

SECTION 9

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Accelerated soil erosion means the increased loss of the land surface that occurs as a result of human activities.

Agricultural Practices means all land farming operations except plowing or tilling of land for the purpose of crop production or the harvesting of crops.

APA is an acronym for Authorized Public Agency

Authorized Public Agency (APA) means a state agency or an agency of a local unit of government authorized by the MDEQ under Section 9110 of Part 91 to implement soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures with regard to earth changes undertaken by it.

Backwater means the increased depth of water upstream of a restriction or obstruction, such as a dam, bridge or culvert.

Base Flow means the portion of stream flow that is not due to runoff from precipitation, usually supported by water seepage from natural storage areas such as groundwater, a waterbody or wetlands.

Bulkhead means a plug installed in a sewer pipe constructed of concrete, brick, or masonry to block to prevent flow into or out of a conveyance system.

Certified Storm Water Operator means a person who has a valid Storm Water Operator for Construction Sites Certification from the MDEQ.

Conservation District (CD) means a conservation district authorized under Part 93, Soil Conservation Districts, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, being 324.9301 *et seq.* of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

County Enforcing Agency (CEA) means the county agency, designated by the County Board of Commissioners under Section 9105 of Part 91 that is responsible for administration and enforcement of Part 91 and the Rules.

Discharge means the volume of water passing a point in a given time and is often expressed as cubic feet per second.

Earth Change means a human-made change in the natural cover or topography of land, including cut and fill activities, which may result in or contribute to soil erosion or sedimentation of the Waters of the State. Earth change does not include the practice of plowing and tilling soil for the purpose of crop production. Earth change does include digging in the ditch, grubbing, leveling spoils, stump removal, deposition of spoils, laying back slopes, culvert replacement, placement of riprap, armoring a drain bank.

Earth Change Permit or **Permit** means an earth change permit issued by a County Enforcing Agency or a Municipal Enforcing Agency authorizing work to be performed under the provisions of Part 91, the Rules, or a local SESC ordinance.

Engineer means a person, firm or corporation providing professional engineering design expertise to the County Drain Commissioner.

Forebay means a small, separate storage area near the inlet to a stormwater or sediment basin, used to trap and settle incoming sediments before they enter the basin.

Geotextile fabric means non-woven geotextile filter fabric.

Grading means any leveling, stripping, excavating, filling, stockpiling or any combination thereof and shall include the land in its excavated or filled condition.

Grubbing means the removal of tree stumps and roots from below ground.

Harmful Interference means causing an unnaturally high stage or unnatural direction of flow on a river or stream that causes, or may cause, damage to property, a threat to life, a threat of personal injury, or a threat to water resources.

Lake means the Great Lakes and all natural and artificial inland lakes or impounds that have definite banks, a bed, visible evidence of continued occurrence of water, and a surface area of water that is equal to, or greater than 1 acre. Lake does not include sediment basins and basins constructed for the sole purpose of storm water retention, cooling water, or treating polluted water.

Landowner means the person who owns or holds a recorded easement on the property or who is engaged in construction in a public right-of-way in accordance with sections 13, 14, 15, and 16 of Highway Obstructions and Encroachments; use of Highway by Public Utilities, 1925 PA 368, as amended, being 247.183, 247.184, 247.185, and 247.186 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Live stake means a stake made from acceptable species; live, rootable, vegetative cuttings inserted into the ground.

MDEQ is an acronym for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Timber means trees having a stump diameter of 6 inches or more.

Municipal Enforcing Agency (MEA) means an agency designated by a municipality under Section 9106 of Part 91 to enforce a Local Ordinance that has been approved by the MDEQ.

Municipality means any of the following:

- a. A city.
- b. A village.
- c. A charter township.
- d. A general law township that is located in a county with a population of 200,000 or more.

Non-erosive velocity means a speed of water movement that is not conducive to the development of accelerated soil erosion.

NPDES is an acronym for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

Ordinary High-Water Mark means the line between upland and bottomland that persists through successive changes in water levels, below which the presence and action of the water is so common or recurrent that the character of the land is marked distinctly from the upland and is apparent in the soil itself, the configuration of the surface of the soil, and the vegetation. On an inland lake that has a level established by law, it means the established high (summer) level. Where water returns to its natural level as the result of the permanent removal or abandonment of a dam, it means the natural ordinary high-water mark.

Part 91 means Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, being 324.9101 *et seq.* of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Permanent Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures means those control measures, which are installed or constructed to control soil erosion and sedimentation and which are maintained after project completion.

Piping is when seepage is transporting soil.

Plunge pool means a deep pool into which water falls that is provided for energy dissipation.

Point bars means ridges of deposited material located in the streambed.

Rules means the rules promulgated pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, being 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws for the administration of Part 91.

Runoff means the excess portion of precipitation that does not infiltrate into the ground, but runs off and reaches a stream, waterbody, or storm sewer.

Sediment means solid particulate matter, including both mineral and organic matter that is in suspension in water, is being transported, or has been removed from its site of origin by the actions of wind, water, or gravity and has been deposited elsewhere.

Sediment Basin means a naturally occurring or constructed depression used for the sole purpose of capturing sediment during and after an earth change activity.

Sheet Flow means runoff which flows over the ground surface as a thin, even layer, and not concentrated in a channel.

Site means the location at which the work is to be performed.

Soft armor means installation of a vegetated erosion protection by such methods as live staking or brush blankets.

Soil Erosion means the wearing away of land by the action of wind, water, or gravity; or a combination of wind, water, or gravity.

Stabilization means the establishment of vegetation or the proper placement, grading, or covering of soil to ensure its resistance to soil erosion, sliding, or other earth movement.

State Agency means a principal state department or a state public university.

Stilling Basin means a short length of paved channel generally placed at the foot of a spillway to dissipate energy before the flow reaches the exposed and unpaved riverbed downstream.

Storm Water Retention Basin means an area which is constructed to capture surface water runoff and which does not discharge directly to a lake or stream through an outlet. Water leaves the basin by infiltration and evaporation.

Stream as defined by Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams of the NREPA, means a natural or artificial river, stream, or creek which may or may not be serving as a drain as defined by the drain code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, that has definite banks, a bed, and visible evidence of a continued flow or continued occurrence of water (intermittent flow), including the St. Marys, St. Clair, and Detroit Rivers.

Stream as defined by Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the NREPA, means a river, creek, or other surface watercourse which may or may not be serving as a drain as defined in The Drain Code of 1956, 1956 PA 40, as amended, being 280.1 *et seq.* of the Michigan Compiled Laws, and which has definite banks, a bed, and visible evidence of the continued flow or continued occurrence of water, including the connecting waters of the Great Lakes.

Swale means a natural depression or wide shallow ditch used to temporarily or permanently convey, store, or filter runoff.

Tailwater means the depth or elevation of water at the downstream end of a structure, such as a bridge, culvert or dam.

Temporary Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Measures means interim control measures which are installed or constructed to control soil erosion and sedimentation and which are not maintained after project completion.

Violation of Part 91 or **Violates Part 91** means a violation of Part 91, or the Rules.

Waters of the State means the Great Lakes and their connecting waters, inland lakes and streams, as defined in the Rules, and wetlands regulated under Part 303, Wetlands Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, being 324.30301 *et seq.* of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Weather Resistant Stone means stone that will not absorb water that would freeze and then crack the stone.

Weir means a structure that extends across the width of a channel, and is used to impound, measure, or in some way alter the channel flow. Weirs are often constructed of concrete or sheet piling.