

**GEORGIA EROSIONS & SEDIMENTATION CONTROL
EDUCATION AND TRAINING RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
FACT SHEET**

**Georgia Environmental Protection Division,
Stakeholders Advisory Board, and
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission**

NOTICE: Change to the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission's Re-Certification Requirements

On June 21, 2013, the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission Board voted to change the GSWCC's 90-Day Grace Period Re-Certification Policy. Under the new policy, individuals will only have to sit for an initial certification course and pass the certification exam once. **Effective July 1, 2013, the GSWCC will renew an individual's certification, even if the individual's initial certification has expired, once the individual has attended at least four (4) hours of continuing education.**

Please be aware that this policy change only pertains to an individual's certification status. An individual conducting a land disturbing activity with an expired certification is in noncompliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-7-1 and may be subject to enforcement action.

According to State law, a certified individual shall be required to attend and participate in at least four hours of approved continuing education courses, as established by the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission (GSWCC), every three years (O.C.G.A. § 12-7-19). The GSWCC in consultation with the Stakeholder Advisory Board have established the re-certification requirements: Individuals will have the option of attending a GSWCC four hour course or third party approved courses totaling four hours of instruction. There will not be an examination required for re-certification.

The GSWCC will offer a four hour continuing education course for Level IA Fundamentals, Level IB Advanced Fundamentals and Level II Introduction to Design. The GSWCC courses will be given by GSWCC and GSWCC approved trainers. In addition, the GSWCC will allow third parties to develop training courses that may be used to satisfy continuing education requirements. There are procedures that must be followed by continuing education course sponsors in order to obtain approval and credit hours from GSWCC. All approved courses, both GSWCC and third party, will be posted on the GSWCC website, <http://gaswcc.georgia.gov/education-and-training>.

NOTICE: Change to the Verification of Lawful Presence Requirement

With the passage of Senate Bill 160, *US Citizens and Legal Permanent Residents* have to submit lawful presence documentation to the GSWCC only once. However, *Qualified Aliens* are still required to submit lawful presence documentation for each certification and re-certification course they attend.