



## “Builder's blunder”

You own a construction company and you are having a very busy season. The demand for new homes is higher than ever before. Many of your hired construction workers have been sick recently and unable to come to work. You know that you are supposed to put up silt fencing around the construction site to reduce the amount of sediment that is washed off the site into local streams and rivers. Putting up the fencing is time consuming and you are short staffed. You decide to continue work on the building without the fencing in place.

- What are the negative effects of high amounts of sediment in a stream?  
*Large amounts of sediment in a stream can reduce the amount of sunlight that can penetrate the water and reach plants that are growing on the bottom. This causes a decrease in photosynthesis and dissolved oxygen concentrations in the water.*
  
- What laws are you violating by not putting up silt fencing?  
*The PA Clean Streams Law*
  
- What agency would someone call if they wished to report you?  
*The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)*