



**New York State
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

Division of Water

**New York State
Standards and Specifications
for Erosion and Sediment Control**

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**New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation**

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NEW YORK STATE STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL

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General Disclaimer

The mention of trade names, products, proprietary processes, or companies does not constitute an endorsement by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. References are used for the purposes of information sources and alternative concepts. This manual is intended for periodic update and thus, sections may be changed or added as criteria for erosion and sediment control evolve.

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Soil and Water Conservation Society

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PREFACE

The parent document, “Guidelines for Erosion and Sediment Control in Urban Areas of New York State,” was originally published by the USDA Soil Conservation Service in 1972 to provide information on minimizing erosion and sediment problems on land undergoing development. These guidelines were used by soil and water conservation districts, planning boards, property owners, land developers, contractors, and consultants.

Based upon the experience gained in the use of this document, a committee was formed in 1978 to update this guide. This committee contained specialists and representatives from government, academia and the private sector.

This committee completed their draft document, “Sediment and Erosion Control for Developing Areas,” in May 1980. Before this document could be finalized, technological advances and increased demand for natural resource planning due to increased urban pressure on rural areas, caused an additional need for revision and expansion of the technical chapters.

In March 1985, work resumed on the guide to expand the standards and specifications to include temporary and permanent structural measures for erosion and water control, update the discipline vocabulary, incorporate the most recent methods and procedures available, and provide local planners and legislators examples of public administration. That guide was again revised in mid-1991 to incorporate general updates, a chapter on calculating runoff, a chapter on bio-engineering, the addition of temporary and permanent practices and a site specific example demonstrating the planning and design process.

A general State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit for construction activities was approved for New York State by the Environmental Protection Agency on August 1, 1993. That permit was necessary for any construction site that disturbed five or more acres.

It required a stormwater pollution prevention plan to be prepared for the specific site. The plan must address erosion and sediment control and stormwater management.

The SPDES permit was revised in January, 2003 to incorporate the United States Environmental Protection Agency—National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase 2 stormwater requirements. This requires construction sites disturbing one or more acres to have an erosion and sediment control plan. This document has been re-written to incorporate the most recent developments in the discipline.

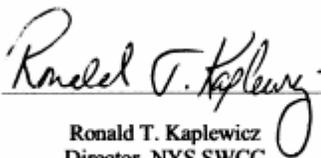
The purpose of this document is to protect water quality due to construction activity and reduce sediment damage and associated maintenance costs of road ditches, storm sewers, streams, lakes, and flood control structures. It is distributed by the Empire State Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and also available on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation stormwater web site.

This manual should be used by site developers in preparing their erosion and sediment control plans, and by local municipalities in preparing and implementing their soil erosion and sediment control programs, reviewing proposed site development plans, establishing or encouraging uniformity through standards in applying erosion control techniques, and helping developers, private engineers, and planners make maximum use of potential development sites by proper management of their natural resources.

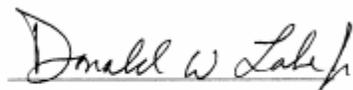
This manual of standards and specifications was prepared for and under the direction of, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water. It is issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as minimum standards for erosion and sediment control plans prepared for state permits.



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CONTENTS

SECTION 1	INTRODUCTION
SECTION 2	EROSION CONTROL PLANNING AND SITE MANAGEMENT
SECTION 3	VEGETATIVE MEASURES FOR EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
SECTION 4	BIOTECHNICAL MEASURES FOR EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
SECTION 5	STRUCTURAL MEASURES FOR EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL
SECTION 5A	STRUCTURAL MEASURES – TEMPORARY
SECTION 5B	STRUCTURAL MEASURES – PERMANENT

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A	REVISED UNIVERSAL SOIL LOSS EQUATION (RUSLE)
APPENDIX B	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FOR TEMPORARY EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PRACTICES
APPENDIX C	COST ANALYSIS OF EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PRACTICES
APPENDIX D	FERTILIZER LABELS AND PURE LIVE SEED
APPENDIX E	EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN FOR SMALL HOMESITE CONSTRUCTION
APPENDIX F	EXAMPLE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN
APPENDIX G	SAMPLE CHECKLIST FOR REVIEWING EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL PLANS
APPENDIX H	CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE SITE LOG BOOK

GLOSSARY

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