

## WHAT IS RULE 5?

### Storm water Runoff Associated with Construction Activities

The Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District is responsible to review erosion and sediment control plans submitted to them. The purpose of the Rule 5 (327 IAC 15-5) general permit is to establish requirements to protect State Water from adverse effects of storm water discharges from construction activities. Under Phase II of the federal storm water runoff requirements, all soil disturbances of one (1) or more acres require a permit. This includes any manmade change of the land surface, including removing vegetative cover that exposes the underlying soil, excavating, filling, transporting, and grading.

SWCD presently contracts with SWCD R-5 Technician to review erosion and sediment control plans submitted to our office. The SWCD R-5 Technician can make a significant difference on a local scale. There are some common problems that can be found among erosion control plans. First, when too many controls are planned the result is an expensive plan that may or may not be an efficient plan. Another common problem is a poorly placed erosion control practice. Part of the review process is then to make suggestions and comments. The plan is then only as good as the implementation and monitoring is on the site. Changing site conditions may make it necessary to modify or substitute practices at various locations. Continuous effective communication between all parties involved is the only way to a solution.

This communication is not only needed during the construction phase, but during the project planning, design, and then regularly during construction. The SWCD R-5 Technician uses a great deal of time to inform contractors and landowners not only the technical aspects of erosion control, but of its importance in protecting valuable resources for all of us.

Other construction activities that need to comply with this rule include project site owners or farmers constructing agriculturally-related facilities such as barns, livestock facilities, roads, agri-waste lagoons, lakes, ponds, wetlands, or other farming infrastructure that disturb one or more acres of soil.

More information about Rule 5 and the appropriate forms can be found on the internet at <http://www.in.gov/idem/stormwater/2371.htm> . For questions and more information call the Washington County SWCD office at 812-883-3704, Ext. 3 or Rule 5 Technician Andrew Katt at 812-620-3580 or [andrewdkatt@gmail.com](mailto:andrewdkatt@gmail.com)

#### Rule 5 Fee Structure:

Land Use	Amount
Residential: 1- 3 acres	\$ 300
3 + acres \$100 per acre	
Commercial & Industrial: Up to 5.0 acres	\$ 600

5.1 to 10.0 acres	1,440
10.1 to 25.0 acres	2,400
25.1 + acres	3,000

Fees are due at time of plan submittal.