

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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Office of the Director	15,617,651	9,216,664	9,708,324	8,478,674
Bureau of Natural Resources	30,222,970	31,963,059	44,474,996	45,096,587
Bureau of Environmental Protection	18,888,076	27,017,894	40,584,679	32,738,832
Total Expenditures	\$64,728,697	\$68,197,617	\$94,767,999	\$86,314,093
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	45,081,194	52,820,553	53,880,805	51,700,539
Operating Supplies and Expenses	7,621,267	8,615,630	8,790,796	9,088,764
Aid To Local Units Of Government	242	300	-	300
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	3,231,034	2,233,867	10,791,251	9,390,836
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$55,933,737	\$63,670,350	\$73,462,852	\$70,180,439
Capital Purchases and Equipment	8,567,239	4,527,267	21,305,147	16,133,654
Debt Service	235,654	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	(7,933)	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$64,728,697	\$68,197,617	\$94,767,999	\$86,314,093
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	33,277,951	38,089,653	36,632,436	36,131,647
Federal Funds	16,417,852	18,684,016	37,292,430	27,747,197
Restricted Receipts	9,171,245	9,817,745	18,497,716	16,844,363
Other Funds	5,861,649	1,606,203	2,345,417	5,590,886
Total Expenditures	\$64,728,697	\$68,197,617	\$94,767,999	\$86,314,093
FTE Authorization	538.7	531.3	505.3	489.4
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	5.8%	5.8%	5.6%	5.6%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	33.5%	32.8%	32.8%	36.7%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	8.5%	8.5%	8.5%	9.2%

The Program

Department of Environmental Management Office of the Director

Program Operations

The Office of the Director includes the following five offices: Policy, Communications, and Customer Service; Financial Management; Human Resources; Legal Services; 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.

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.

Administrative Adjudication has been relocated to the legal division at the Department of Administration where appeals of department permitting, regulatory and enforcement decisions are heard.

Statutory History

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

The Budget

Department of Environmental Management Office of the Director

	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Administration	5,221,319	3,842,775	4,213,268	4,016,311
Environmental Coordination	857,241	285,663	1,466,829	1,226,097
Management Services	3,108,084	3,334,945	2,625,293	2,568,042
Legal Services	417,145	436,383	499,233	424,444
Employee Relations/Human Resources	420,470	467,139	18,454	17,831
Planning and Development	4,499,046	(6,095)	-	-
Administrative Adjudication	923,391	625,675	684,882	25,584
Permit Streamlining	170,955	230,179	200,365	200,365
Total Expenditures	\$15,617,651	\$9,216,664	\$9,708,324	\$8,478,674
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	8,081,844	5,998,425	6,517,523	4,783,279
Operating Supplies and Expenses	3,010,978	2,750,098	2,697,797	2,713,491
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	292,293	377,222	397,404	932,904
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,385,115	\$9,125,745	\$9,612,724	\$8,429,674
Capital Purchases and Equipment	4,215,852	90,919	95,600	49,000
Debt Service	16,684	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$15,617,651	\$9,216,664	\$9,708,324	\$8,478,674
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	8,064,300	6,851,335	6,360,517	5,396,004
Federal Funds	710,373	285,663	1,466,829	506,097
Restricted Receipts	3,499,534	2,084,289	1,880,978	2,576,573
Other Funds	3,343,444	(4,623)	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$15,617,651	\$9,216,664	\$9,708,324	\$8,478,674

