

# SAFETY MEMO

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sediment Control Compliance</b>		
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 18 January 2024</b>	<b>Memo Ref</b>	<b>SM180124</b>
<b>Issued to:</b>	<b>All Contractors and Building Supervisors</b>		
<b>Background:</b>	<p>Sediment control aims to stop soils and other sediments from a building site washing into gutters, drains, and waterways. Good sediment control can help keep our waterways healthy, minimise loss from building site stockpiles, and improve building site conditions. Pollution from building sites can cause significant environmental damage by destroying habitats for plants and animals, silting up streams, and blocking stormwater pipes.</p> <p>Effective on-site sediment control can have many benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved wet weather working conditions</li> <li>Improved drainage and reduced site wetness</li> <li>Reduced stockpile losses</li> <li>Fewer public complaints</li> <li>Reduced risk of fines</li> <li>Cleaner water ways</li> <li>Reduced clean-up costs</li> <li>Better public image</li> </ul>		
<b>Direction to Coral Homes Contractors and Supervisors:</b>	<p>All Coral Homes contractors must follow appropriate site management practices to minimise soil erosion and sediment run-off. Building Supervisors must monitor and manage sediment control and take reasonable steps to ensure workers on all Coral Homes construction sites do not breach environmental laws. Breaches of the legislation may result in companies, subcontractors and workers being issued with on-the-spot fines.</p> <p>Coral Homes requirements for sediment control include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any stockpiles of soil or sand must be covered to avoid run-off, before leaving site.</li> <li>If you damage or remove a section of sediment fence you must adequately reinstate it, or if not possible, notify the Coral Homes Building Supervisor immediately.</li> </ul>		

- If temporary downpipes are removed for any reason they must be reinstated before leaving site.
- Washing out of tools and equipment must be completed behind the sediment barrier and must not escape the building site.
- Only use the designated site access driveway and if you drag mud or soil onto the road or footpath, you must clean it up immediately.

Refer to the diagram below that highlights practices that will minimise soil erosion and sediment run off from your building site.

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## Stormwater pollution prevention – it’s up to you!

HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN DO TO REDUCE EROSION AND PREVENT SEDIMENT FROM LEAVING YOUR SITE.

The following site management practices will minimise soil erosion and sediment run-off from your building site.

### MINIMISE DISTURBANCE WHEN EXCAVATING

Preserve as much grassed area as possible. These areas not only improve the appearance of your site, they also reduce soil erosion and filter much of the sediment from stormwater run-off before it reaches the drainage system.

### CATCH DRAINS AND PERIMETER BANKS

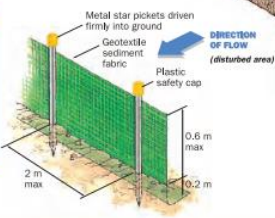
Where possible, allow for diversion of up-slope stormwater around the work site and other disturbed surfaces.

### CONCRETE WASTE AND WASHING

Waste concrete and household paint must not be allowed to wash into the gutters or the street.

### INSTALL A SEDIMENT BARRIER

Sediment barriers down-slope of the building site trap coarse sediment before it can wash into gutters, drains and waterways. Sediment barriers can be made from geotextile sediment fabric attached to posts with the geotextile buried in an up-slope trench.



### SAND AND SOIL STOCKPILES


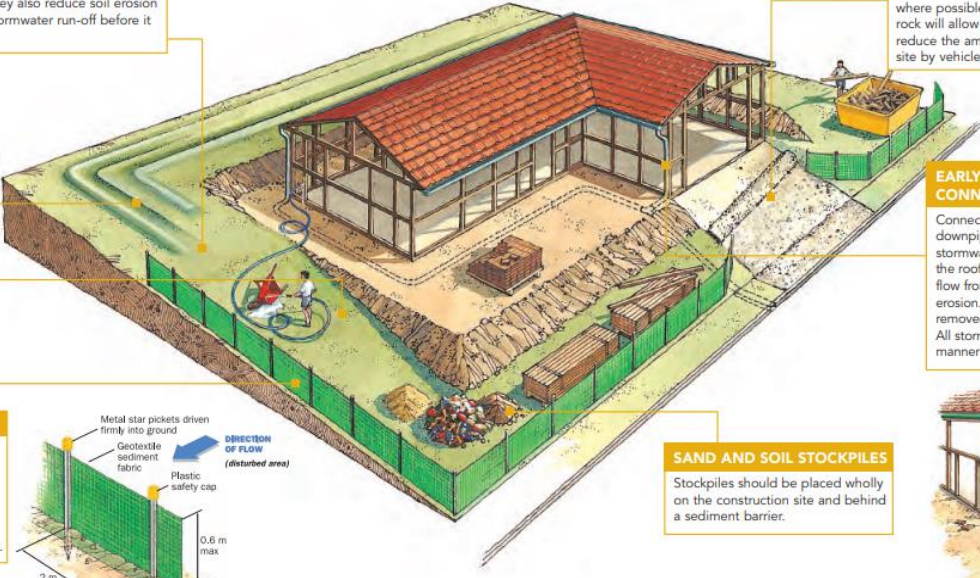
Stockpiles should be placed wholly on the construction site and behind a sediment barrier.

### ENTRY/EXIT POINT (RUMBLE PAD)

Restrict vehicle access to one entry/exit point where possible. Stabilising the access with rock will allow all weather access and will reduce the amount of soil carried off the site by vehicles.

### EARLY STORMWATER DRAINAGE CONNECTION

Connect temporary or permanent downpipe/s to the underground stormwater system immediately after the roof is laid – or slow and spread the flow from downpipes to avoid localised erosion. Downpipes may be temporarily removed during wall construction. All stormwater should discharge in a manner that does not cause soil erosion.



### Penalties

Breaches of the legislation may result in:

- on-the-spot fines under the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997* (ie. \$300 to \$600)
- prosecutions under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* or the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (ie. fines of thousands of dollars or prison sentences for serious offences).

### Who can be fined on a building site?

Anyone who does not comply with the duties mentioned above can be prosecuted or issued with on-the-spot fines. Companies, builders, subcontractors and individual workers can all be fined.