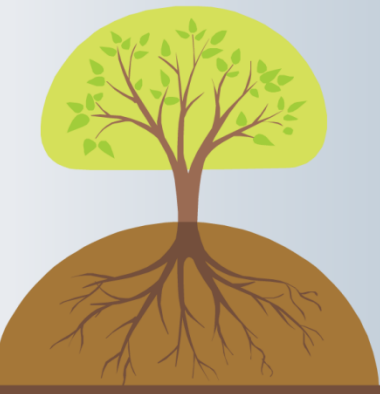


Summer 2012

South Carolina Soil Classifier

An E-Newsletter from the S.C. Soil Classifier Advisory Council



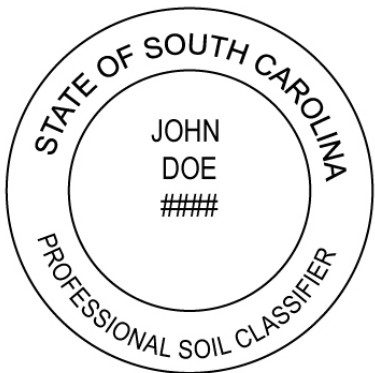
New Regulations

New Regulations will go into effect for the Soil Classifiers Advisory Council on June 22, 2012. The purpose of these regulations is to conform to changes made to the statute during the 2010 legislative session. You can view the new regulations at [www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/4186%20\(Final%205-25-12\).pdf](http://www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/4186%20(Final%205-25-12).pdf) . Below are significant changes that will affect licensees when these regulations go into effect:

Applicants for certification as a soil classifier-in-training or for licensure as a professional soil classifier will be responsible for providing all application and verification forms (Section 108-2). The Department will no longer mail employment verification forms or comity verification forms on behalf of applicants. Every applicant must provide the following documents in order to complete their application for review:

- The completed application. Applications are available at www.llronline.com/POL/soil/PDF/Applications/Soil%20Application.pdf
- The \$25 application fee. Please make checks payable to LLR – Soil Classifiers Advisory Council.
- Five professional references, three of which must be licensed soil classifiers or soil scientists (in any state). Reference forms are available at www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/Applications/Soil%20Reference%20Form2010.pdf .
- Employment verification forms for all employers listed under the “employment” section of the application. Employment verification forms are available at www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/Applications/Soil%20Employment%20Verification.pdf .
- A copy of your score report for all soils examinations you have successfully completed.
- Comity verification forms for all states where the applicant holds current licensure. Comity verification forms are available at www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/Applications/Soil%20Comity%20Form.pdf .

There is a more specific description of the seal (Section 108-3). The following design is a pictorial depiction of how the seal should look for anybody licensed in the State of South Carolina after July 1, 2012:



Individuals licensed prior to July 1, 2012, may continue to use the previous design approved by Council.

Continuing Education is now required for license renewals (Section 108-5). Licensees will be required to report six hours of continuing education activities to renew their licenses in 2013. One of these hours must be in the area of professional ethics roles, responsibilities and conduct of a professional soil classifier, or review of the SC Statute and Regulations. Licensees will be required to report 30 hours of continuing education activities to renew licenses in 2015 and biennially thereafter. Section 108-5 gives additional information on what activities will count toward fulfilling this requirement. **The Board will not pre-approve courses.** Licensees will be responsible for maintaining their own records and submitting them to the Department if selected for audit. Please see Section 108-5(B) for details on proper documentation of continuing education activities. Exemptions to this

S.C. Soil Classifiers Advisory Council:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dennis D. DeFrancesco, Chairman
Randall K. Fowler, Vice -Chairman
Bill R. Smith
David L. Hargett

COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The SC Soil Classifiers Advisory Council will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2012. The meeting will be held at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Room 204, Columbia, SC.

OFFICE STAFF

Jan B. Simpson, Administrator
Sherri Mooror, Program Assistant

OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

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Web: www.llronline.com/POL/soil

COUNCIL OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday

requirement are detailed in Section 108-5(D). Additional information and answers to frequently asked questions are available at www.llronline.com/POL/soil/index.asp?file=ce.htm.

The Code of Ethics has been updated (Section 108-8). The new code of ethics includes sections for relation of professional to the public, relation of professional to employer and client, relation of professionals to each other, and duty to the profession. Be sure to review Section 108-8 for the updated code of ethics.

Online Soil Roster Available

A roster of professional soil classifiers licensed in the State of South Carolina is available online at www.llronline.com/POL/soil/PDF/Soil%20Roster.pdf. This roster is provided free of charge and is updated regularly.

Licensure can also be verified on the "Licensee Lookup" feature online at <https://verify.llronline.com/LicLookup/LookupMain.aspx>.

Filing a Complaint

To file a complaint against a licensee, please complete the LLR Complaint form located at www.llronline.com/POL/Soil/PDF/Complaint%20Form.pdf and mail it or send by fax to the address at the top of the form. In order to investigate the complaint, you must provide your name, complete mailing address, and daytime telephone number, including area code. Please provide as much information as possible about the person against whom you are complaining (Respondent).

Please provide a detailed description of the way the licensed soil classifier has harmed you or has violated any provision of the **Soil Classifiers Licensure Law and Regulations:**

- Indicate the specific things that were done improperly/incompletely.
- Indicate the dollar cost, if known.
- Describe the evidence that is available and provide copies of soil reports, correspondence, invoices, or other written items to document the complaint.
- Provide the name, address, and daytime telephone number of any witness who can provide testimony.

If a signed contract or letter of agreement with the soil classifier is available, please provide a copy.

If you are represented by legal counsel, please provide the name, firm, address, and telephone number of the attorney.

Disciplinary procedures are set forth in Section 40-65-110.

PLEASE NOTE: Filing a complaint with the Council does not always initiate disciplinary action against a licensee. A complaint gives the Investigative Unit information which will be evaluated so a determination can be made as to the necessity of investigation and the Council's jurisdiction. If an investigation is conducted, an Investigative Review Committee evaluates all investigative information and recommends whether disciplinary action is appropriate.

If the complaint concerns disputes over fees charged for services, Council will not be able to resolve the matter. Contractual matters between the soil classifier and client are covered under civil law and generally do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Soil Classifiers Registration Program.

Applying to Serve on the SC Soil Classifiers Advisory Council

Members of the SC Soil Classifiers Advisory Council are appointed by the Department. The primary responsibility of Council members is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public of South Carolina.

A professional member of the Council must be a citizen of the United States, licensed in the State of South Carolina, actively engaged in the practice of soil classifying for a period of 10 years and in a position of responsible charge of soil classification for a period of at least six years.

Anybody interested in serving on the Council should complete a letter of interest and a resume that includes the following information:

- Education and collegiate achievements.
- Professional experience.
- Professional and technical society activities.
- Civic and humanitarian activities.

State Holidays

The Council office will be closed in observance of the following state holidays:

Wednesday, July 4, 2012 – Independence Day

Monday, September 3, 2012 – Labor Day

Monday, November 12, 2012 – Veteran's Day

Thursday and Friday, November 22-23, 2012 – Thanksgiving Day

Monday, December 24, 2012 – Christmas Eve

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 25-26, 2012 – Christmas Day

- Continuing competence.
- General personal data.
- References or letters of recommendation, if available.

Letters of Interest and resumes can be sent to:

SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Soil Classifiers Advisory Council
Post Office Box 11419
Columbia, SC 29211-1419
FAX: (803) 896-4427
E-mail: sherri.moorer@llr.sc.gov