



City of Burnsville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SILT FENCES KEEP MUD, SEDIMENT IN CHECK

“Silt Fence” is the black (or sometimes orange) fabric installed on and around construction sites. This small precaution helps prevent big issues by stopping mud and sand from washing into drainage systems, adjacent properties and roadways.

When installed correctly, silt fence uses either wood or metal fence posts for support. The bottom of the fabric is then buried in the ground to prevent water from running underneath. The fence acts as a filter – slowing water runoff and depositing sediment on the high side of the fence – and allowing water (minus the mud and gunk) to seep through.

Silt fence is just one of many methods used by contractors to control sediment runoff from making its way into local lakes, rivers and ponds. Improperly installed, insufficiently maintained or damaged silt fence just doesn't work.

Contractors planning a construction project that may create runoff – or residents who observe a construction site where it is a problem – can contact Engineering Specialist Walter Ehresmann at 952-895-4463 or walter.ehresmann@burnsvillemn.gov for more information or assistance.



(High-Resolution Photo Available Upon Request)

Cutline: *A properly installed silt fence.*

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