



Environmental
Protection Agency

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

June 21, 2011

RE: COLUMBIANA COUNTY
DAMASCUS
DAMASCUS FRIENDS CHURCH
CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER

Mr. Gary Steer
Damascus Friends Church
PO Box 205
Damascus, OH 44619

Dear Mr. Steer:

On June 14, 2011, I performed an inspection at the above-referenced site to determine compliance with the Ohio EPA General Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Construction Activities #3GC04788*AG. Our records indicate that Damascus Friends Church was granted coverage under the NPDES permit on February 8, 2010.

It appears that construction activities are complete. Please be aware that NPDES permit coverage must be terminated within 45 days of when the site reaches final stabilization. Final stabilization means that all soil disturbing activities at the site are complete and a uniform perennial vegetative cover (i.e., evenly distributed, without large bare areas) has reached a growth density of 70% or greater on all unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures. Equivalent stabilization measures, such as the use of landscape mulches, rip-rap, or gabions, may be employed, where appropriate, in lieu of vegetation. Also, all temporary erosion and sediment control practices must be removed and disposed, and all sediment trapped by these practices must be permanently stabilized.

In addition, post-construction water quality best management practices (post-construction BMPs) must be installed, and a long-term maintenance plan must be provided to the party that will be responsible for long-term maintenance of those practices, e.g., homeowners' association. Post-construction BMPs are permanent site features that will remain in perpetuity to improve the quality of storm water runoff from the development site. Examples of post-construction BMPs include, but are not limited to, extended detention basins, bioretention cells (or "rain gardens"), sand filters, permeable pavement, and enhanced swales. In some cases, post-construction BMPs include non-structural preservation areas such as riparian setbacks and conservation easements.

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During my inspection of your site, I noted that some areas in the back of the property lack appropriate stabilization (Figures 1 and 2). As a result, sediment has been tracked onto the paved parking lot (Figure 3). Please bring these areas to final stabilization, clean all paved areas, and ensure that post-construction BMPs have been installed. Then, when you determine that your site has reached final stabilization, you must submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) to Ohio EPA to terminate NPDES permit coverage. The form and instructions are available on our website at www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/storm/stormform.aspx. If you are unable to bring your site to final stabilization and submit an NOT, please provide me with a letter of explanation indicating why NPDES permit coverage cannot yet be terminated within seven days of receiving this letter. Otherwise, please submit the NOT and appropriate verification that you have corrected the above issues within seven days of receiving this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (330) 963-1128.

Sincerely,



Michelle Hummel
Assistant to the District Engineer
Division of Surface Water

MH/mt

cc: Columbiana County SWCD



Figure 1 – The rear part of the property lacks vegetation.

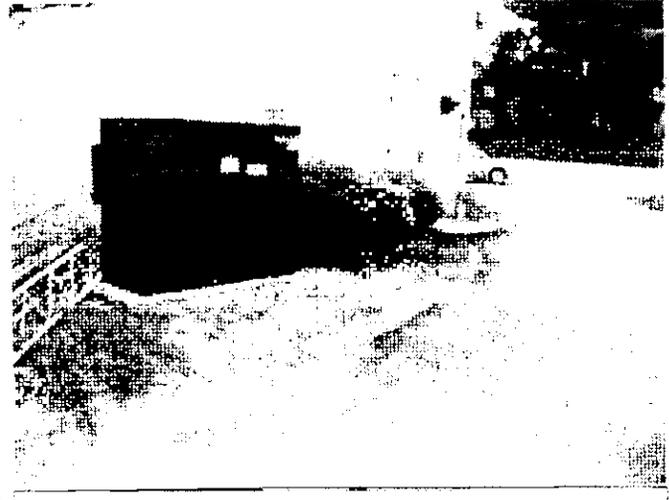


Figure 2 – The area surrounding the dumpster lacks stabilization.



Figure 3 – Sediment is being tracked on the paved parking lot.