

Site Management Practices to Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Early stormwater downpipe connection

Connect temporary or permanent downpipes to the underground stormwater system as soon as the roof is laid. This will help to reduce the generation of mud on site.

Retain vegetation on site

Retain as much grassed area as possible as these areas filter sediment from run-off before it reaches the stormwater system, as well as improve the appearance of your site.

On site toilet

Provide a portable toilet on site for the duration of the building works.

Litter and building waste

All hard waste and litter must be contained securely within suitable receptacles on the site.

Catch drains

Where possible divert up slope stormwater around the work site and disturbed surfaces.

Concrete waste and washing

Have a set wash up area on site with sediment controls to filter wash water.

Sediment fencing

Install a sediment control barrier on the lowest sides of the site. Sediment barriers filter coarse sediment before it can wash into gutters, drains and waterways. Geotextile sediment fabric or straw bales can be used.

Sand and soil stockpiles

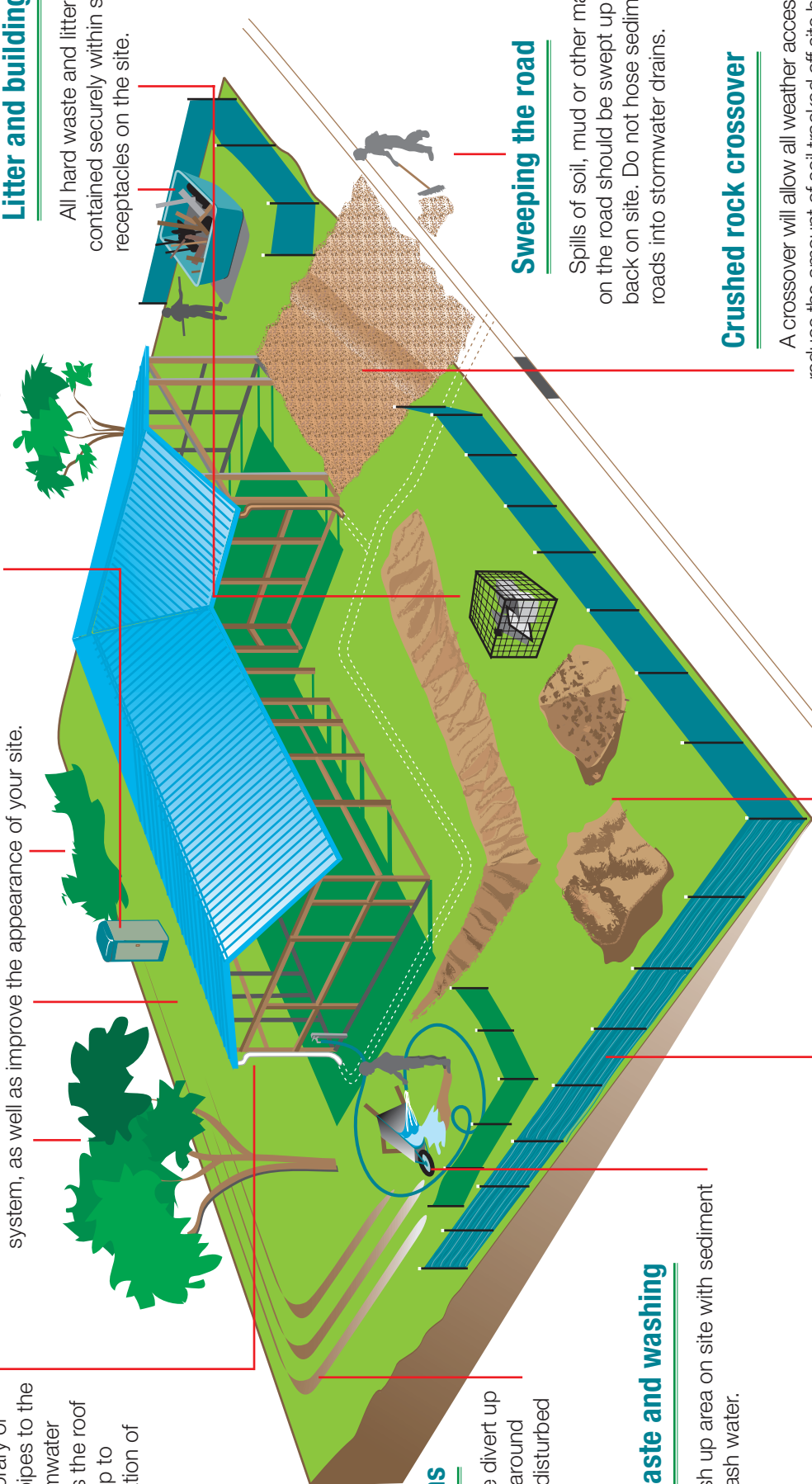
Stockpiles should be placed on the site and behind a sediment barrier.

Sweeping the road

Spills of soil, mud or other materials on the road should be swept up and put back on site. Do not hose sediment from roads into stormwater drains.

Crushed rock crossover

A crossover will allow all weather access and reduce the amount of soil tracked off site by vehicles. Restrict access to this one entry-exit point.



What is Stormwater?

Stormwater originates as rain and flows from our roofs, streets and roads into a system of drains and underground pipes that empty directly into our local rivers, creeks and beaches. Stormwater enters these waterways untreated.

As stormwater travels across hard surfaces, it picks up all kinds of pollutants in its path such as litter, chemicals and sediment. Contamination of stormwater can seriously pollute our water environments, killing fish and other aquatic life.

How do building sites pollute Stormwater?

- Loose litter and waste can be blown or washed from the site into drains
- Stormwater running off-site carries soil, sand and screenings into gutters and the stormwater system
- Vehicles leaving building sites carry soil and mud onto roads. This is washed by rain into gutters and stormwater drains
- Concrete, paint and other chemicals are often discharged into the stormwater system during 'cleaning up' at the end of the job. These materials can contain toxic compounds, which can kill aquatic plants and animals

Penalties

Penalties will apply to builders, suppliers and subcontractors for littering and allowing materials to spill or leak or otherwise leave the premises in an uncontrolled manner, and potentially enter the stormwater system.

This includes solid or liquid waste, sand, silt, clay, soil, stones, sediment or windblown material.

Further Information:

For further information or for a copy of the Urban Stormwater Best Practice Guidelines for Building Sites, Contact:

Bass Coast Shire Council

(03) 5671 2211

or

(03) 5951 3311

South Gippsland Shire Council

(03) 5662 9200



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This project has been assisted with funding by the Victorian Government, through EPA Victoria as part of the Victorian Stormwater Action Program.

Printed on Environmentally Friendly paper

Managing Building Sites for Stormwater Protection



This brochure summarises many simple practices builders can employ to prevent contamination of the stormwater system