

**SECTION 15
GRADING, EXCAVATING AND FILLING**

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SECTION 15
TRENCHING, BACKFILLING AND COMPACTING FOR UTILITIES

15.1 GENERAL

No person shall grade or fill any property within the City of Groveland municipal limits without authorization from the City of Groveland. Exemptions to this requirement are:

- 15.1.1 When approved by the Building Official and/or the City Engineer, grading in an isolated, self-contained area if there is no danger to private or public property and there is no additional runoff from the site, no change in the direction of the runoff patterns and no deviation from permit conditions.
- 15.1.2 An excavation below finished grade for basements and footings of a building, retaining wall or other structure authorized by a valid building permit.
- 15.1.3 Cemetery gravesites.
- 15.1.4 Refuse disposal sites controlled by other regulatory entities.
- 15.1.5 Excavation for wells, tunnels or utilities.
- 15.1.6 Mining, quarrying, excavating, processing, stockpiling of rock, sand, gravel, aggregate or clay where established and provided for by law, provided such operations do not affect the lateral support or increase the stresses in or pressure upon any adjacent or contiguous property.
- 15.1.7 Exploratory excavations under the direction of soil engineers or engineering geologists.
- 15.1.8 An excavation which (1) is less than two feet in depth, or (2) does not create a cut slope greater than 5 feet in height and steeper than 1 unit vertical to 1½ units horizontal.
- 15.1.9 Fill less than 1 foot in depth and placed on natural terrain with a slope flatter than 1 unit vertical in 5 units horizontal, or less than 3 feet in depth, not intended to support structures, which does not exceed 50 cubic yards on any one lot and does not obstruct a drainage course.

15.2 MATERIALS

15.2.1 Fill Material

Fill material shall be clean soil only and shall be free of any asphaltic concrete Portland cement concrete, boulders, metal, stumps, chemical contaminants, hazardous or toxic wastes or substances, radioactive or organic waste material, agricultural or industrial waste material, sludge or residues, drums or containers, trash, litter or debris of any kind.

15.2.2 Materials for Sedimentation Control

Materials for sedimentation control shall be commercially manufactured products for silt barriers, floating turbidity barriers and geotextiles, which comply with the requirements of the

applicable sections of the FDOT Standard Specifications. Hay bales may also be used where appropriate, if securely baled, properly installed and staked as shown in the standard details.

15.2.2 Grassing

Grassing shall match that of the surrounding areas. Seed, sod and mulch shall comply with FDOT Standard Specifications, Section 981. Fertilizer shall comply with FDOT Section 982 and water shall comply with FDOT Section 983

15.3 EXECUTION

- 15.3.1 Sedimentation control systems shall be in place prior to the start of any construction activities. These shall be inspected daily and shall be maintained in good order throughout the course of the construction.
- 15.3.2 All necessary and required City, County, State and Federal permits shall be submitted to the City prior to start of any grading, filling, excavating, dredging, and/or stockpiling.
- 15.3.3 Soil tracking prevention measures, including a gravel construction entrance shall be installed prior to the beginning of work.
- 15.3.4 Contractor must notify the Engineering Inspector 24 hours prior to start of any grading, excavating and/or filling operation.
- 15.3.5 Excavating must be carried out in the dry, to the extent possible. Water from dewatering activities must be properly contained and disposed of and shall not be allowed to runoff onto adjacent properties unless written permission is granted by the property owner. Proper sedimentation control features shall be in place around water discharge points. Where required, the contractor shall obtain a water management district dewatering permit before commencing.
- 15.3.6 Excavated materials shall be properly disposed. Disposal areas and fill areas must be approved by the City of Groveland. No excavated materials shall be disposed of or stockpiled without written permission of the property owner. The City shall be provided with a copy of the written approval prior to deposition of any materials.
- 15.3.7 If any muck or muck-like material is discovered, it will be required to be removed, backfilled with appropriate fill, compacted, and tested using AASHTO T-180/ASTM D-1557, Modified Proctor Method.
- 15.3.8 No burying of any organic materials is permitted.
- 15.3.9 All vegetation and topsoil must be removed prior to the filling of future roadway and lot areas. Topsoil shall be stockpiled for future use.
- 15.3.10 Any burning of any materials on-site must be approved and permitted by the Florida Division of Forestry.
- 15.3.11 Temporary fill stockpiling is not permitted in lifts greater than six feet and must be provided with sedimentation control measures.
- 15.3.12 Vegetated and undisturbed buffers at the base of the slope on the subject property may be utilized as an alternative to sediment fence.

- 15.3.13 Stockpiles that will remain in place in excess of 20 days shall be seeded and mulched immediately upon placement of final lift.
- 15.3.14 Fill is to be performed in one foot lifts, except for structures other than streets and sidewalks. For buildings and other structures, lifts shall be six inches. Compaction shall be 98% for paved areas and under structures and 95% for unpaved areas and future building pads as measured by AASHTO T-180/ASTM D-1557, Modified Proctor Test.
- 15.3.15 For filling of proposed lots in conjunction with site development, compaction tests shall be performed on the building lots at 300 foot intervals. The tests shall be performed in one foot vertical increments.
- 15.3.16 Results, certified by a licensed testing laboratory shall be submitted to the City upon completion of the tests.
- 15.3.17 Soils shall be stabilized using non-potable water or other means during construction to reduce soil erosion and impacts to neighboring sites. Contractor shall employ all necessary measures to control erosion and sedimentation including but not limited to, installation of silt fence, hay bales, and floating turbidity barriers.
- 15.3.18 Sediment fence shall be installed at the base of the disturbed area or stockpile where slopes exceed 5%.
- 15.3.19 No harmful or increased erosion, shoaling of channels or stagnant areas of water shall be created from grading, excavating or filling operations. No additional runoff shall result. There shall be no change in flow patterns or direction of runoff. No ditches, pipes or other runoff conveyances shall be blocked, diverted or otherwise impeded.
- 15.3.20 Once an area is seeded or sodded, the grass shall be maintained until a healthy stand of grass is established. Maintenance shall continue until at least the first mowing.