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Stabilized Construction Entrance



DESCRIPTION/GOALS

A construction site entrance is a stabilized area where vehicles enter and leave a construction site. The entrance usually consists of stones spread over geotextile fabric. The construction entrance serves two purposes for erosion and sediment control. As vehicles are driven over the rocks, mud from the construction site is knocked off the tires, preventing tracking of the mud onto the street. Secondly, the gravel entrance will not be "torn up" by vehicles as much as a dirt road would.

TECHNIQUES

Construction site entrances should be designed with large, sharp-edged stones, because these are the best for knocking mud off tires. In addition, they should be wide enough for all construction vehicles to pass. If the entrance becomes clogged with mud, stones should be replaced.

LIMITATIONS/CHALLENGES

Construction entrances can be used on most construction sites. One challenge is that the large, sharp stones that are the best for sediment removal are also the least popular among developers. Sharp stones have the potential to pop tires. In addition, developers often want to convert the entrance into a road subgrade or driveway, and larger stones are not appropriate for these purposes.

INNOVATIONS/IMPROVEMENTS

Sometimes, wash racks are used at the entrance to hose tires off. These cost about \$2,000 and require water hook-up. Alternatively, "cow guards" can be used. These devices, which are similar to wash racks, consist of a series of cement strips, approximately one or two inches wide, that knock mud off tires, as vehicles drive over them.

APPROXIMATE
COST: \$7-48/ly

EFFECTIVENESS

	Low	Mid	High
Erosion Sediment Control			✓
Long-Term Pollution Reduction	✓		
Water / Stream Protection	✓		

EASE OF APPLICATION

Difficult Average Easy

Installation			✓
Maintenance	✓		

LIMITATIONS

- Extremely small sites
- Sites with no flat areas



Source: Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Handbook, © 1984
Illinois Department of Environmental Management