

632.3.10 Composted Mulch

Composted mulch shall be used on slope ratios up to 2:1, as directed in the plans. A maximum layer of 2 in of composted mulch shall be spread evenly over slopes previously prepared in accordance with this Section.

Composted mulch shall be applied to prepared slopes with mechanical blower, pneumatic blower, manure spreader, mechanical spreader, manual application, front-end or skid-steer loader, or other method determined in the field by the Project Manager or Landscape Architect during the pre-project conference required in the plans. Newly placed composted mulch shall be watered in within 24 hours after placement, without disrupting the composted mulch layer, by evenly applying 12,000 gallons of water per acre of treated area.

For composted mulch applications less than 2 in deep, water application shall be reduced proportionately.

If required, seeding of treated slopes shall be accomplished in accordance with this Section.

603.2.6 Mulch Socks or Composted Mulch Socks

Core Material (Mulch): See Section 632, "Seeding" for mulch and composted mulch specifications.

Core Material (woodchips): The Material must be 100% untreated wood chip and free of inorganic debris, such as plastic, glass, metal, etc. Manufacturer shall certify that the material is free of noxious weeds.

Woodchip size shall not be smaller than 1 inch and shall not exceed 3 inches in diameter; shavings shall not be more than 5% of the total mass.

Containment Mesh: Furnish containment mesh 100% biodegradable, photodegradable such as burlap, twine, UV photodegradable plastic, polyester, or other acceptable Material as directed by the Project Manager. The mesh should not exceed 1/2 in in diameter.

Furnish biodegradable or photodegradable containment mesh when the socks will remain in place as part of the permanent or temporary vegetative plan. The containment mesh shall be greater than 9 inches in height after being packed; the containment mesh shall be densely packed so that the socks do not deform. The Project Manager will determine the maximum allowable height for containment mesh.

603.3.4 Mulch Socks or Composted Mulch Socks

Install the socks near the downstream perimeter of the disturbed area as shown on the SWPPP to intercept sediment from sheet flow, in the ditch as check dams, or as inlet protection as directed by the Project Manager. Close contact between the earth and sock should be maintained by removing rocks, debris and dirt clods. The socks will be interlocked or overlapped at the ends.

Anchoring should be adequate to prevent displacement during design rain events and to prevent flow under the socks. The anchors will be 2 in by 2 in wooden stakes or as approved by the Project Manager. Socks used as check dams or placed in areas where the flow is more concentrated will be staked.

632.2.5 Composted Mulch

Furnish and place composted mulch as shown on the plans and in accordance with the criteria as described below. Composted mulch provider must be registered with or permitted by the New Mexico Environment Department Solid Waste Bureau and must be in compliance with 20 NMAC 9.1.

Composted mulch is defined as the product of a controlled aerobic thermophilic biological decomposition process that meets the quality requirements in Table 632.2.5:1, "Quality Requirements for Composted Mulch." Raw materials used in producing composted mulch may include green waste, animal manure, animal bedding, paper waste, food waste, biosolids or other non-toxic organic matter, but shall not include animal mortalities.

Table 632.3.2:1
Material and Operations for Classes of Seeding

Material	Measure	Method	Criterion
All Composted Mulches	Moisture Content*	Evaporative loss at 105°C	No more than 80%
	Particle Size	Sieve	40% to 70% of material passes ¾ inch screen; 100% of pieces smaller than 4 inches in length and 2 inches in diameter
	Electrical Conductivity*	1:5 slurry (mass basis)	<10 mmho/cm
	pH*	1:5 slurry (mass basis)	pH 5.0 – pH 8.0
	Organic Matter*	Loss on ignition at 550°C	25% - 70% of dry weight
	Maturity	Minimum 50% germination to second set of leaves for marigold seeds in 50:50 (volume basis) mixture of ¾ inch screened composted mulch and twice-rinsed nursery sand.	
	Stability	Maximum core temperature of 110°F after 48 hours in 5 foot tall conical pile, with moisture adjusted to between 40% and 80%.	
Composted Mulches with Wastewater Biosolids	Debris	Less than 1% inorganic debris by volume, including, but not limited to, glass, plastic, stones and metal.	
	Trace Metals*	HNO ₃ digestion	Complies with Table 3 of 40CFR503.13
	Fecal Coliforms*	MPN with A-1 broth	<1000 MPN/dry gram

*Tests marked with asterisks must be performed by a suitable analytical laboratory; other test may be performed by the composted mulch producer.

632.2.5.1 Acceptance

Before delivering composted mulch, provider shall furnish documentation that includes the following:

1. The raw materials, by percentage, used in the production of the delivered composted mulch;
2. Daily temperature records for at least 20% of the piles or batches used to produce the delivered composted mulch, illustrating attainment of at least 130°F for at least 7 consecutive days;
3. A laboratory analysis for criteria shown in Table 1, performed on composted mulch no more than 180 days prior to composted mulch delivery; and
4. An affidavit, signed by a responsible company representative, confirming that the composted mulch meets each requirement shown in Table 632.2.5:1, "Quality Requirements for Composted Mulch."

The Project Manager or Landscape Architect will inspect and approve the composted mulch application during installation and upon completion of the project.