Program Measures

Cumulative Percentage of Land Acquisition Goal of 17,850 Acres Actually Acquired	75.0%	83.0%	85.0%	85.0%
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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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Fish, Wildlife & Estuarine Resources	8,686,678	7,799,557	10,923,888	10,492,753
Agriculture	2,172,248	2,348,548	4,967,322	5,155,266
Enforcement	3,966,970	4,805,915	5,710,890	5,781,763
Natural Resources Administration	649,028	3,513,298	8,600,397	7,299,443
Parks and Recreation	9,881,049	9,929,615	10,659,274	11,334,415
Forest Environment	2,555,347	3,492,037	3,538,225	3,682,947
Coastal Resources	2,311,650	74,089	75,000	1,350,000
Total Expenditures	\$30,222,970	\$31,963,059	\$44,474,996	\$45,096,587
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	19,741,336	22,218,764	24,333,040	24,542,062
Operating Supplies and Expenses	4,023,518	5,008,108	4,913,004	5,023,517
Aid To Local Units Of Government	242	300	-	300
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	2,562,376	1,322,673	5,682,383	3,650,964
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$26,327,472	\$28,549,845	\$34,928,427	\$33,216,843
Capital Purchases and Equipment	3,711,022	3,413,214	9,546,569	11,879,744
Debt Service	192,409	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	(7,933)	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$30,222,970	\$31,963,059	\$44,474,996	\$45,096,587
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	16,094,045	18,649,959	18,556,588	18,536,481
Federal Funds	8,641,175	8,593,494	19,518,325	17,139,404
Restricted Receipts	2,969,545	3,108,780	4,054,666	3,829,816
Other Funds	2,518,205	1,610,826	2,345,417	5,590,886
Total Expenditures	\$30,222,970	\$31,963,059	\$44,474,996	\$45,096,587
Program Measures				
Quahog Biomass in Metric Tons as a Percentage of Biomass Required for Stock to be Self-Sustaining	52.3%	63.0%	75.0%	87.0%
Percentage of Rhode Island Agricultural Samples Meeting State and Federal Standards	94.3%	94.9%	97.0%	99.0%
Percentage of RI Communities on Designated Levels in the Urban Forestry Program				
Percentage of RI Communities on at least:				
Formative Level	80.0%	77.5%	75.0%	80.0%
Developmental Level	55.0%	55.0%	55.0%	55.0%
Sustained Level	27.5%	22.5%	25.0%	27.5%

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 centralizes 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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Water Resources	6,479,930	7,449,582	9,113,739	8,673,094
Environmental Protection Administration	126,958	143,456	159,715	141,067
Compliance & Inspection	2,306,490	5,299,482	4,723,488	4,882,733
Technical & Customer Assistance	658,926	847,095	308,721	435,598
RIPDES	803,550	900,917	893,274	1,016,121
Air Resources	3,670,048	3,291,422	4,068,716	3,368,122
Waste Management	3,217,098	7,400,882	12,006,171	6,838,395
Environmental Response	1,625,076	1,685,058	9,310,855	7,383,702
Total Expenditures	\$18,888,076	\$27,017,894	\$40,584,679	\$32,738,832
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	17,258,014	24,603,364	23,030,242	22,375,198
Operating Supplies and Expenses	586,771	857,424	1,179,995	1,351,756
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	376,365	533,972	4,711,464	4,806,968
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$18,221,150	\$25,994,760	\$28,921,701	\$28,533,922
Capital Purchases and Equipment	640,365	1,023,134	11,662,978	4,204,910
Debt Service	26,561	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$18,888,076	\$27,017,894	\$40,584,679	\$32,738,832
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	9,119,606	12,588,359	11,715,331	12,199,162
Federal Funds	7,066,304	9,804,859	16,307,276	10,101,696
Restricted Receipts	2,702,166	4,624,676	12,562,072	10,437,974
Total Expenditures	\$18,888,076	\$27,017,894	\$40,584,679	\$32,738,832
Program Measures				
Percentage of Sites Suspected or Identified as Contaminated that are Cleaned Up	46.0%	46.6%	45.0%	46.0%
Percentage of Operating Permit Programs that are Inspected Annually for Compliance with Air Quality Standards	32.0%	43.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Percentage of Emission Caps that are Inspected Annually	14.0%	21.0%	25.0%	25.0%
Average Number of Days Required to Process Wetlands Permits from Receipt of Application to Final Decision Date	84	108	120	100