



# LMAS DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health ■ Personal & Family Health ■ Emergency Preparedness

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## EROSION CONTROL IDEAS AND TRICKS TO “GROWING A HEALTHY LAWN”

1. Whenever possible, cover all raw soils with heavy seeding and a thick layer of hay mulch.
2. Use sod, crushed stone, or rock at roof drip edges to catch roof runoff. Underlay all stone/rock with filter fabric. Extend the sod/rock down the slope to a flat or wooded area.
3. Use silt fence or hay bales at your work area, especially to protect sloping land. Trench them in below grade and backfill.
4. If you can't restore the entire site in one season, get seed/hay on any areas possible before winter (even if they are not to final grade).
5. Using a thick layer of hay mulch will help to keep your topsoil from eroding, minimize gully formation, and start a temporary vegetative cover.
6. Pay attention to your soil types – clay, sand, gravel, rock, etc. A gravel/rock slope next to a lake may not need much attention, but a raw clay slope would need to be seeded/mulched immediately.
7. If you see a sedimentation problem, trace it to the source and use an appropriate solution.
8. Keep as much area as you can undisturbed adjacent to the lake/stream – this “buffer” acts as a natural sediment control.
9. Work with your contractor/excavator to leave a berm along the edge of work area or to dig a sump to catch runoff.
10. Use berms to divert roof/yard runoff away from raw fill slopes. Raw slopes will never vegetate if they have constant erosion from water going down them.
11. Steep slopes will require sod, rock, or an erosion control “blanket” for stabilization.
12. In areas of concentrated runoff or where you see gullies, a sod or fabric/rock round bottom “ditch” will need to be used to carry water through the area of erosion.