

How can something so simple be so useful?

The EPA requires it. City erosion and sediment control inspectors demand it. Wal-Mart likes it. Contractors must have it. What is it? It's not a college football team in Lincoln, NE. It is the Big Red Curb Inlet Sediment Filter.

Manufactured by Storm Water Products and Distributed by ASP Enterprises this may be the simplest product we sell. The Big Red is a tubular weighted device that lays in front of the opening of a curb inlet. It is made of a bright red UV stable geotextile material that is sewn into a tube with a diameter of approx 8". The inside is filled with 100% recycled crumb rubber from recycled tires and weighs about 10 lbs per foot. Each one has black nylon handles sewn into it for ease of transport. Another feature is a pocket sewn into the top along the length of the filter where, if desired, rebar can be installed for additional rigidity.

Installing Big Reds is a snap! Just lay the "Big Red" in front of the opening of a curb inlet and leave a 2-4 inch gap between the filter and the sewer intake top. Then make sure the ends conform to the contour. Big Reds are reusable and durable enough to withstand jobsite abuse. When the project is completed, they can be rinsed out with a hose in a vegetated area and reinstalled.

There is more than meets the eye with the "Big Red". They are known for being easy to install, and for doing a great job of filtering dirty water as it pours from a street into a curb inlet. Most people are not aware of the tests showing the ability of shredded tire rubber to remove hydrocarbons and heavy metals from the storm water it is treating. When automobiles drip oil, or leave behind other unburned fuels on the pavement, these oils become suspended in rain water and get flushed toward the local streams and rivers. These and many other chemicals make up a group of compounds known as Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs). PAHs can enter surface water by this route. They have also shown up in some underground drinking water supplies in the United States.

As an added benefit, the crumb rubber infill material in the Big Red has the known characteristic of absorbing hydrocarbons, including PAHs, Arsenic, and Mercury. Adsorbing is the process of a compound clinging to the outside surface of another solid. This was experimentally verified in a report "Use of Waste Tire Crumb Rubber to Remove Inorganic (Arsenic, Mercury) and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) Species from Aqueous Solutions". This research was completed in 2007 and was funded by a USGS Water Resources Grant.

Our primary focus with this product is on removing sediments but, the ultimate goal of any sediment control device is to protect and clean our nation's waterways. How better than using a recycled product that works so well and is so simple to use.

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