

BASIC SANDBAGGING

1. Wear gloves.
2. Fill bags approximately ½ full. Bags do not need to be tied. Lay flat with the flap folded under the bag or laid flat with the next filled bag on the top of the previous bag flap. Do not overfill. Overfilling the bags leaves gaps.
3. Using a shovel with a pointed end makes filling the bags easier.
4. For stability, sandbag dikes should be kept as short and low as possible.
5. Dike width should be 3 times the height.
6. Tamp down the bags after placing them to make them as flat as possible.
7. Overlap the bags lengthwise and parallel to the water flow. Stagger & stairstep the filled bags to eliminate gaps. (similar to bricklaying)
8. A completed dike can be sealed with 6 ply poly (plastic) sheeting. Place poly a few feet from the bottom of the dike and go up and over the filled bags on the water side. Anchor the plastic on the bottom and top with a row of overlapped filled sandbags.
9. When the water has receded, bags and plastic should be removed and disposed of properly.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SANDBAGS PER LINEAR FOOT OF DIKE

<u>HEIGHT IN FEET</u>	<u>BAGS REQUIRED</u>
1	5
2	10
3	21
4	36
5	55

DISPOSAL OF SANDBAGS

1. Any bags that have come in contact with flood waters are considered contaminated. The sand **can not** be used in sandboxes, playgrounds or any place where it will come in contact with humans.
2. Sand can be returned to where you got it (if approved by the supplier), used as fill for driveways and roadways. Check with your local landfill on the possibility of disposing of the filled, used bags there.

Sandbags can be emptied, stacked & reused **if it did not come in contact with flood waters**. Bags should be kept in an area out of the sun and dry as the bags will decompose with moisture and sunlight.

Questions please contact Public Works at 507-537-6773.