

The Agency

Department of Environmental Management

Agency Operations

The mission of the Department of Environmental Management is to enhance the quality of life for this and future generations by protecting, managing, and restoring the natural resources of the State; enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities; protecting public health; preventing environmental degradation; guiding the utilization of the State's natural resources to provide for sustainable economic opportunity while sustaining the natural environment; and motivating the citizens of the State to practice an environmental ethic based upon an understanding of their environment, their own dependence on it, and the ways in which their actions affect it.

Agency Objectives

To ensure Rhode Islanders have equal access to environmental benefits; to prevent any segment of Rhode Island's population from bearing a disproportionate share of environmental risks and pollution.

To educate residents and corporate entities to practice an environmental ethic based upon an understanding of their environment, and how their interactions affect it; to ensure air, water, and land resources are restored and maintained to protect public health and ecological integrity.

To take necessary actions to preserve and enhance resources of the Narragansett Bay and coastal environments.

To practice careful stewardship of Rhode Island's finite water, air, land, agriculture, forest resources, and to ensure that Rhode Island's rich aquatic resources are maintained for the future.

To ensure all residents and visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy a diverse mix of well-maintained, scenic and accessible facilities and outdoor recreation opportunities.

To educate citizens so that all Rhode Islanders prevent pollution and minimize waste at the source.

To ensure natural habitats are managed to maintain species biodiversity.

To promote economic opportunity that preserves the State's resources and maintains Rhode Island's high quality of life for a sound economy.

To revitalize, protect and restore urban areas for reuse while conserving ecologically sensitive urban areas.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Bureau of Policy and Administration	12,403,204	12,386,115	16,972,295	10,318,830
Bureau of Natural Resources	26,575,332	26,158,678	38,234,043	42,322,494
Bureau of Environmental Protection	18,876,552	18,633,790	23,544,375	29,878,528
Total Expenditures	\$57,855,088	\$57,178,583	\$78,750,713	\$82,519,852
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	43,361,345	43,947,265	48,601,476	50,910,424
Other State Operations	9,227,478	10,063,354	12,077,272	10,546,071
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	2,493,653	1,803,155	6,209,826	6,638,697
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$55,082,476	\$55,813,774	\$66,888,574	\$68,095,192
Capital Improvements	2,772,612	1,364,809	11,862,139	14,424,660
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$57,855,088	\$57,178,583	\$78,750,713	\$82,519,852
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	32,311,629	31,400,308	33,006,632	36,531,685
Federal Funds	14,887,796	14,771,878	28,357,942	30,190,338
Restricted Receipts	9,210,337	9,857,130	11,186,623	10,527,788
Other Funds	1,445,326	1,149,267	6,199,516	5,270,041
Total Expenditures	\$57,855,088	\$57,178,583	\$78,750,713	\$82,519,852
FTE Authorization	549.7	539.7	538.7	538.1
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	6.5%	6.0%	5.8%	5.8%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	34.7%	34.0%	33.5%	32.8%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	7.6%	7.7%	8.5%	8.5%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Policy and Administration/Office of the Director

Program Operations

The Office of the Director includes the following six offices: Policy, Communications, and Customer Service; Financial Management; Human Resources; Legal Services; Administrative Adjudication; and Management Information Systems.

The Office of Policy, Communications, and Customer Service coordinates overarching policy and strategic planning initiatives, legislation and intergovernmental affairs, media relations, public information and education, and frontline customer service operations.

The Office of Management Services is responsible for managing the financial, budget, licensing and business support services for the department. This involves maintaining approximately 200 separate accounts for the department's programs, as well as the issuance of 38,000 boat registrations and all hunting and fishing licenses.

The Office of Human Resources provides administrative human resources support for over 520 full-time employees and approximately 475 seasonal positions. Functions include payroll, personnel administration, labor relations, equal employment opportunity, minority recruitment/internship program, and training.

The Office of Legal Services represents the department in hearings and enforcement, and provides legal guidance on the development and administration of regulatory programs.

Administrative Adjudication hears appeals of department permitting, regulatory, and enforcement decisions.

