

Geoscience in Your State: Rhode Island

WHAT IS GEOSCIENCE?

Geoscience is the study of the earth and the complex geology, natural resources, and geologic processes that sustain life and the economy. Understanding the earth's history and evolution, its resources, history, and geologic hazards is critical to developing sustainable and environmentally sound and safe societies.



By the numbers: RHODE ISLAND

- 990 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)¹
- 33 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal²
- 426 million cubic feet of water: average production in 2017
- 2.5 billion cubic feet of water: total production in 2017
- 1.5 billion cubic feet of water: total production in 2017
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BBQ CAY WETLANDS IN RHODE ISLAND

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3. Average production in 2017	4. Total production in 2017
5. Total production in 2017	6. Total production in 2017
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Source: U.S. Geological Survey, 2017. Data for 2017 is preliminary and subject to change. For more information, visit <http://www.usgs.gov>.

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- \$63 million: value of nonfuel mineral production in 2017 4 22 total disaster declarations, including 9 hurricane, 6 snow, and 5 severe storm disasters (1953-2017)?
- \$8.9 million: NSF GEO grants awarded in 2017 14

What is...

Read more in this Geoscience in Your State Factsheet...

Agencies Working on Geoscience Issues in Rhode Island

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council

<http://www.crmc.ri.gov/>

The Coastal Resources Management Council is a management agency with regulatory functions. Its primary responsibility is for the preservation, protection, development and where possible the restoration of the coastal areas of the state via the implementation of its integrated and comprehensive coastal management plans and the issuance of permits for work with the coastal zone of the state.

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/>

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) serves as the chief steward of the state's natural resources. The DEM's mission put simply is to protect, restore, and promote our environment to ensure Rhode Island remains a wonderful place to live, visit, and raise a family.

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency

<http://www.riema.ri.gov/>

The mission of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency is to reduce the loss of life and property for the whole community while ensuring that as a state we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all natural, human-caused, and technological hazards.

Rhode Island Geological Survey

<https://web.uri.edu/geo/rhode-island-geological-survey/>

The mission of the Rhode Island Geological Survey and the Rhode Island State Geologist is to provide the people of Rhode Island with quality geologic information to facilitate informed decision-making for natural resource management, economic development, conservation planning, and regulation; to provide public assistance; and to promote education.

Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

<http://www.energy.ri.gov/index.php>

The Office of Energy Resources (OER) is Rhode Island's lead state agency on energy policy and programs. The mission of OER is to lead Rhode Island to a secure, cost-effective, and sustainable energy future.

Rhode Island Water Resources Board

<http://www.wrb.ri.gov/index.html>

The Rhode Island Water Resources Board is an executive agency of state government charged with managing the proper development, utilization and conservation of water resources. Its primary responsibility is to ensure that sufficient water supply is available for present and future generations, apportioning available water to all areas of the state, if necessary.

University of Rhode Island Environmental Data Center

<https://www.edc.uri.edu/>

The Environmental Data Center is the center of technical expertise in GIS for the state of Rhode Island. The (EDC) is a Geographic Information System (GIS) and spatial data analysis laboratory at the University of Rhode Island. The mission of the EDC is to support the use of contemporary tools of spatial data processing and electronic dissemination in the analysis and distribution of environmental data.

Maps & Visualizations



Interactive map of offshore sand and gravel resources of the United States

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Marine Minerals Information System (MMIS) provides an interactive map with information on offshore sand and gravel resources for 18 states on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States. The system includes: Sand and gravel resources Marine...

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Case Studies & Factsheets

Cover of AGI Factsheet 2018-004 - Present Day Climate Change

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Present Day Climate Change

Climate Science 101 Climate is the average of weather conditions over several decades.^{1,2} Geoscientists monitor modern climate conditions (1880 A.D. to present) in part by taking direct measurements of weather data (i.e., air temperature, rainfall and snowfall, wind speed, cloudiness, and so on)...

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Webinars & Forums



Offshore Energy

This webinar is based on a Congressional briefing organized by the Advances in Earth Science coalition (16 May 2016). The webinar brings together experts from academia and government to explain the scientific and engineering tools that enable production in challenging environments far from land...

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