

SAFE HARBOR

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
HABITAT RESTORATION



CONCRETE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

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Concrete is a lime-based product with alkaline chemical properties. Cape Cod's ground water has acidic properties limiting available nutrients for native plants and wetlands. Concrete products and rinse water percolating into ground water can create anomalous nutrient loading. Here are a few green building strategies that protect ground water quality and vegetation, especially near wetlands. Concrete work may include footings, foundations and slabs. Concrete trucks and pump trucks will need a location to clean out and rinse their delivery systems.



Site access may require distance delivery, with a concrete truck and pumper truck.



Multiple pour projects can use a temporary form box for chute clean out.



Pump trucks can utilize a large tarp dug into a backfill pile for excess concrete.



Plastic swimming pools are useful for containing smaller amounts of concrete.



Single pour projects can utilize a tarp or plastic for any excess concrete.



Over-pour should not be viewed as a waste product, but as a resource. After it has set, it can be broken up with a sledgehammer and used as fill for dry wells.



Inexpensive polyethylene liners under footings and slab forms protect ground water pH by preventing alkaline percolation while also providing a moisture barrier.



Liners create a stronger set by retaining moisture and act as a vapor barrier, which excludes ground moisture from the concrete structure.

Build Green; keep chemicals out of groundwater.

Safe Harbor offers free consultations for managing concrete projects.

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