

Which Silt Fence do you need in Virginia?

Are you on a VDOT project or a project that requires VDOT Standards?

Yes

No

Was the project designed or let before or after April 2019?

Then the silt fence must meet DEQ standards

Before

After

Did the VDOT Engineer or Contractor agree to implement the new 2019 standard?

Is the specification for Type A or Type B Silt Fence?

Does the silt fence need to be reinforced with welded wire?

No

Yes

Type A

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 4' O.C.

Type B

36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 4' O.C.

No Reinforcement Needed

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.

OR

36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 6' O.C.

Yes, Needs Reinforcement

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 10' O.C.

OR

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with 5' Steel Posts, 10' O.C.

Is the specification for Type A or Type B Silt Fence?

Type A

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.

OR

36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 6' O.C.

Type B

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 10' O.C.

OR

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with 5' Steel Posts, 10' O.C.

Other common silt fence standards

Standards on private projects vary greatly but the following are common practice

Without Reinforcement

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 48" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.

OR

42" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.

With Reinforcement

Super Silt Fence

42" Super Silt Fence Fabric with Chain Link with 2.5" x 6" Galvanized Line Poles, 10' O.C.

OR

Welded Wire Reinforced

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with 5' Steel Posts, 10' O.C.

Steel Posts can be painted or unpainted. VDOT requires a Steel Post with a minimum weight of 1.25 pounds per linear foot. DEQ requires a Steel Post with a minimum weight of 1.33 pounds per linear foot.

This flow chart is intended to help identify products based on common VA silt fence standards. Always refer to project plans, contract and engineer before purchasing or installing silt fence.

Virginia Silt Fence Standards and Specifications

Virginia Department of Transportation

VDOT- Roads and Bridges Specifications, 2016

http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/const/VDOT_2016_RB_Specs.pdf

EC-5 Type A

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.
36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 6' O.C.

EC-5 Type B

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 10' O.C.
36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with 5' Steel Posts, 10' O.C.
Two rows of Type A installed parallel three to five feet apart can be used as alternative to Type B unless prohibited by Contract.

VDOT- Roads and Bridges Specifications, 2019

http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/const/VDOT_2020_RB_Specs.pdf

EC-5 Type A

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 4' O.C.

EC-5 Type B

36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 4' O.C.

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Virginia DEQ – Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook (VESCH), 1992 Section 3.05

https://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Water/StormwaterManagement/Erosion_Sediment_Control_Handbook/Chapter%203%20-%203.05.pdf

Silt Fence

36" Silt Fence with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 6' O.C.
36" Silt Fence with 5' Steel Posts, 6' O.C.

Fabric should attach to posts with tie wire or heavy duty staples

Wire Reinforced

36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with Nominal 2" x 2" x 60" Oak Stakes, 10' O.C.
36" Silt Fence with 3' 14 Gauge Welded Wire with 5' Steel Posts, 10' O.C.

Fabric should attach to posts with tie wire, hog rings or 1" heavy duty staples

*Always consult contract, project engineer and project specifications before purchasing or installing silt fence.
Updated June 2020*

If a project is bid or let prior to the April 2019 publication of the revised standard, then the prior standard still applies, unless the VDOT Engineer and contractor agree to apply the new standard. Projects bid and let after April 2019, or where the VDOT Engineer and contractor agree, must use the revised EC-5 standard. In no case should the older and revised standards be mixed.

Note:

Type A = fill slopes 20 feet or less
Type B = fill slopes 20 feet or greater

SKAPS W100 is Colonial's VDOT Silt Fence and is approved on List No. 63 for Temporary Silt Fence 245.03(a) Fabric for Type A and Type B Silt Fence

Steel Posts can be painted or unpainted. VDOT requires a Steel Post with a minimum weight of 1.25 pounds per linear foot. DEQ requires a Steel Post with a minimum weight of 1.33 pounds per linear foot.