

Introduction

The *Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas* (Rev. No. 2 March 2009) provides guidance for preventing or minimizing the related problems of erosion, sediment and stormwater on construction sites associated with non-agricultural development.

This latest update of the Handbook is designed to provide comprehensive information useful to planners, designers, developers, contractors and inspectors.

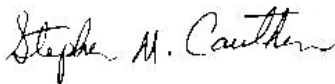
Volume 1 provides essential information that can be used by trained planners and designers to develop sound plans and designs.

Volume 2 provides information that can be used by developers, contractors and inspectors to install and maintain the measures, commonly referred to as Best Management Practices.

Potential Handbook users should recognize that plans, designs, installation and maintenance are integral and related aspects of site development. Each aspect has a role in sound development and protection of natural resources. With this viewpoint, we recognize that both volumes of the Handbook contain information necessary for site stewardship. Depending upon their role in the development process, users may need one or both of the volumes.

Yes, regulations are necessary for several reasons, but a stewardship ethic that recognizes that our natural resources should be protected during and after development should be a mindset of each party involved in land development. This approach puts the tasks of erosion control, sediment control and stormwater management in a proactive mode which is essential to minimize negative impacts during development.

The Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee encourages those involved in construction activities to voluntarily and aggressively embrace sound technology and practice strong stewardship of our land and water resources. This approach maximizes benefits to those involved and protects the environment.



Stephen M. Cauthen, Executive Director
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