Prevent pollution from residential building sites

1. **Sediment controls**
   Geotextile sediment fencing, on its own or incorporating straw bale filters wrapped in biddum material, must be installed along the lowest side/s of the site. Shade cloth is not adequate and is ineffective in controlling sediment. Controls should also be placed to protect any stormwater drains. (Refer to information sheet 3)

2. **Designated cutting area/wash area**
   Ensure all wastewater from brick cutting, concrete works, painting, washing etc. does not enter the stormwater system. Onsite mixing or washing should be carried out in a designated contained area. (Refer to Information Sheet 6)

3. **Stockpiles**
   Ensure all building material and waste stockpiles are contained and stored behind the sediment fence. If there is insufficient storage capacity for building materials within the site, you must obtain approval prior to using the nature strip area. (Refer to Information Sheet 5)

4. **Verge management**
   Builders and developers must comply with the approved Landscape Management Protection Plan (LMPP) for their site. The LMPP often requires fencing of the nature strip area to protect existing trees and footpaths. In some instances, approval may be granted for short term use of the nature strip area for storage or access purposes. Phone Access Canberra on 13 22 81 for more information.

5. **Catch drains and perimeter banks**
   Divert up-slope water. Where practical, up-slope water should be diverted around the work site, it will help keep the site drier in wet periods. Ensure water is diverted onto stable areas with sediment controls, and not into neighbouring properties. Avoid directing water towards entry/exit points. (Refer to Information Sheet 2)

6. **Minimise disturbance when excavating**
   Maintain a grassed area (vegetation buffer) if possible, it will act as a filter for sediment in runoff water and will improve the appearance of the site. Avoid clearing vegetation and excavating until building commences. (Refer to Information Sheet 2)

7. **Stabilised access point/crossover**
   All entry/exit points must be consolidated with crushed aggregate (or similar), extending from the road kerb to the building line. This allows all-weather access to your site and reduces the amount of soil carried off the site by vehicles. Stabilised access/crossover should be located as far away from the lowest point as possible. Roads must be kept clean at all times. (Refer to Information Sheet 4)

**Toilet facilities**

The ‘Work Health and Safety (Managing the Work Environment and Facilities) Code of Practice’ states that you must provide access to toilets, or, provide portable toilets. The number of toilets provided should be at a rate as specified in the Code. Phone Access Canberra on 13 22 81 for more information.

**Perimeter fence**

A perimeter fence can prevent unauthorised persons gaining access to a site. You have a duty of care under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 to protect the public as well as workers from hazards associated with building works. It may also assist in protecting the verge. Phone Access Canberra on 13 22 81 for more information.

**Notice about building work sign**

A Notice About Building Work sign is required to be displayed on your site under the Building Act 2004. Refer to the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate website for further information www.planning.act.gov.au/customer_information/industry