

## DID YOU KNOW?

UNLIKE THE SANITARY SEWER,  
STORM DRAINS FLOW DIRECTLY  
INTO CREEKS WITHOUT ANY  
TREATMENT OR FILTRATION.

## USING WEIGHTED WATTLES

### WHAT IS A WEIGHTED WATTLE?

Weighted wattles (also known as weighted fiber rolls) consist of straw, coir, curled wood fiber, or other biodegradable materials bound into a tight tubular roll with an imbedded ballast core material such as gravel or sand.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO INSTALL WATTLES?

When placed at property perimeters and on the toe and face of slopes along the contours, they intercept runoff, reduce its flow velocity, release the runoff as sheet flow, and provide removal of sediment and debris (such as ash and other potential toxins from fire damaged properties) from the runoff. By interrupting the length of a slope, wattles can also reduce sheet and rill erosion until vegetation is established.

### WHERE CAN WEIGHTED WATTLES BE INSTALLED?

Weighted wattles are ideal for use on improved, paved surfaces or other areas where staking in place is not practical or desired. This includes:

- Driveways, pathways, patios, and other hard/rocky areas;
- Along the perimeter of the property and sidewalk planter strips;
- Around backyard drains and stockpiles;
- As check dams in ditches with minimal grade;
- Along the toe, top, face, and at grade breaks of exposed and erodible slopes to shorten slope length and spread runoff as sheet flow.
- *Weighted wattles should NOT be used in public sidewalks, streets or gutters unless specifically approved by your local agency, as this creates a safety hazard and blocks street sweepers.*

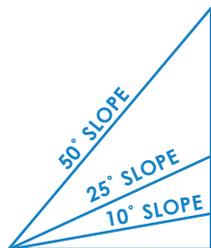
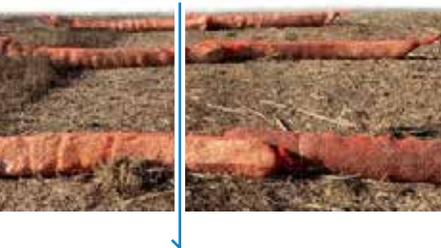


# POLLUTION PREVENTION GUIDES

## FOR INSTALLATION OF WEIGHTED WATTLES ON HARD/NON-PERMEABLE SURFACES:

It is critical that rolls are installed perpendicular to water movement, and parallel to the slope contour. A good rule-of-thumb for spacing of multiple contours (when needed) is:

FLOW



50 feet apart for slopes flatter than 10:1 (H:V) [ $<10^\circ$  slope]

20 feet apart for slopes from 4:1 to 10:1 (H:V) [ $10^\circ$  to  $25^\circ$  slope]

15 feet apart for slopes from 2:1 to 4:1 (H:V) [ $25^\circ$  to  $50^\circ$  slope]

10 feet apart for slopes steeper than 2:1 (H:V) [ $>50^\circ$  slope]

\*(H:V) H = Horizontal; V = Vertical

1. Overlap ends by at least 12" to 18". Rolls should be overlapped, NEVER abutted.
  - Overlap the wattle ends like shingles on a roof with the higher wattle on top of the lower wattle, so that water and sediment don't break through the joints.
  - It is recommended to fasten overlapped ends together.
    - Pass zip tie, tie wire, or other fastener through the loop at the end of each wattle and secure around the adjacent wattle. See example photo.
    - Fasteners can also be secured to solid structures like fence posts for added stability.
2. Turn the ends of the fiber roll up slope to prevent runoff from going around the roll.



## FOR INSTALLATION OF WEIGHTED WATTLES ON SOFTER SOIL:

Follow the directions above, with a few additional steps:



3. Dig a small trench across the slope of the contour. The trench depth should be 1/4 to 1/3 of the thickness of the roll, and the width should equal the roll diameter.
4. Backfill the trench after placement to ensure that there are no gaps between the soil and the bottom of the weighted wattle.
5. Use stakes on the downhill side of the weighted wattles.
  - Use 18" stakes for harder soils, 24" stakes for softer soils. Wood stakes are recommended as they are biodegradable.
  - Install stakes at each end and a maximum of 4 feet on center. Additionally, stake the end of each weighted wattle through the provided loop.
  - Make sure stakes are long enough to extend 2-3" above top of wattle after fully securing into ground.

## REQUIRED MAINTENANCE

- **Wattles should be inspected after each significant rainfall event to ensure there are no frays, gaps, or separating ends and routinely, at minimum every three months, in dry weather.**
- **Maintain fiber rolls to provide an adequate sediment holding capacity. Remove sediment and debris when the sediment accumulation reaches three quarters (3/4) of the barrier height.**
- **Damaged wattles should be replaced.**