

Help For Dirt Roads

Did you know...

- There are hundreds of miles of unpaved roads in the Sand Fork Watershed.
- Runoff from roads is a major source of sediment.

Benefits of road stabilization...

- Less road maintenance.
- Less wear and tear on your vehicle.
- Better access.
- Improved water quality.
- Reduced flood damage.



Before



After

Runoff from dirt roads is a major source of sediment in streams. It contributes to flooding, increases streambank erosion and decreases water quality. There are practices for new or existing roads that you can use to minimize erosion potential:

- keep the slope as low as possible
- gravel steep sections adjacent to streams
- use water bars where needed
- vegetate the road

There are assistance programs available to help you improve the quality of roads on your property.

Forestry Land Enhancement Program

The Forestry Land Enhancement Program is a federal cost-share assistance program funded by the USDA Forest Service that provides financial assistance for the long-term sustainability of non-industrial private forestlands. In West Virginia, the Division of Forestry administers the program. You must have a minimum of 10 acres and no more than 1,000 acres to qualify. This program requires a stewardship plan, which can also be cost-shared. The primary focus of this program is permanent grass cover on critical areas. Funding can not be used for annual maintenance such as grading or cutting back vegetation. The road may be retired but if it is still used, the landowner must ensure that the original stabilization practices are maintained for 10 years.

***For more information contact: WV Division of Forestry,
304-558-2788 or visit www.wvforestry.com***