

Temporary Blankets

Machine produced temporary blankets should have a consistent thickness with the organic material evenly distributed over the entire blanket area. All blankets should have a minimum width of 48 inches. Machine produced temporary blankets include the following:

1. Straw blankets are temporary blankets that consist of weed-free straw from agricultural crops formed into a blanket. Blankets with a top side of biodegradable plastic mesh size of 5/16 x 5/16 inch and sewn to the straw with biodegradable thread are appropriate for slopes. The blanket should have a minimum thickness of 3/8 inch and minimum dry weight of 0.5 pounds per square yard.

Site Preparation: After the site has been shaped and graded to the approved design, prepare a friable seedbed relatively free from clods and rocks more than one inch in diameter, and any foreign material that will prevent contact of the blanket or mat with the soil surface.

Temporary Blankets: Erosion control blankets should generally be installed vertically from the top of the slope to the bottom (See Figure 2). Trim blankets as necessary to fit the area to be covered. For slopes shallower than 2:1, and with a height of twice the width of the blanket roll or less, up to a maximum height of 16 feet, the blanket may be applied horizontally across the slope. For use in concentrated flow areas, place the blanket in the direction of the water flow. Always entrench the blanket beyond the top and bottom of the slope and at any horizontal joint a minimum of 6 inches, or per manufacturer's recommendation. Overlap vertical joints at least 3 inches, or per manufacturer's recommendation.

Permanent Matting: When installing permanent matting in a storm water conveyance channel, begin at the bottom of the slope and progress upstream, centering the mat in the middle of the channel. Shingle upstream layer over downstream layer, overlapping 3 feet. Overlap 3 inches minimum along longitudinal seams. Entrench the upper and lower edges beyond the slope (See Figure 1).

Staples: Staples should be used to anchor temporary blankets, and either staples or stakes should be used to anchor permanent matting. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for stapling or staking pattern and frequency.

Planting: Seed and any necessary soil amendments should be applied prior to installation of temporary blankets. For permanent mats, the area should be brought to final grade, and any soil amendments tilled or plowed into the soil surface. After the permanent mat has been installed and backfilled with topsoil, the area should be seeded and mulched.

MAINTENANCE

Inspections of blankets and matting should be made before anticipated storm events (or series of storm events such as intermittent showers over one or more days) and within 24 hours after the end of a storm event of 0.5 inches or greater, and at least once every fourteen calendar days. Blanket and matting inspections should identify washed out areas, areas needing additional staples, and/or additional areas needing blankets or matting. Maintenance needs identified in inspections or by other means shall be accomplished before the next storm event if possible, but in no case more than seven days after the need is identified.



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EROSION BLANKETS AND MATS INSTALLATION/MAINTANCE

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APPROVED BY: _____ DATE _____
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

SOURCE: LOUISVILLE MSD
TDEC