SOIL AND VEGETATION PROTECTION STANDARDS
FOR FENCING DURING CONSTRUCTION

Keeping soil out of Lake Tahoe and its waterways is the central objective of the Basin-wide Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) and the BMP Retrofit Program. Yet the simplest way to stop sediment going into the Lake is to not disturb the natural vegetation and soil structure which have kept Lake Tahoe so clear and blue for millions of years. The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) was created to set environmental protection standards and regulate human activity associated with building and development in the Lake Tahoe Region.

Since it is so important to prevent disturbances which lead to soil erosion, TRPA set fencing and protection standards for all construction sites in the Basin in its Code of Ordinances. TRPA Ordinances are environmental laws protecting Lake Tahoe and are meant to help the public act responsibly toward this beautiful, fragile area.

In general, the type of fence and where on a construction site put it is explained here and applies to all projects within the Tahoe Basin.

- **Fencing specified must be at least 48 inches high and be constructed of metal posts and either orange construction fencing or metal mesh fencing.**

- **No material or equipment can enter or be placed in the areas protected by fencing or outside construction areas without prior approval from TRPA. Fences also cannot be moved.**

- **To reduce soil disturbance and damage to vegetation during construction, work must be limited to the area between the footprint of the building and the public road. For the remainder of the site, areas of disturbance cannot exceed 12 feet from the footprint of the structure, parking area or cut/fill slope. Your approved plans will show the fencing and approved exceptions.**

TRPA recognizes that construction sites are busy, complicated work environments. It may not be possible to brief every worker or delivery person about which areas of a project site on which work can occur and which need to be protected. That is why a sturdy fence around protected areas and your consistent enforcement are the best methods of protecting vegetation and soil so that Lake Tahoe remains clear.

TRPA fencing standards are illustrated on the back page. While there are explanations, these should be made on the plan sheet before the project is approved. In-the-field changes can be made, but only with TRPA Project Review Services approval.

It’s not what is happening on someone else’s construction site that threatens Lake Tahoe’s clarity. It’s what you and all of us together are doing that will have a lasting impact on the environmental and economic health of the entire region.
12" Fiber or coir roll

4" Trench

Wood stakes, bound at top

Finished grade

Note: Align filter roll along contours

**Fiber Roll Placement**

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Tree protection fencing (Sec. 30.14)

12' maximum*

* Unless specifically identified on approved construction drawings

Wood stake

Filter fence

Native soil

Key in fence

Note: Align filter fence along contours

**Filter Fence**

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Dripline of tree(s) (typical)

Orange plastic fencing or wire mesh fencing 48 inches tall

48-inch tall metal fence posts

**Soil and Tree Protection**

**NOTES:**
1. Placing any material - temporary or otherwise - within protective fencing OR entering protection areas may result in up to a $5,000 penalty per violation per day. (Sect 65.2 I and J)
2. These conditions are part of all projects as conditions of attachments R, S, and Q.
3. Metal or wire mesh fencing may be required.