

PROJECT NO.	SHEET

Topsoiling

Bonding - After and immediately prior to dumping and spreading the topsoil, the subgrade should be loosened by disking and scarifying to a depth of at least two inches to insure bonding of the topsoil and subsoil.

Applying Topsoil
Topsoil should be handled when it is dry enough to work without damaging soil structure. A uniform application of 4 to 6 inches unsettled should be made.

No sod or seed should be placed on soil which has been treated with soil sterilants until sufficient time has elapsed to permit dissipation of toxic materials.

General Notes
There are advantages and disadvantages in topsoiling:

- Stripping, stockpiling, reapplying or importing topsoil may not always be cost-effective. Topsoiling can delay seeding or sodding operations and increase the exposure time of denuded areas. Also, most topsoils contain weed seeds, and weeds may compete with desirable species.
- On the other hand, the advantages of topsoil include its high organic matter content, friable nature, water-holding capacity, and nutrient content, which makes it an excellent medium for growth and greatly reduces chances of failure.

Further, preparing a seedbed in subsoil may be considered instead of topsoiling, as some subsoils may provide a good growth medium which is generally free of weed seeds.

If topsoiling is to be done, it should be determined if an adequate volume of topsoil exists on the site. The stockpile should be located for proper non-erosive drainage and such that it does not interfere with work on the site. Sufficient time should be allowed for spreading and bonding topsoil

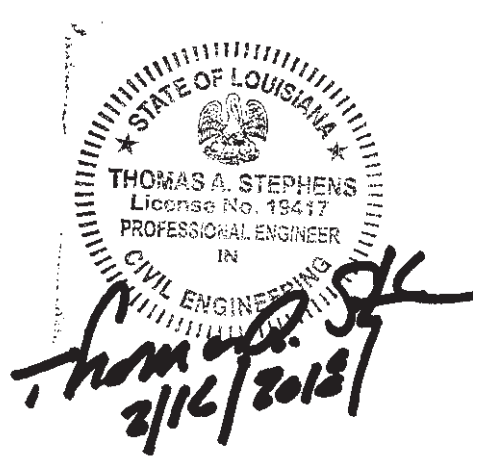
BMP 31
Department of Public Works

Topsoiling

prior to seeding, sodding or planting; topsoil and subsoil should be properly bonded. Topsoil should not be applied to a subsoil with contrasting texture (as a clay) unless the surface of the subsoil is scarified to provide a good bond with the topsoil.

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FOR INFORMATION PURPOSE ONLY



STANDARD PLAN NO. 903-01	DATED FEBRUARY 25, 2008	SHEET NO. 11 OF 11
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**STORM WATER POLLUTION
PREVENTION PLAN
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

ENGINEERING DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CITY OF BATON ROUGE & PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE			
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