



A variety of products exist which help prevent the erosion of soil through wind, rain or wave action. Depending on the application the solution may be as simple as an erosion control blanket or as robust as a cellular confinement product.

Typically the first materials considered to provide erosion protection are organic rolled erosion control blankets (RECB's) manufactured from straw, coconut or a combination of the two. These materials are sandwiched between biodegradable plastic netting with the intent of protecting the seedlings until they can establish themselves in the area then to use the organic materials as a food source as it degrades.(refer to Tech Note – Erosion Control Blankets). Sometimes however a natural solution will not withstand the forces that this area will receive. There are applications where Mother Nature requires some assistance to accomplish something that naturally would not occur. Either the area naturally cannot sustain the intended design, or the forces that the area would encounter are so severe that any natural covering would fail or be stripped off.

Hard armour solution such as rip-rap or a concrete revetment mats offer a very robust solution, however for some applications their unattractive appearance makes this choice unfavorable. In these situations there are materials that boast enhanced performance while still offering a more natural look to the area.



## Tech Note: Soil Retention



**Turf Reinforcement Mats** or TRM's are a step up from standard rolled erosion control blankets in that they will not degrade over time. They are installed in a very similar manner to RECB's however they are designed to protect the root structure of the vegetation should a mechanical force such as an intermittent high flow rate of water flow over the area and shear off the top portion of the plant. By protecting the root structure of the vegetation the area will quickly "Green's up" after the rain event to once again appear natural and healthy.



**Cellular Confinement Products** are ideal for providing base support or to provide protection over geomembranes or lined spillways. These products are available in a variety of thicknesses which can be filled with low quality fill to create or protect steeped slopes. The area leading into a lined primary containment pond are often magnets for wildlife, if left exposed they would quickly be damaged by wildlife coming to drink, sometimes slipping into the containment and drowning, unable to climb out on the slippery geomembrane. By protecting this slope with a cellular confinement area this risk is decreased.

Contain Enviro Services Ltd. is the leader in the supply and installation of erosion control materials for a wide variety of challenging applications. Contain Enviro Services Ltd. feels that there is no single material which is suitable for every application; therefore we have insured that we have access to the complete spectrum of erosion control materials and can suggest the most appropriate and cost effective solution for your project.

**For More Information, Please Visit Our Website [www.contain.ca](http://www.contain.ca)**