

Visit the onsite wastewater resource center @ the University of Rhode Island – CELS

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Resource Center Features



The BIGHP Project

The Block Island/Green Hill Pond Project was a unique partnership between three RI towns and URI Cooperative Extension, with funding from the U.S. EPA. This seven-year project enabled the participants to construct a national model of how wastewater could be effectively managed to varying extents, depending upon the conditions faced by each town.



Onsite Wastewater System Basics

This section of the website provides easy-to-understand information about how conventional and advanced systems work. It also offers information about regulations governing these systems in New England.



Wastewater Manager's Toolkit

This section of the website is a guide for any town or county official or outreach education group trying to tackle wastewater management in their community.

Onsite System Research & Assessment

URI has conducted extensive research on alternative treatment systems which is summarized in this section. The issue of soil suitability, the use of GIS, and water quality monitoring are also addressed.



Training & Technical Support

Based at URI-CELS, the New England Onsite Wastewater Training Program offers 24 courses about wastewater design, installation, siting, and management.



<http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/RESOURCES/wastewater/index.htm>

For More Information

The University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Program and New England Onsite Wastewater Training (NEOWT) Program have developed this online tool, drawing upon their more-than-decade-long experience assisting professional practitioners and communities in understanding onsite wastewater treatment technologies and creating wastewater management programs. This URI-CELS website features detailed materials that not only will guide communities but also can serve as a resource for homeowners and a variety of wastewater professionals.

For additional information on wastewater treatment and management, visit the NEOWTP and NEMO websites at: <http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/>

How might you use the URI-CELS Onsite Wastewater Resource Center?

As an outreach educator, you might find the Wastewater Manager's Toolkit particularly helpful, in an effort to help communities tackle wastewater issues. The toolkit offers tips such as those shown below.



Start With Education

- The toolkit offers sample articles, fact sheets, letters to residents, and general guidance on defining your message and creating incentives.



Build Support for Ordinance Adoption

- You'll find actual examples of ordinances that have been used in Rhode Island as well as the educational and outreach strategies used to communicate with residents about the ordinance.



Approach It In Phases

- The toolkit makes suggestions about how to create a program when staff and funding are limited and how to implement inspection tracking programs over time.