The Management Information Systems (MIS) Office provides department-wide computer/technology services including the environmental permit database, e-government services, and a help desk, and administers major federal grants for information reporting.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Policy and Administration/Office of the Director

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Administration	4,490,962	4,524,344	5,223,288	3,977,078
Environmental Coordination	973,963	864,760	1,513,648	1,276,863
Management Services	2,998,736	2,918,353	2,994,324	3,221,819
Legal Services	381,654	363,937	467,245	573,290
Employee Relations/Human Resources	580,177	559,512	571,606	393,943
Planning and Development	1,783,763	1,991,691	4,963,739	-
Administrative Adjudication	906,583	917,972	968,080	605,472
Permit Streamlining	287,366	245,546	270,365	270,365
Total Expenditures	\$12,403,204	\$12,386,115	\$16,972,295	\$10,318,830
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	8,003,936	7,850,367	8,505,943	6,982,670
Other State Operations	3,503,866	3,322,055	4,057,053	3,041,431
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	253,856	581,693	799,454	294,729
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,761,658	\$11,754,115	\$13,362,450	\$10,318,830
Capital Improvements	641,546	632,000	3,609,845	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$12,403,204	\$12,386,115	\$16,972,295	\$10,318,830
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	8,221,396	7,921,156	8,492,358	7,174,360
Federal Funds	229,736	549,054	2,450,221	1,276,863
Restricted Receipts	3,275,206	3,452,895	3,072,707	1,867,607
Other Funds	676,866	463,010	2,957,009	-
Total Expenditures	\$12,403,204	\$12,386,115	\$16,972,295	\$10,318,830

Program Measures

Cumulative Percentage of Land Acquisition				
Goal of 17,850 Acres Actually Acquired	61.0%	67.1%	73.0%	78.0%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Natural Resources

Program Operations

The Bureau of Natural Resources is organized into six divisions:

The Division of Fish and Wildlife manages the State's marine and freshwater, and upland resources to achieve a sustained yield for commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen and hunters; to enhance non-consumptive uses of wildlife; and to protect the State's rare, and endangered species. The division maintains state-owned management areas, fishing areas, and boat ramps, and ports facilities and commercial fishing piers in Galilee, Jerusalem, and Newport.

The Division of Agriculture and Marketing manages the State's agriculture programs, including farm viability and protection; licensing and permitting; farm-best management practices; animal health, mosquito and rabies disease control; and pesticide management and regulation.

The Division of Enforcement enforces state laws and regulations governing hunting and fishing, public safety in state parks, and recreational boating. The division maintains a 24-hour hotline and dispatch center for the department, conducts search and rescue activities on both land and the bay, and responds to animal complaints, particularly those associated with rabies. The division oversees the Criminal Investigation Unit, which investigates solid, medical, and hazardous waste violations.

The Division of Parks and Recreation manages eight major state parks, seven state beaches, a golf course, the East Bay and Blackstone Bike Paths, and other secondary parks, historic sites and monuments totaling approximately 14,000 acres. The division oversees facilities and land management and coordinates recreational activities at the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve.

The Division of Forest Environment manages 40,000 acres of state-owned forests. It coordinates forest fire protection plans, the Urban Forestry Grant Program, and it assists rural volunteer fire departments.

The Division of Planning and Development is responsible for state land acquisitions, engineering/design work for improvements to state parks and facilities, and local matching grant programs for outdoor recreation, open space preservation and greenways/trails grants.

Program Objective

The objectives of this bureau are to provide stewardship of the State's finite water, air, land, agricultural, forest resources, and the conservation of the State's aquatic resources; and provide people with well-maintained, scenic, and accessible outdoor recreational opportunities.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Natural Resources

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Fish, Wildlife & Estuarine Resources	6,661,570	6,550,692	11,415,472	10,085,151
Agriculture	2,101,051	2,026,569	4,916,532	4,830,480
Enforcement	3,535,340	3,987,033	4,168,988	4,965,179
Natural Resources Administration	1,295,756	1,066,211	2,026,605	8,590,767
Parks and Recreation	8,511,152	8,923,182	10,060,527	10,505,953
Forest Environment	3,231,401	2,500,506	3,204,330	3,144,964
Coastal Resources	1,239,062	1,104,485	2,441,589	200,000
Total Expenditures	\$26,575,332	\$26,158,678	\$38,234,043	\$42,322,494
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	18,372,847	19,084,515	20,969,637	22,493,625
Other State Operations	4,933,906	5,522,188	6,438,074	5,346,621
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,271,211	1,006,188	4,955,372	5,520,866
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$24,577,964	\$25,612,891	\$32,363,083	\$33,361,112
Capital Improvements	1,997,368	545,787	5,870,960	8,961,382
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$26,575,332	\$26,158,678	\$38,234,043	\$42,322,494
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	15,080,371	15,400,360	15,496,607	16,960,784
Federal Funds	8,055,233	7,305,411	15,676,291	16,606,512
Restricted Receipts	2,671,268	2,766,650	3,818,638	3,485,157
Other Funds	768,460	686,257	3,242,507	5,270,041
Total Expenditures	\$26,575,332	\$26,158,678	\$38,234,043	\$42,322,494
Program Measures				
Quahog Biomass in Metric Tons as a Percentage of Biomass Required for Stock to be Self-Sustaining				
	61.0%	70.0%	79.0%	88.0%
Percentage of Rhode Island Farms Certified in Good Agricultural Practice				
	6.0%	10.0%	14.0%	18.0%
Percentage of RI Communities on Designated Levels in the Urban Forestry Program:				
Percentage of RI Communities on at least:				
Project Level	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Formative Level	80.0%	75.0%	80.0%	85.0%
Developmental Level	50.0%	50.0%	55.0%	57.5%
Sustained Level	20.0%	25.0%	27.5%	30.0%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Environmental Protection

