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Wrentham Conservation Commission
Specifications for Mulch Filter Tubes (“Compost Socks”)

The purpose of Mulch Filter Tubes is to provide a linear embankment of organic material, to be placed in the path of storm water flows for the purpose of filtering a substantial portion of the suspended sediments from the flow. This item shall conform to the following requirements:

1. The filter tube exterior shall be 100% organic burlap or other approved biodegradable material, and will become incorporated with the organic interior material.
2. Organic matter content shall be between 20-100% (dry weight basis) as determined by ASTM D2974 (method A) Standard Test Methods for Moisture, Ash and Organic Matter of Peat and Other Organic Soils.
3. Moisture content shall be <150% by dry weight (<60% by wet weight) as measured by ASTM D2216 Standard Test Method for Laboratory Determination of Water Content of Soil and Rock and ASTM D2974 (cited above).
4. Particle size as measured by sieving shall be as follows:

<u>Sieve Size</u>	<u>% Passing</u>
75 mm	100%
19 mm	70-100%
#4	30-75%
#20	20-40%

No particle may be longer than 150 mm.

5. Soluble salts in the organic interior material shall be <5.0 mmhos/cm, and the pH of same shall be between 5.5 and 8.0.

MAINTENANCE

The Applicant shall maintain the filter tubes in a functional condition at all times, including inspections after each rainfall and at least daily during prolonged rainfall. Applicant shall immediately correct all deficiencies, such as gaps in coverage, overtopping, clogging with sediment, erosion, or otherwise becoming ineffective. Any filter tube which has broken open or otherwise had its functioning compromised shall be immediately replaced, and all mulch from the filter tube interior spilled in any area intended to be protected by the filter tube shall be immediately removed. Applicant shall make a daily review of the location of the berm in areas where construction activity causes drainage runoff to ensure that the tube is properly located for effectiveness. Where deficiencies exist, such as gaps in coverage, overtopping, or wash-out, corrective action shall be taken immediately, consistent with the Order of Conditions, or as

approved or directed by the Commission or its Agent. Applicant shall remove sediment deposits as necessary to maintain the filters in working condition. Sediment also must be removed when it reaches a level equal to one-half the effective height of the installed filter tube.

REMOVAL

The Applicant shall rake out filter berms so that filter material is no greater than 3” in depth on soil substrate. Typically, filter tubes are to be removed at the same point in the construction process as conventional erosion control materials such as hay bales and silt fence would be. In appropriate cases, the Commission or its Agent may direct that the tubes and/or their contents remain in place to decompose naturally. If only the interior material is to remain, the exterior tubing material shall be cut and removed and disposed of off-site by the Applicant. Filter material remaining shall be raked per the above instructions.

OTHER

The diameter or height of the filter tubes or compound filter tubes to be used may be specified by the Commission in its Order of Conditions. Steeper slopes may require the use of compound filter tubes to create a berm.