

## **Re-certification Requirements for: Level 1A, Level 1B and Level 2 Erosion Control Certification**

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 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, 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.

### ***Frequently Asked Questions***

#### **When can I become re-certified?**

Individuals can begin taking continuing education courses 1 year before their certification expires. Any course or courses taken prior to the 1 year mark will not be accepted.

#### **What if I allow my certification to expire?**

Individuals seeking to extend or renew an expired certification, regardless of how long a certification has been expired, must attend at least four (4) hours of continuing education.

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

#### **Will there be a re-certification exam? NO**

There will be no exam for re-certification. To become re-certified, individuals must attend a course or courses totaling four hours of continuing education.

#### **What if I have multiple certifications?**

Individuals must attend four (4) hours of continuing education for every certification they wish to renew. Example: If an individual is a Certified Inspector and Certified Plan Reviewer they would need to take 4 hours for Level IB and 4 hours for Level II for a total of 8 hours of continuing education.

#### **When will I receive my new certification card?**

Individuals with four (4) or more hours will receive a new certification card / sticker in the mail approximately one week before the initial certification expires.

#### **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 GSWCC once. Qualified Aliens are still required to submit lawful presence documentation for each certification and re-certification course they attend.

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 Commission, every three years. (O.C.G.A. 12-7-19)

Individuals that attend approved course(s) must present the instructor with government issued photo ID and current certification card or proof of valid certification (from GSWCC website) <http://gaswcc.georgia.gov/verification-lawful-presence-es-certification>