

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONERS' HANDBOOK

Fifth Edition

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	ii	CHAPTER 6	48
PREFACE	iii	Land Use Issues in Developed Communities	
CHAPTER 1	1	Brownfields Redevelopment.....	49
What Is an Environmental Commission?		Eminent Domain.....	51
Enabling Legislation	1	Environmental Justice.....	51
Legal Status	1	CHAPTER 7	53
Membership.....	2	Preserving Natural and Cultural Resources	
Legal Liability	3	Protecting Water Resources	53
Mandated Responsibilities	4	Energy Conservation and Sustainability	55
Powers	4	Open Space Protection.....	58
Funding	4	Historic Preservation.....	62
The Commission's Fiscal Budget	5	CHAPTER 8	64
CHAPTER 2	6	Pollution Control	
How an Effective Commission Operates		Solid Waste and Recycling.....	64
Tools.....	8	Protecting Water Quality	66
Relationship with Municipal Government	11	Hazardous Substances	69
Relationship with Other Levels of Government.	16	CHAPTER 9	72
CHAPTER 3	20	Ordinances	
The Environmental Resource Inventory		Background	72
What's in an ERI?	20	Sample Ordinances.....	73
ERI Format.....	21	APPENDIX A	77
Creating or Updating an ERI	24	Environmental Commission Enabling	
The Significance of Data in the ERI	24	Legislation	
Using the ERI	29	APPENDIX B	83
CHAPTER 4	30	Where to Go for More Information	
Land Use Planning and Regulation		APPENDIX C	88
Municipal Planning.....	30	Glossary	
Regional Protection Areas	36	APPENDIX D	92
The State Plan.....	38	Environmental Laws Referred to in	
CHAPTER 5	39	This Book	
Subdivision and Site Plan Review		APPENDIX E	93
The Site Plan.....	39	Tools for Commissioners	
The Commission's Role in Site Plan Review ..	44		