Description and Purpose
Stockpile management procedures and practices are designed to reduce or eliminate air and stormwater pollution from stockpiles of soil, soil amendments, sand, paving materials such as Portland cement concrete (PCC) rubble, asphalt concrete (AC), asphalt concrete rubble, aggregate base, aggregate sub base or pre-mixed aggregate, asphalt binder (so called “cold mix” asphalt), and pressure treated wood.

Suitable Applications
Implement in all projects that stockpile soil and other loose materials.

Limitations
- Plastic sheeting as a stockpile protection is temporary and hard to manage in windy conditions. Where plastic is used, consider use of plastic tarps with nylon reinforcement which may be more durable than standard sheeting.

- Plastic sheeting can increase runoff volume due to lack of infiltration and potentially cause perimeter control failure.

- Plastic sheeting breaks down faster in sunlight.

- The use of plastic materials and photodegradable plastics should be avoided.

Implementation
Protection of stockpiles is a year-round requirement. To properly manage stockpiles:

Potential Alternatives
None
On larger sites, a minimum of 50 ft separation from concentrated flows of stormwater, drainage courses, and inlets is recommended.

Protect all stockpiles from stormwater run-on using temporary perimeter sediment barriers such as compost berms (SE-13), temporary silt dikes (SE-12), fiber rolls (SE-5), silt fences (SE-1), sandbags (SE-8), gravel bags (SE-6), or biofilter bags (SE-14). Refer to the individual fact sheet for each of these controls for installation information.

Implement wind erosion control practices as appropriate on all stockpiled material. For specific information, see WE-1, Wind Erosion Control.

Manage stockpiles of contaminated soil in accordance with WM-7, Contaminated Soil Management.

Place bagged materials on pallets and under cover.

Ensure that stockpile coverings are installed securely to protect from wind and rain.

Some plastic covers withstand weather and sunlight better than others. Select cover materials or methods based on anticipated duration of use.

**Protection Stockpiles**

**Soil stockpiles**

- Soil stockpiles should be covered or protected with soil stabilization measures and a temporary perimeter sediment barrier when not in active use.

- The downstream perimeter of an active stockpile should be protected with a linear sediment barrier or berm and runoff should be diverted around or away from the stockpile on the upstream perimeter.

- Temporary vegetation should be considered for topsoil piles that will be stockpiled for extended periods.

- Replace covers and berms of active pile before the onset of precipitation and at the end of the workday.

**Stockpiles of Portland cement concrete rubble, asphalt concrete, asphalt concrete rubble, aggregate base, or aggregate sub base**

- Stockpiles should be covered and protected with a temporary perimeter sediment barrier at all times.

- Replace covers and berms of active pile before the onset of precipitation and at the end of the workday.

**Stockpiles of “cold mix”**

- Cold mix stockpiles should be placed on and covered with plastic sheeting or comparable material at all times and surrounded by a berm when not in active use. Cover piles before the onset of precipitation.
Replace covers and berms of active pile before the onset of precipitation and at the end of the workday.

Stockpiles of fly ash, stucco, hydrated lime

- Stockpiles of materials that may raise the pH of runoff (i.e., basic materials) should be covered with plastic and surrounded by a berm when not in active use.
- Replace covers and berms of active pile before the onset of precipitation and at the end of the workday.

Stockpiles/Storage of treated wood

- Treated wood should be covered with plastic sheeting or comparable material at all times and surrounded by a berm.
- Replace covers and berms of active pile before the onset of precipitation and at the end of the workday.

Costs

For cost information associated with stockpile protection refer to the individual erosion or sediment control BMP fact sheet considered for implementation (For example, refer to SE-1 Silt Fence for installation of silt fence around the perimeter of a stockpile.)

Inspection and Maintenance

- Inspect and verify that BMPs are in place prior to the commencement of associated activities.
- Inspect stockpiles at the end of each workday and prior to forecasted rain events.
- It may be necessary to inspect stockpiles covered with plastic sheeting more frequently during certain conditions (for example, high winds or extreme heat).
- Repair and/or replace perimeter controls and covers as needed to keep them functioning properly.
- Sediment shall be removed when it reaches one-third of the barrier height.