Program Operations

The Bureau of Environmental Protection is composed of regulatory and assistance programs.

The Office of Water Resources operates the following regulatory programs: Pollutant Discharge Elimination System; Pretreatment; Underground Injection Control; Groundwater & Surface Water Quality Certification; Individual Septic Disposal Systems; Freshwater Wetlands; Water Quality Restoration Studies; Total Maximum Daily Loading (TDML); Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sludge Programs, and Sustainable Watershed Initiatives.

The Office of Compliance and Inspection centralized response to citizen complaints and regulatory enforcement activities in Air Resources, Waste Management, and Water Resources, to ensure that the department has consistent enforcement policies to address the most serious issues. It also investigates suspected violations and takes enforcement actions based on a coordinated effort with the respective receiving offices.

The Office for Permitting Coordination and Innovations assists the public by coordinating review of multiple applications and permits and tracking the status of permitting activities throughout the bureau. The office assists businesses to prevent pollution by adhering to regulations made more effective by the Environmental Results Program in priority sectors.

The Office of Air Resources is responsible for the protection and improvement of Rhode Island's air resources through monitoring and regulating the emission of air pollutants from stationary and mobile sources.

The Office of Waste Management regulates the transportation and disposal of solid, medical and hazardous wastes and the investigation and remediation of unpermitted releases of those materials. It includes the Site Remediation Program; Brownfield initiatives; Superfund and Department of Defense site programs; Waste Facility Management Program; and Underground Storage Tank Program.

The Emergency Response Program responds to emergency spills of oil and chemicals that present an immediate threat to public health and the environment, including events related to terrorism and natural disasters.

Program Objective

To ensure the quality of Rhode Island's air, water, and land resources through regulating activities that compromise public health and impact the environment; prevent further degradation of environmental resources; restore existing features and a bureau-wide ethic of customer assistance.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-17.1 establishes the Department of Environmental Management.

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Bureau of Environmental Protection

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Water Resources	7,451,089	5,440,527	7,677,401	9,240,584
Environmental Protection Administration	96,044	130,343	151,349	179,142
Compliance & Inspection	2,195,097	2,164,349	2,165,411	4,445,465
Technical & Customer Assistance	807,444	770,634	595,831	367,480
RIPDES	-	798,645	869,028	894,789
Air Resources	3,624,294	3,852,542	3,829,142	3,236,117
Waste Management	3,016,219	3,467,535	5,232,313	9,109,794
Environmental Response	1,686,365	2,009,215	3,023,900	2,405,157
Total Expenditures	\$18,876,552	\$18,633,790	23,544,375	\$29,878,528
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	16,984,562	17,012,383	19,125,896	21,434,129
Other State Operations	789,706	1,219,111	1,582,145	2,158,019
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	968,586	215,274	455,000	823,102
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$18,742,854	\$18,446,768	\$21,163,041	\$24,415,250
Capital Improvements	133,698	187,022	2,381,334	5,463,278
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$18,876,552	\$18,633,790	\$23,544,375	\$29,878,528
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	9,009,862	8,078,792	9,017,667	12,396,541
Federal Funds	6,602,827	6,917,413	10,231,430	12,306,963
Restricted Receipts	3,263,863	3,637,585	4,295,278	5,175,024
Total Expenditures	\$18,876,552	\$18,633,790	\$23,544,375	\$29,878,528
Program Measures				
Percentage of Sites Suspected or Identified as Contaminated that are Cleaned Up	46.0%	48.8%	50.0%	50.0%
Percentage of Operating Permit Programs that are Inspected Annually for Compliance with Air Quality Standards	57.0%	63.0%	70.0%	70.0%
Percentage of Emission Caps that are Inspected Annually	40.0%	31.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Average Number of Days Required to Process Wetlands Permits from Receipt of Application to Final Decision Date	93	86	76	66