



Straw mats prevent erosion and are easy to install. Hand spread seed can be applied under the mats and will sprout through the mesh.

Straw mats can be stored in rolls and kept on hand for as-needed applications. A secondary form of sediment control, like silt fence, is best to keep in place until a seeding is established. It is important to water the mat to encourage growth and to ensure a proper cover.



Hydroseed is a specialty product that is blown onto a land surface. Hydroseed sticks to virtually any slope and will harden to provide erosion control as well as seeds and nutrients to establish long term stabilization.

A combination of hydroseed and excelsior blanket protects a grated manhole cover. Mix and match cover options to suit each site.

Sod may be the easiest method of achieving 70% cover but the cost can be unattractive for some projects.



Compost socks with a seed mix inside can be staked into exposed slopes to provide stabilization. Hydroseed provides a good extra cover and can sprout within days.

Straw mulch can be used to quickly achieve cover but must be maintained and should be accompanied by a back up sediment control until a seeding is visible. At some sites, bales used for sediment control can be mulched.



Straw mulch is not anchored and is easily blown away. This application is not sufficient to provide cover. ↓



Excelsior blankets generally have wood fibers woven on a plastic mat with seed and fertilizers bonded to it. Excelsior blankets have various applications and can be used to stabilize a site, even in winter. When warm temperatures return, the seed has the extra advantage of nutrients in the blanket.

Excelsior blankets can be used for full cover or as a perimeter control in combination with other practices.





Sediment and other materials that wash from construction sites are carried into

streets and alleys that drain into the city storm sewer. Whether it's a gutter, storm inlet, ditch, or ravine, the materials head straight for the Mississippi or Rock Rivers, completely untreated.

Controlling soil and debris on construction sites is the primary goal of the City Stormwater Ordinance. Limiting land disturbance to what is necessary in the immediate work area is the single most effective way to achieve compliance.

During construction, erosion and sediment control measures are vital to achieving and maintaining compliance. Beyond the construction phase, permit holders are also responsible for stabilizing a site to prevent future erosion.

Permit holders must provide some variety of ground cover for each site before the work is considered completed by the City. A 70% cover is required and there are many options for meeting this requirement, even when weather conditions are not ideal for growing grass.

Whether it's straw mats, excelsior blankets, hydroseed or sod, final stabilization is achievable. The added cost or labor involved with installing and maintaining these practices is always cheaper and easier than cleanups, penalties and lost work time. Limiting land disturbance to necessary work areas is the most effective form of preventative maintenance for any site.

Without stabilization, soil easily leaves site, violating City Ordinance.



If hydroseed can help grass to sprout on the bark of this tree, any site can be stabilized.

Site Stabilization Best Management Practices (BMP's)



A quick start guide to site stabilization in accordance with the Stormwater Ordinance.



City of Moline, Public Works Dept.
Engineering Division
309-524-2363