Erosion Prevention
and Sediment Control

What can be done?

- Develop and implement an erosion prevention and sediment control plan for construction projects (see inset).
- Cover bare soil before it rains. Use mulch, erosion control blankets, or other materials.
- Retain native trees and brush cover.
- Protect storm drains.

- Use native species in landscaping.
- Avoid construction during heavy rains.

Can Dirt Really Hurt?

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Impacts of Erosion and Sedimentation

What is Soil Erosion?
Erosion is a natural process in which soil particles are displaced by the action of wind or water. Erosion becomes a problem when human activities accelerate the process.

Natural erosion averages 0.2 tons/acre annually.

This rate increases to 150 to 200 tons/acre for unprotected construction sites!

What is Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control?

**Erosion prevention** is any practice that protects the soil surface and prevents soil particles from being detached by rainfall or wind. Erosion prevention treats the soil as a valuable resource.

**Sediment control** is any practice that traps soil particles after they have been detached and moved by wind or water.