

# Eight Easy Ways to Control Sediment and Save Money on Construction Sites

by Dan Cleveland

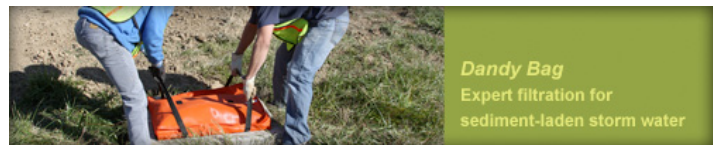
Want to know one of the best ways to save money on a construction site? Don't get fined.

Fines for not complying with state and federal regulations are unnecessary costs that reduce profits and can put you out of business. The good news is, fines can be avoided just by knowing the laws and obeying them.

Laws regarding construction site sediment control are especially easy to follow when you consult a [company specializing in sediment control solutions](#). Professional sediment control products like the ones listed below are regulation compliant, durable and reusable, maximizing your investment and protecting your bottom line.

## 1. Storm Grate Bag

One of the simplest concepts in sediment control, this [heavy duty porous bag](#) slips over a storm grate, securely encasing it to protect the inlet. Storm water passes through the bag, while sediment and debris are trapped inside of it. Bags are made to fit grates of all shapes and sizes, and oil absorbent filters can be added inside to skim oil from water as it flows through.



Maintenance of the bag is very simple. Just remove accumulated sediment and debris from its surface and vicinity after each storm, and remove sediment from inside as needed. If an oil filter has been used, simply remove and replace it when it is almost saturated.

## 2. Storm Grate Sack

Extremely strong yet affordable, this popular sediment control filter features an open top design and is suspended below a storm grate rather than enclosing it. As water flows into the grate, it slowly seeps through the sack's porous material while sediment and debris is captured for safe disposal.



[Sacks](#) can be used with oil absorbent filters, and are installed in minutes with handy lifting straps. They should be checked regularly and after each rainfall for accumulation of sediment and debris. When a sack needs to be emptied, it can be removed from the grate quickly, cleaned and reinstalled.

### 3. Pop-Up Bag

One of the smartest products to enter the sediment control market is the reusable [pop-up bag](#), which completely encases field grates to eliminate sediment infiltration. Storm water is diverted away from the bag by its stand-up design, and that which does enter is filtered through the bag's bottom prior to entering the storm inlet.



This double line of defense is very effective at keeping pollutants out of inlets, and its easy installation and maintenance make it a breeze to use. The bag pops up in seconds, and its domed design makes it quick and easy to clean. Accumulated sediment and debris should be removed from the panels and vicinity of the bag after each rainfall, and sediment should be removed from inside as needed. If oil absorbents are used with the bag, they should be replaced when they are near saturation.

### 4. Curb Inlet Roll

Curb inlet [rolls](#) are used at inlets without storm grates. They simply sit against a curb in front of an inlet, so that all water entering the inlet must pass through the roll's porous material. As water seeps through, sediment is trapped inside.



Top quality rolls conform to the shape of any curb, making them extremely easy to install. After each rainfall, all sediment and debris should be cleaned off of them and away from their vicinities. Quality rolls are made to last, and can be used repeatedly.

### 5. Curb Inlet Bag

[Curb inlet bags](#) combine the aspects of a storm grate bag with a curb inlet roll. These bags encase curb inlet storm grates



and feature a roll that sits against the curb, providing an extra line of defense against sediment and debris.

Designed to quickly conform to the shape of a curb, these bags are very easy to install and maintain. Debris and sediment should be swept away from the surface and vicinity of the bag after each rainfall, and sediment that accumulates within it should be emptied as needed. If oil absorbent filters are used with the bag, they should be replaced when they are near saturation.

When used and maintained correctly, curb inlet bags should eliminate or reduce the need to flush or clean inlets. This, combined with the fact that they are reliable and reusable, makes them a great saver of time and money.

### 6. Curb Inlet Sack

A combination curb roll and storm grate sack, the [curb inlet sack](#) features a roll on top and a sack that hangs below an inlet grate. Water runs into the grate and becomes suspended by the sack, where it slowly seeps through while sediment and other pollutants become trapped.



Its open-top design makes for easy visual inspections, and handy lifting straps make it a snap to install, remove for maintenance and replace. Optional oil absorbent filters should be replaced as needed, but the sack itself can be used repeatedly. Curb inlet sacks should reduce the need to flush or clean inlets, saving time and money for their owners.

### 7. Oil Filters

Because oil is toxic to the environment, keeping oil cleaned up on work sites is extremely important – not to mention legally required. [Oil filters](#) are available



that skim water surfaces, absorbing oil before it can wash away. They can be used alone or in conjunction with other sediment control products.

### 8. Dewatering Bags

[Dewatering bags](#) provide an easy, cost effective way to deal with sediments during dewatering. When water is pumped from a site into a dewatering bag, it flows





through the porous material of the bag while sediment and solids are contained inside it. This is more convenient than using sediment traps and other alternatives, and some dewatering bags can be used with oil absorbent filters to capture and contain oils in no added time.

Sediment control regulation compliance is easy with the right products. Contact a [professional sediment control solution company](#) today to protect yourself from costly fines.

*Dan Cleveland is president of [Dandy Products](#), an industry leader in storm water management and sediment control products. [Contact Dandy](#) for excellent, innovative products that will save your company time and money.*