STANDARD AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR SILT FENCE



Definition

A temporary barrier of geotextile fabric installed on the contours across a slope used to intercept sediment laden runoff from small drainage areas of disturbed soil.

Purpose

The purpose of a silt fence is to reduce runoff velocity and effect deposition of transported sediment load. Limits imposed by ultraviolet stability of the fabric will dictate the maximum period the silt fence may be used (approximately one year).

Conditions Where Practice Applies

A silt fence may be used subject to the following conditions:

1. Maximum allowable slope lengths contributing runoff to a silt fence placed on a slope are:

Slope	Maximum
Steepness	Length (ft.)
2:1	25
3:1	50
4:1	75
5:1 or flatter	100

- 2. Maximum drainage area for overland flow to a silt fence shall not exceed ½ acre per 100 feet of fence, with maximum ponding depth of 1.5 feet behind the fence; and
- Erosion would occur in the form of sheet erosion;
- 4. There is no concentration of water flowing to the barrier.

Design Criteria

Design computations are not required for installations of 1 month or less. Longer installation periods should be designed for expected runoff. All silt fences shall be placed as close to the areas as possible, but at least 10 feet from the toe of a slope to allow for maintenance and roll down. The area beyond the fence must be undisturbed or stabilized.

Sensitive areas to be protected by silt fence may need to be reinforced by using heavy wire fencing for added support to prevent collapse.

Where ends of filter cloth come together, they shall be overlapped, folded and stapled to prevent sediment bypass. A detail of the silt fence shall be shown on the plan. See Figure 5A.8 on page 5A.21 for details.

Criteria for Silt Fence Materials

1. Silt Fence Fabric: The fabric shall meet the following specifications unless otherwise approved by the appropriate erosion and sediment control plan approval authority. Such approval shall not constitute statewide acceptance.

Minimum Acceptable		
Fabric Properties	Value	Test Method
Grab Tensile Strength (lbs)	90	ASTM D1682
Elongation at Failure (%)	50	ASTM D1682

Mullen Burst

Strength (PSI) 190 ASTM D3786

Puncture Strength (lbs) 40 ASTM D751

(modified)

Slurry Flow Rate

(gal/min/sf) 0.3

Equivalent Opening Size 40-80 US Std Sieve

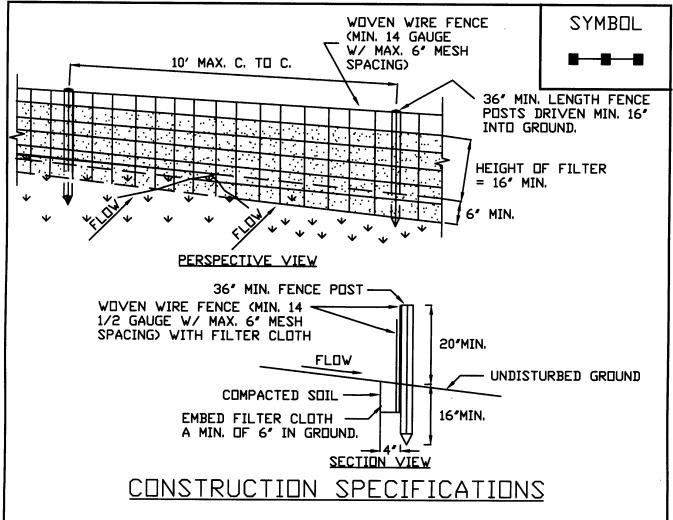
CW-02215

Ultraviolet Radiation

Stability (%) 90 ASTM G-26

- 2. Fence Posts (for fabricated units): The length shall be a minimum of 36 inches long. Wood posts will be of sound quality hardwood with a minimum cross sectional area of 3.0 square inches. Steel posts will be standard T and U section weighing not less than 1.00 pound per linear foot.
- 3. Wire Fence (for fabricated units): Wire fencing shall be a minimum 14 gage with a maximum 6 in. mesh opening, or as approved.
- 4. Prefabricated Units: Envirofence, Geofab, or approved equal, may be used in lieu of the above method providing the unit is installed per details shown in Figure 5A.8.

Figure 5A.8 Silt Fence



- 1. WOVEN WIRE FENCE TO BE FASTENED SECURELY TO FENCE POSTS WITH WIRE TIES OR STAPLES. POSTS SHALL BE STEEL EITHER "T" OR "U" TYPE OR HARDWOOD.
- 2. FILTER CLOTH TO BE TO BE FASTENED SECURELY TO WOVEN WIRE FENCE WITH TIES SPACED EVERY 24" AT TOP AND MID SECTION. FENCE SHALL BE WOVEN WIRE, 6" MAXIMUM MESH OPENING.
- 3. WHEN TWO SECTIONS OF FILTER CLOTH ADJOIN EACH OTHER THEY SHALL BE OVER-LAPPED BY SIX INCHES AND FOLDED. FILTER CLOTH SHALL BE EITHER FILTER X, MIRAFI 100X, STABILINKA T140N, OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT.
- 4. PREFABRICATED UNITS SHALL BE GEDFAB, ENVIROFENCE, OR APPROVED EQUIVALENT.
- 5. MAINTENANCE SHALL BE PERFORMED AS NEEDED AND MATERIAL REMOVED WHEN "BULGES" DEVELOP IN THE SILT FENCE.

ADAPTED FROM DETAILS PROVIDED BY: USDA - NRCS,
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION,
NEW YORK STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

SILT FENCE