



Best Management Practices Self Checklist

Do the areas below your eaves contain bare soil or signs of erosion? **Yes** **No**

If there is bare soil under your drip lines (the areas below your roof eaves), this area needs to be stabilized with drain rock or herbaceous, low-growing, well irrigated vegetation in order to prevent the movement of sediment into local waterways.

Is your driveway/parking area paved? **Yes** **No**

The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) requires every single-family residential property owner within the Tahoe Basin to pave a minimum of two off-street parking spaces and to infiltrate this runoff within their property boundaries.

Does runoff from your driveway flow towards the street or right-of-way? **Yes** **No**

Runoff from your driveway needs to be conveyed to an infiltration system on your property to prevent the movement of sediment and/or nutrients into local streams and waterways which eventually lead to Lake Tahoe.

Do you have areas of bare soil that have been compacted by vehicular traffic, or are you currently parking any vehicles on bare soil? **Yes** **No**

If you are parking on bare soil, this area will need to be restored to the point where it can sustain vegetation or will need to be paved according to local jurisdiction regulations.

Do you have bare soil below your elevated deck, stairs, or walkways? **Yes** **No**

Bare soil below elevated decks, stairs, and walkways needs to be stabilized with a surface-layer of drain rock underneath the entire footprint of the structures. Decks, stairs, and walkways that are inaccessible underneath but with bare soil around their perimeters must also be stabilized with drain rock.

Do you have eroding slopes or slopes where stabilization techniques may need to be applied? **Yes** **No**

Eroding slopes are often stabilized with vegetation, mulch, rip rap, or terraces, depending on the steepness of the slope. It is recommended to contact the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) or a licensed engineer if you have issues with eroding slopes on your property. Structures utilized in slope stabilization often require engineering assistance.

Are there any invasive weeds on your property? **Yes** **No**

Invasive weeds out-compete native plants and cause soil erosion. Use weed-identification information available on the TRCD website (www.tahoercd.org) or at the Tahoe RCD office to help identify and remove invasive weeds on your property.

Evaluating Your Own Property

The following steps will help you prepare for BMP installation(s). This is intended to facilitate effective communication between you and Nevada Tahoe Conservation District/Tahoe Resource Conservation District staff so that you can get the most from our services. In this step you will:

- Investigate your property to determine what types of BMPs you may need.
- Create a plan for your BMPs.
- **Contact Tahoe RCD for soil type and treatment sizing.**

Evaluation Procedure: (Refer to *Generic BMP Retrofit Site Plan*)

1. We recommend as a first step to contact your local fire professionals for a defensible inspection of your property to help integrate fire defensible space and BMP treatments.
2. Draw an outline of all hard structures on your property from a 'birds-eye' view, including roofs and roof peaks, driveway, permanent shed structures, etc. Draw arrows to indicate the direction of water flow off of each hard surface. Run a hose over your paved driveway to determine the direction of runoff flow.
3. Measure the width (on the ground) from roof eaves to roof peaks and the length of drip lines for each roof area for all hard structures on your property.
4. Use the *Best Management Practices Self Checklist* to determine where BMP treatments are needed on your property and mark these areas on your drawing (drip lines, driveway systems/paving, under and around decks, etc.).
5. Be aware of any obstructions and constraints that may interfere with the implementation of BMPs, such as large trees, rocks, run-on from the street or another property, high groundwater, and utilities. Try to work around these constraints as much as possible. Mark these areas on your plan and document with photos if possible.
6. If you have a digital camera, take photos of your house and landscape, including the areas where you plan to install BMP treatments. Photos are useful if you have specific questions for Tahoe RCD staff or need help designing treatments.
7. After you have drawn and measured your home, contact the Tahoe RCD for assistance in determining the sizes of your BMP systems.
8. Determine the types of BMP materials you want on your property and the look or aesthetic you want to achieve. Be sure to consider fire defensible space when choosing BMP materials (www.livingwithfire.com). Recycled materials and materials found on your property can also be used to construct your BMPs and are cost effective. You can obtain a materials list at www.tahoebmp.org/documents.aspx.
9. Decide if you want to install your own BMPs or if you prefer to hire a contractor. A list of contractors who attended the most recent BMP Contractors' Workshop is available at www.tahoercd.org/documents.php.
10. If you choose to install your own BMPs, the grading (excavation) season in the Tahoe Basin is between May 1 and October 15. Stabilize any soil piles or excavated materials during construction to prevent erosion. Excavations of more than 7 cubic yards require a permit from your local jurisdiction. Also, be sure to locate all underground utilities before digging (USA Digs, 811).