Stormwater Quality Requirements When a Project is Exempt from a Grading Permit



Dear Building Permit Applicant:

Under Loomis Municipal Code 12.04.050, not all Building Permits require a Grading Permit. Exempt work includes the grading of a site where the depth does not exceed three feet, where the amount of material moved is less than 50 cubic yards, and where existing drainage patterns are not altered. The clearing of vegetation up to an acre in size, on slopes less than 20 percent, is also exempt.

When a grading permit is waived, the applicant is still required to comply with State-mandated clean water regulations by implementing stormwater erosion control measures that will keep sediment and debris from migrating into storm drains and waterways.

STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

During construction, projects must maintain sufficient erosion and sediment control measures to prevent anything but clean water from running off the site. With this in mind, sites are required to implement and maintain appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) until the work is completed, and the site is stabilized with permanent landscaping. Until that time, construction sites will be subject to year-round inspections to verify stormwater quality compliance.

Best Management Practice, or BMP, is a term used to describe an activity, technique, structure, or device that is intended to protect or improve stormwater quality.

STORMWATER INSPECTIONS

Grading plans typically call for the implementation of BMPs which are then reviewed by the grading inspector. When a project is exempt from a grading permit, the Building Official will perform these inspections. The inspector will evaluate your site for conditions that may result in discharges of stormwater pollutants. All types of potential contaminants from jobsites are prohibited, including sediment, oil, vehicle fluids, concrete washout, paint, landscaping materials, fertilizers, pesticides, trash, etc.



TYPICAL CONSTRUCTION SITE BMPs

While every site is different, some Best Management Practices (BMPs) typically employed at construction sites are summarized on the back of this flyer, to give a general idea of measures that can be implemented to keep pollutants from leaving the site.