



LEED® for New Construction (NCv2.2) Rating System Guide for MCAA Contractors

Sustainable Sites - Prerequisite

MCAA Contractor Involvement - LOW

Required - Construction Activity Pollution Prevention

Intent

Reduce pollution from construction activities by controlling soil erosion, waterway sedimentation and airborne dust generation.

Requirements

Create and implement an Erosion and Sedimentation Control (ESC) Plan for all construction activities associated with the project. The ESC Plan shall conform to the erosion and sedimentation requirements of the 2003 EPA Construction General Permit OR local erosion and sedimentation control standards and codes, whichever is more stringent. The plan shall describe the measures implemented to accomplish the following objectives:

- Prevent loss of soil during construction by stormwater runoff and/or wind erosion, including protecting topsoil by stockpiling for reuse.
- Prevent sedimentation of storm sewer or receiving streams.
- Prevent polluting the air with dust and particulate matter.

The Construction General Permit (CGP) outlines the provisions necessary to comply with Phase I and Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. While the CGP only applies to construction sites greater than 1 acre, the requirements are applied to all projects for the purposes of this prerequisite. Information on the EPA CGP is available at the [EPA's website](#).

Potential Technologies & Strategies

Create an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan during the design phase of the project. Consider employing strategies such as temporary and permanent seeding, mulching, earth dikes, silt fencing, sediment traps and sediment basins.

How MCAA Contractors Can Impact This Prerequisite

Every general contractor will have an Erosion and Sedimentation Control (ESC) policy that will likely be enhanced to meet these LEED guidelines. Every worker on the jobsite will be forced to meet the ESC policy, so familiarize your labor force on the policies and procedures of the site. An example of standard erosion and sedimentation control would be vehicle wash-offs for muddy sites to prevent dirt tracking on local roadways.

Only in rare cases will mechanical systems be put in place to control soil erosion during construction through sediment basins, temporary settling or detention ponds, and extensive dewatering systems. However, permanent systems can be put into place that fall within the scope of a mechanical or plumbing contractor like perimeter drain control systems that connect to utility lines and oil interceptors in parking garages.

This is an easily achieved prerequisite because establishing an ESC is a requirement by most jurisdictions.

Synergies Available

- SS credit 5.1 - Site Development - restoring and protecting habitat
- SS credit 6.1 - Stormwater Quantity Control

Primary Responsible Parties

The primary responsible party for this prerequisite is the civil engineer for the design and the general contractors for the implementation.