MAP CODE
VEGC

VEGETATION COVER

USE

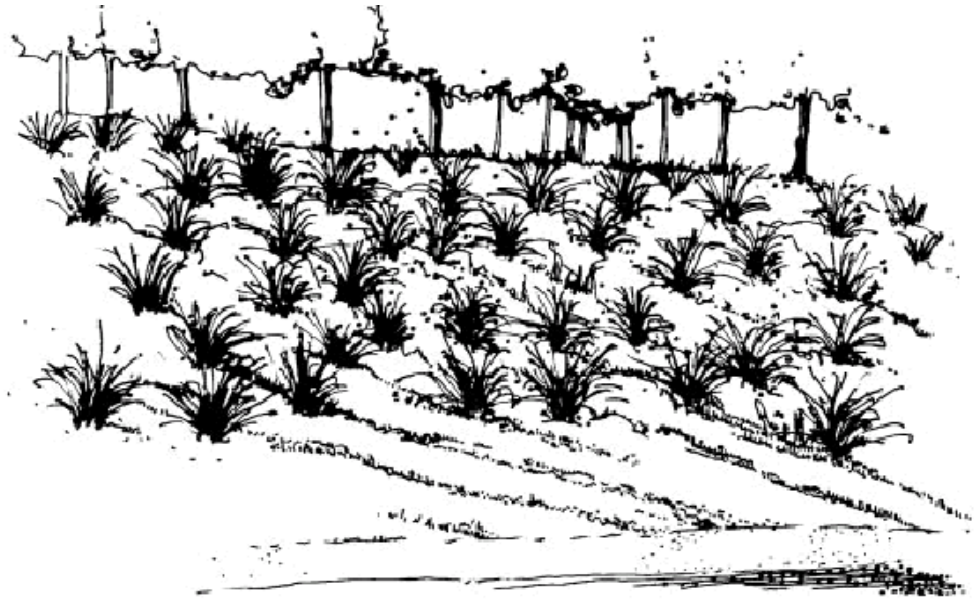
Dust
Erosion
Noise
Stormwater
Visual

What

- Ground cover (grasses & legumes), trees, shrubs or perennial plants.
- Sometimes consists of planting naturally occurring species to enhance existing cover.
- Vertical density of large shrubs and trees creates a vegetative "screen".

Purpose

- To minimize or control dust and erosion, enhance water quality or facilitate reclamation.
- When densely planted, can control the growth of noxious weeds.



Bank Planting
Perspective View

Source: Mississippi State University

Where

YES: At any location where plant life will control dust creation (a dense vegetative cover), dust transportation (vegetative screen), erosion (fiberous root system), water quality (filtering, oxygenating aquatic plants), help to preserve topsoil and overburden or facilitate reclamation (re-establishment of native plant life).

Materials, Equipment & Costs

- Plants, seeds and fertilizer appropriate to the situation.
- Backhoe, shovel, broadcast seeders, piping or hoses, labour and sprinklers.
- $ Low.

Plans & Specs

- Dependent on individual situation (see table below):

Planning suggestions for vegetation cover

Situation	Planning Suggestions
Dust control	dense vegetative screen of trees and shrubs, ground cover
Erosion control	fast growing grass or groundcover with a fiberous root system
Water treatment	marginal plants, filtering and oxygenating aquatic plants

- Vegetative cover should also be considered for stockpiles of topsoil and overburden to seal and control dust and limit erosion.
- Native plantings are the best to use for reclamation as they generally require less maintenance. Avoid introducing a foreign species into an ecosystem.
- A bioengineering specialist may be consulted for use of vegetation to control erosion, and to tailor a seed mix specifically optimized for the site.
- Ongoing irrigation may be required for well-drained or south-facing sites.

Maintenance

- Ensure newly planted material receives sufficient water and fertilizer until established.
- All newly planted vegetation should be checked regularly, and difficult sites may require special attention such as more or less water, wind protection, etc.

Sources:

United States Department of Agriculture and Mississippi State University. (1999): **Native Revegetation - Grasses, Legumes, and Forbs** and **Native Revegetation - Trees and Shrubs;** *in* Water Related BMP's in the Landscape/Best Management Practices/Water Runoff Control/ C. Erosion Control, and Temporary Seeding**,** in …/ A. Construction Site Impact Reduction, *Watershed Science Institute United States Department of Agriculture and Mississippi State University,* <http://abe.msstate.edu/csd/NRCS-BMPs/contents.html>, October 2001.