

VEGETATIVE STABILIZATION — SOD



Photo credit: Barry Tinning, Tetra Tech



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Provided to you by Calcasieu Parish
Police Jury Environmental Department



USE: Provide immediate perennial, vegetative cover on areas of bare soil for stabilization.

DESIGN CRITERIA:

- For all sites, except those located in arid or semi-arid areas, provide an established uniform vegetation (evenly distributed without large bare areas), which provides 70 percent or more of the density of coverage that was provided by vegetation prior to commencing construction.
- For final stabilization, vegetative cover must be perennial.

INSTALLATION:

Ensure soil is capable of supporting permanent vegetation.

- Where compacted soils occur, they should be broken up sufficiently to create a favorable rooting depth of 6-8 inches. Organic compost can serve as a viable soil amendment. If compost is used, it shall be of a well decomposed, stable, weed free organic matter source.
- Use sod appropriate for the climate, topography, and soil type. Do not apply sod during very hot or wet weather.
- Lay strips of sod beginning at the lowest area to be sodded and perpendicular to the direction of water flow. Wedge strips securely into place. Square the ends of each strip to provide for a close, tight fit.
- Roll or compact immediately after installation to ensure firm contact with the underlying topsoil. Install staples where sod might move because of water flow.
- When sodding is carried out in alternating strips or other patterns, seed the areas between the sod immediately after sodding.
- Water as necessary. Sod must be established as cover prior to terminating permit coverage.

MAINTENANCE:

- Inspect sod frequently after it is first installed, especially after large storms, for failures and make necessary repairs until it is established as cover. If it is impossible to establish a healthy groundcover due to frequent saturation, instability, or some other cause, remove the sod, seed the area with an appropriate seed mix, and protect area with a net or blanket.
- Remove and replace dead sections of sod.