

**BMP 5**

# Logging Debris

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## **Purpose**

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It is important to protect bodies of water from pollution by organic and inorganic debris that can result from silvicultural practices, such as timber harvesting, site preparation, or woodland improvement, and to protect stream channels and reduce erosion of stream banks and adjacent areas.

## **Definitions**

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**Logging debris** such as noncommercial portions of trees and brush, including tops and cutoffs that often cause water quality problems when improperly placed in waterways. **Disturbed soil**, such as fill dirt, and other by-products associated with silvicultural operations, such as brush, can clog or, in some other way, degrade water courses and water quality. **Waste products**, such as hydraulic fluid, oil, grease, and **trash**, such as oil cans, filters, lunch bags, and bottles, can also degrade water quality.

## **Specifications**

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Trees and brush cut during silvicultural operations often result in an abundance of organic debris that can be a potential water pollutant. This logging debris places an oxygen demand on the body of water during decomposition. In addition, it can create problems with odor, color, and excessive nutrients. Streams can cut new channels around dense logging debris blockages, increasing erosion and stream sediments.

**Logging debris** (tree tops, limbs, and other waste materials) should be removed from perennial and intermittent streams, lakes, or ponds to a sufficient distance or located to insure it does not move back into the body of water (see BMP No. 3 “Streamside Management Zones”).

**Disturbed soil or concentrated logging slash** (i.e., debris and tops) should not be left in ephemeral channels.

**Equipment** should not be left on stream banks, nor oil or equipment fluids changed in a manner by that pollutants can drain onto the ground or wash into a stream.

**Trash**, such as cans, bottles, lunch bags, filters from logging and silvicultural operations, and waste products, such as used oil and hydraulic and other fluids, should be disposed of properly (see BMP No. 8).

## Regulatory Requirements for BMP No. 5

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*(See Appendix A for explanations)*

- All silvicultural operations: (410 KAR 5:026, 5:029, 5:030, and 5:031)
- Debris in floodplains: (KRS 151.250)
- Activities near high-quality waters and outstanding national resource waters: (401 KAR 5:029, 5:030, and 5:031)
- Activities near wild rivers: (KRS 146.200 *et seq.* and 401 KAR 4:100-140)

### **Summary: AWQA Minimum Requirements for BMP No. 5**

The producer should:

- not allow tree debris, such as tops from harvested trees, to be left in or washed into perennial streams.
- not leave equipment on stream banks or change equipment fluids in such a manner where pollutants may wash into streams.
- dispose of cans, bottles, lunch bags, oil filters or air filters, and other trash properly.