I gave you the good, the bad … and the ugly begins now!

Problems with erosion

While erosion is a natural process, human activities have increased by 10-40 times the rate at which erosion is occurring globally. Excessive (or accelerated) erosion causes both ‘on-site’ and ‘off-site’ problems. On-site impacts include decreases in agricultural productivity and (on natural landscapes) ecological collapse, both because of loss of the nutrient-rich upper soil layers. In some cases, the eventual end result is desertification. Off-site effects include sedimentation of waterways and eutrophication of water bodies, as well as sediment-related damage to roads and houses. Water and wind erosion are the two primary causes of land degradation; combined, they are responsible for about 84% of the global extent of degraded land, making excessive erosion one of the most significant environmental problems world-wide.

The Switchgrass solution

Switchgrass Filters are placed along the perimeter of a site, or at intervals along a slope, to capture and treat storm water that runs off as sheet flow. They are flexible, making them especially useful on steep or rocky slopes where installation of other erosion control tools is not feasible. With Switchgrass Filters there is greater surface area contact with soil than typical sediment control devices, thereby reducing the potential for runoff to create rills under the device and/or create channels carrying unfiltered sediment.

Product Information

8” Switchgrass ................... 150ft./ pallet
12” Switchgrass ................... 135ft./ pallet
18” Switchgrass ................... 50ft./ pallet
24” Switchgrass ................... 30ft./ pallet

Custom sizes and lengths available upon request

A sturdy polypropylene geotextile (woven) that has been engineered specifically for controlling erosion and containing and/or retaining sediment in disturbed areas. It is a mesh tube filled with Switchgrass material that is placed perpendicular to sheet-flow runoff. The Switchgrass Filter, which is oval to round in cross section, provides a three-dimensional filter that retains sediment and other pollutants (e.g., suspended solids, tannic acid, nitrates, phosphate’s and motor oil) while allowing the cleaned water to flow through. The Switchgrass Filter can be used in place of traditional sediment and erosion control tools such as a silt fence, straw bale barrier and mulch socks. This product and process is patent pending.
Switchgrass is the right choice for removing settleable solids, total suspended solids and turbidity reduction from sediment laden water. The filters are at least as effective as traditional erosion and sediment control BMP’s and often are more effective in retaining sediment and other pollutants.

The Enhancements of Switchgrass

Switchgrass is lighter than wood chips and other products now being used in filter socks, making it more ergonomic and less strenuous for laborers to install.

Switchgrass is a neutral product having little to no heavy metal in its makeup; other products used such as wood chips hold toxins that leach into the soil. Wood chips with toxic (heavy) metals such as lead, arsenic or cadmium cause a serious concern, because once these elements enter the soil, they can persist for a long time. Livestock, especially horses, that drink the runoff from some types of wood chips in filter socks that pool water at times may cause said livestock to colic and die.

Our switchgrass product has been tested by the BETA Laboratory and determined to be 100% biodegradable.

Light and easy to install
Decomposes naturally
Tested and proven to reduce turbidity and phosphate & nitrate levels.
Has been shown to reduce tannic acids levels
Made from a mesh that is water permeable and photodegradable.
Allows for a greater water flow-through when compared to a similar mass of wood chips

Extensive testing of our Big Switch erosion control product has been carried out by Zane State College Students.

www.thefacilitators.net
740-680-0343