Mud and debris tracked onto public roads leads to numerous complaints at mineral mines in Virginia.

What Does Virginia Law and Regulation Require?

4 VAC 25-31-350 B (9) of the Virginia Reclamation Regulations requires that roads shall be surfaced and maintained to prevent the depositing of mud and debris on public roads.

How can the mine site help prevent mud and debris tracking?

The following are some precautions mines have taken to prevent the tracking of mud and debris onto public roads and have helped prevent complaints involving this problem:

- Construct the principal access road with asphalt or concrete in such a manner that it can be routinely washed down using a water truck, etc. Install pavement such that water will not drain onto the public road.
- Maintain a sweeper at the mine to sweep off the mine entrance road and/or public road periodically.
- Use a vacuum truck to clean off the mine entrance road and/or public road periodically.
- Install a wheel wash system that washes the tires of all over-the-road trucks before they leave the mine site.
- When crushed stone is used to surface the mine entrance road, periodically re-surface the road or rough up the stone to prevent the buildup of mud on the road surface.

It is important to note that when we speak of mud and debris on a public road we are not including mud staining on the road. We want to control loose mud and debris that can be a safety hazard to the driving public.
What Enforcement Actions Are Typically Taken For Mud Tracking?

If an inspector finds mud and debris, a Notice of Violation will be issued requiring cleanup and specifying a time period in which the cleanup must be accomplished.

What Should I Do If There Is a Question?

Contact the DMM Charlottesville office or the Mine Inspector Supervisor.

Charlottesville Office:
(434) 951-6310

James Smith – Western Area Supervisor:
(540) 586-0232

Paul Saunders – Eastern Area Supervisor:
(804) 717-5550