



USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference

[Evaluation of Standards for Compost Blankets in Stormwater Control](#)

Stormwater management has become an increasingly important consideration in the construction industry. Recently, the United States Environmental Protection Agency implemented Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Phase II imposes stormwater regulations on construction sites disturbing soil between 1 and 5 acres (under Phase I, 5 acres and larger are regulated).

Stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion and prevent water quality impairments from construction sites are being utilized. More specifically, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has approved the use of compost as a stormwater best management practice during highway construction. The goal of this research is to use rainfall simulation to evaluate the TxDOT compost specifications. The specific objective of this research will be to compare runoff and erosion from a standard TxDOT practice to three blanket applied composts.

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