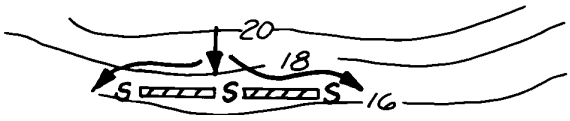
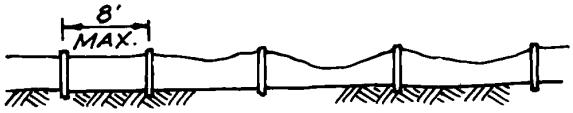
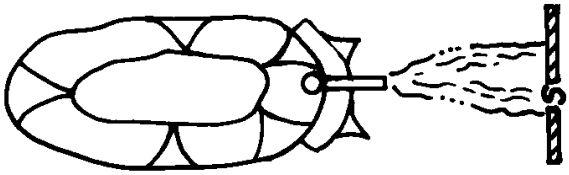
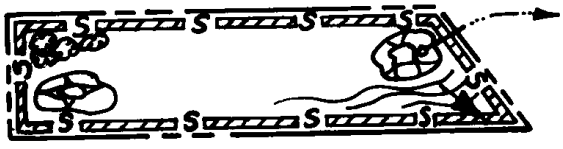
Center for Watershed Protection
Keeping Soil in Its Place – Erosion and Sediment Control
Example Citizen Erosion and Sediment Control Checklist

Temporary Stabilization			
1. Have disturbed areas outside the perimeter silt fence been seeded or mulched?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
2. Have soil stockpiles been covered or stabilized?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
3. Have disturbed areas been stabilized?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
4. Is the stream buffer undisturbed?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
5. Are slopes on the site free of any gullies or rills?			
Permanent Stabilization			
6. Has rock rip-rap been placed under all storm water outfall pipes to prevent scouring in the receiving stream or erosion of the receiving channel?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
7. For sites with steep slopes, is the runoff flowing to the bottom in a controlled manner so as to not cause more erosion?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
Construction Entrances			
8. Is there a stabilized construction entrance 20 feet wide and at least 50 feet long at every point that vehicles enter or exit a site?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
9. If the entrance is placed across a ditch or stream, is a culvert pipe used to allow runoff to flow under the drive and prevent bank erosion?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
10. Is the stone or gravel pad installed at a depth of at least 6 inches for the entire length and width of the stabilized construction entrance?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
11. Is the road clear of any construction dirt or debris?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
Sediment Ponds			
12. Are concentrated flows of runoff directed to the pond?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
13. Have the embankments of the pond and the areas that lie downstream been stabilized?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
Silt Fence			
14. Is the fence free of any tears or gaps?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
15. Is the fence at least 4 to 6 inches into the ground, backfilled, and compacted to prevent runoff from cutting underneath the fence??	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
16. Is the fence tight enough so that it will not sag when water builds up behind it?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
17. Are the ends of the fence curved up to prevent runoff from going around the fence?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
18. Is the fence placed on a level contour?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL

Drain Inlet Protection			
19. Is the fabric around the inlet free of any tears or snags?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
20. For curb inlet protection, does the fabric cover the whole grate?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
21. Is the fabric installed in such a way as to prevent water from flowing under it?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
22. For yard inlet protection, is the fabric supported by a wood frame?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
23. Is the area around the inlet clear of sediment?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
Matting			
24. Is the erosion control blanket or turf reinforcement matting installed correctly with no gaps exposing dirt?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ CAN'T TELL
Other Observations			

When reporting on deficient erosion and sediment controls, include information on:

- The exact location (county, township, distance from nearest intersection, or directions to the site)
- The date you witnessed the event
- The watershed (nearest creek, river, or stream)
- The type of project or activity (commercial, residential, road, or utility)
- The name of the development
- Weather conditions

Silt Fence Evaluation – Check All That Apply	
 ☐ Slope to length ratio too high	 ☐ Does not account for construction traffic
 ☐ Edges not pointed uphill	 ☐ Contributing length greater than 100’
 ☐ Not installed parallel to contours	 ☐ Bottom of fabric is not properly entrenched
 ☐ Distance between posts > 8’	 ☐ Installed below a pipe outlet
 ☐ Receives concentrated flow	 ☐ Installed uphill of disturbed area
 ☐ Sediment buildup reduces treatment capacity	 ☐ Alignment reflects property line not ESC needs

Notes