



## COVID-19 advisory from the DNREC Sediment and Stormwater Program on construction site shutdown preparedness

As we continue to see impacts from COVID-19, we recognize there may be circumstances causing active construction sites to cease activities. If owners and operators of construction sites need to suspend operations, they should institute the following:

- Owners have responsibilities under the NPDES Special Conditions for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities ([Construction General Permit](#)) to conduct weekly self-inspections of the construction site and to maintain sediment and stormwater controls in working order.
- Weekly self-inspections, including documentation of those inspections, should continue until a directive is made that prevents personnel from accessing construction sites.
- Owners and operators should prepare for a possible long-term shutdown of their construction sites by maintaining all construction site stormwater controls to full working order:
  - Ensure all perimeter controls are in place and functioning. Remove accumulated sediment from behind silt fence and compost filter logs.
  - Excavate accumulated sediment from sediment traps and sediment basins to restore the full storage volume. Excavate accumulated sediment from forebays.
  - Maintain inlet protection devices. Remove accumulated sediment from inlet protection Types IP-2 and IP-3.
  - Empty and cover dumpsters. Securely store all potential sources of pollution in a location where they will not come in contact with stormwater.
- Once areas of active construction have been suspended, they are likely to remain undisturbed for a period of 14 days or more. Temporary stabilization is critical. All disturbed areas on site should have temporary stabilization applied prior to any site shutdown.