed by fence overtopping.
- If the fence fabric tears, begins to decompose, or in any way becomes ineffective, replace the section of fence immediately.
- Remove sediment accumulated along the fence when it reaches 1/3 of the height of the fence, especially if heavy rains are expected.
- Remove silt fence within 30 days after final stabilization is achieved.

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