

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Department of Environmental Management
Rhode Island State Conservation Committee**

**NOTICE OF UPDATES TO THE
1989 RHODE ISLAND SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL HANDBOOK**

The Rhode Island State Conservation Committee (RI SCC), under the direction of the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (DEM), has at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 13, 2014 approved the adoption of updates to the *Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook (Handbook)*. These updates are in accordance with State law and pursuant to the RI Administrative Procedures Act, which allowed for public input into these updates. These updates to the *Handbook*, adopted by the RI SCC, will supersede the 1989 Revision. The RI SCC gives, by this announcement, public notice on the *Handbook* updates to afford interested parties an opportunity to obtain and use these updates effective August 13, 2014.

The *Handbook*, last revised in 1989, is an important guidance tool for local, state and federal agencies, the general public and the private sector in the application of appropriate soil erosion and sediment control measures in Rhode Island. Accessibility to the 1989 Handbook, either electronic or hard copy will be found on-line as a portable document format (.pdf).

This updated, revised version of the *Handbook* provides a document that:

- meets the needs of RI's practitioners, including local, state and federal agencies, developers;
- homeowners, and the erosion control industry; contains the most up-to-date technical information on soil erosion and sedimentation control measures;
- contains up-to-date information on the regulatory and implementation processes relating to erosion control and how this Handbook is to be used within this regulatory environment;
- is consistent with the 2010 Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual;
- is easy to use and understand; and
- is internally consistent in terms of level of detail, utility of illustrations, and applicability to Rhode Island.

The 2014 updates to the *Handbook* focused on using the most current information and technology on selected management measures. This update also went through a format change to make its use easier and more accessible to end-users. A measure selection guide (Flow Chart) has been added and more details on planning for sites were developed so that this guidance document could be used to achieve compliance with state and local regulatory programs.

The update added several new sections, particularly Section Two: Site Planning and Management, Section Three: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping and Bio-engineering measures in Section Four.

Access to the *Handbook* will be managed through the RI DEM website. Electronic (.pdf) versions of the *Handbook* can be downloaded from this site. Hardcopies of the *Handbook* can be purchased via the Rhode Island State Conservation Committee Handbook Portal website (see below). Persons wishing to be on a list serve to receive electronic notices of future additions, updates, corrections or related information regarding the *Rhode Island Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Handbook* will need to subscribe to the RIDEM Office of Water Resources (OWR) email list.

The Office of Water Resources (OWR) has created an e-mail list to distribute guidance, policies and new regulations regarding a variety of stormwater topics. You can subscribe by visiting the user-friendly webpage at: <http://listserve.ri.gov/mailman/listinfo/owrinfo>

Electronic copies of the 2014-updated *Handbook* can be viewed and downloaded from the RI DEM website at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/soilerosion2014final.pdf>.

Hard copies of the 2014-updated *Handbook* can be obtained by contacting the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District at:

Southern Rhode Island Conservation District
Address: East Farm Way, Building No. 50, Kingston, RI 02881
Attn: Kate Bousquet, District Manager
Phone: 401-500-0422
Email: srcid.info@gmail.com
Website: www.srcid.org

Questions about the *Handbook* should be directed to:

RI State Conservation Committee
c/o Beverly Migliore, Supervising Environmental Scientist
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance
RI Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908
Phone: 401-222-4700 x 7503
Email: Beverly.migliore@dem.ri.gov

All interested parties are invited to continue to submit written comments on the updates to the *Handbook* by following the comment procedure located in Appendix C of the *Handbook*. A comment form has been provided within the *Handbook* and can be found on the last page of the document after the Appendix.

Beverly Migliore, Supervising Environmental Scientist
Office of Customer and Technical Assistance
RI Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908
or by e-mail to SESC.Handbook@dem.ri.gov

Maria Mack, Chair
Rhode Island State Conservation Committee

Date