

APPENDIX 3 - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ENVIRONMENT DAMAGE DURING CONSTRUCTION

These recommendations are a summary of Land Disturbance Guidelines due to be published in the near future by the Soil Conservation Authority.

Further details of the general recommendations can be obtained from the Guidelines, and by contacting the Soil Conservation Authority office in Lilydale.

1. Development should be programmed to minimize the area disturbed at any one time, and to limit the period of surface exposure.
2. Disturbance of vegetation and topsoil should be kept to the minimum practicable. This provision is most critical on steep slopes.
3. Where development necessitates removal of topsoil, the soil should be stockpiled for later respreading. Stockpiles should not be established in drainage lines, and surface runoff should be diverted away from stockpiles.
4. Stockpile of soil, or areas that remain bare and not worked on for lengthy periods during development should be afforded temporary protection by cover crops or by other methods such as mulching. Suitable plants are perennial ryegrass, Woogenellup sub clover, oats and ryecorn. Details of suitable seed and fertilizer mixtures, or other methods of protection, can be obtained from the Soil Conservation Authority.
5. Where appropriate, exposed areas such as construction sites may be protected by locating temporary banks and ditches upslope to contain and divert runoff. Simple drainage works will remove local water from construction sites. All permanent drainage works should be provided as easily as possible during construction.
6. In hillslopes, particular care is required with cut and fill and general grading operations, whether for roadways or building sites. Where possible, development activities should be designed to minimize alteration of the natural landscape. In this context, cut and fill and general grading operations should be limited to the minimum necessary for development.
7. Effective surface drainage will be greatly assisted on hillsides by aligning roadways just off the contour. Extra cut and fill required by such alignments should be carefully controlled.
8. Vehicular traffic should be controlled during subdivision development, confining access, where possible, to proposed or existing road alignments. Temporary culverts or causeways should be provided across major drainage lines during construction activities.
9. Temporary tracks used during development should be graded to crown and provided with effective surface drainage to prevent runoff eroding adjacent land.
10. Permanent roads and parking bays should be paved as early as possible after their formation, to prevent erosion.
11. Borrow pits should not be located on steep slopes, in drainage lines or on highly erodible soils. Topsoil from borrow areas should be stockpiled, and protected as in 3 and 4 above.
12. Areas of fill should be well compacted before any construction takes place upon them.
13. Following roadway construction and the installation services, all disturbed ground which is not about to be paved or built upon should be revegetated.
 - 13.1 The surface should be sacrificed prior to respreading of topsoil.
 - 13.2 Topsoil should be respread in a moist or semi-dry state, since structure is damaged is respread when very wet or very dry.

- 13.3 Grasses and clover should be sown into a prepared seed bed. Species and fertilizer suggested for batter stabilization are also suitable for inclusion in any general revegetation mixture. Autumn sowing is generally the most successful for most plant species.
- 13.4 Specific recommendations for seed and fertilizer mixtures will be provided on request, by the Lilydale office of the soil Conservation Authority.
14. Regular top dressing with fertilizer of all areas which are to remain under a permanent vegetative cover will ensure a persistent and vigorous sward. Regular mowing will control weeds and promote a vigorous dense turf.
15. Stabilization of batter slopes. Recommendations for stabilizing batter slopes are printed in the Land Disturbance Guidelines, and further advice is available from the Soil conservation Authority office in Lilydale.