

Erosion Measures



Use of silt fences on the construction of the multi-complex by T&M contractors

The erosion hazard for Rarotonga can be considered as High Risk due to the fact the land is steep, top soils are easily moved by water and the island experiences consistent heavy rain storm events.

The amount and type of sediment coming from a site during a storm event is determined by:

- The amount of land cleared on and around the site
- The disturbance of the soil on and around the site by the construction team
- The layout and state of any re-vegetation
- The management of livestock on or near the site and construction and design of the driveways/roads/paths
- The amount and type of sand and fine soils stored on the site

BUT...It's easy to develop an erosion and sediment control

plan which aims to:

- Minimise reshaping of the land
- Ensure earthworks are kept to a minimum
- Ensure a management plan is in place if earthworks are done and left for long periods before construction commences
- Maximize the benefits of collected storm water (tanks, artificial wetlands, dams)

Some simple, cost-effective techniques available to mitigate erosion include:

- On-site water practices and devices (household tanks)
- Direct stormwater to flow around the building area

- Plan for storm events
- Allow room for sediment barriers e.g. earthen walls, sediment fence to be located along the lower side of the disturbance
- Avoid the use of permanent long, steep and unstable driveways
- Avoid the use of exposed concrete surface
- Encourage grassed areas to be quickly established
- Education—Be Aware!

Come in and see us or talk to your builder/contractor about how you can ensure that there is maximum erosion and sediment control and minimal impacts to our environment.



TIPS OF THE WEEK:

“How long can men thrive between walls of brick, walking on asphalt pavements, breathing the fumes of coal and of oil, growing, working, dying, with hardly a thought of wind, and sky, and fields of grain, seeing only machine-made beauty, the mineral-like quality of life?”

- Charles Lindbergh

