



## Rhode Island Land Use/Land Cover 2003-2004 – What is it?

In 2007 the RI Department of Administration, Division of Planning, Statewide Planning Program Land Use Unit and the RI Geographic Information System staff completed a project to update land cover and land use characteristics for the state. The mapping project also involved the RI Department of Environmental Management and the University of Rhode Island's Environmental Data Center. The Sanborn Map Company was contracted to perform the project using a previously untried technical approach involving a semi-automated process based on the RIGIS/RIDOT color orthophotography obtained in 2003 and 2004. The digital GIS data and supporting information that resulted is intended to assist Rhode Island's community of planners and land resource managers.

This is the latest land cover - land use data sets for Rhode Island. It contains the statewide land use data set itself (rilu0304) in an ESRI coverage format. Metadata detailing the specific characteristics for each data set are also included. *It should be noted that users must keep in mind factors specifically related to the treatment of forested and wetland areas in this data set. Rilu0304 does not contain all wetlands in the state that were previously identified in the 1988/1995 RIGIS land use data sets or other RIGIS wetlands data sets (as included on this DVD).* Areas classified as forested wetlands in those earlier land use data sets are shown as forest types in rilu0304. It also must be recognized that a significantly different technical approach was used to develop rilu0304 as compared to previous RIGIS land use data sets. *Therefore, direct comparisons resulting from any statistical analysis between Rilu0304 and previous RIGIS land use or wetlands data should be interpreted with caution.*

**The following data and supporting information is on the World Wide Web site maintained by the University of Rhode Island's Environmental Data Center for free download at: [www.edc.uri.edu/rigis](http://www.edc.uri.edu/rigis):**

## **DATA**

- GISVector - Ril0304 – Land cover/landuse for the entire state and adjacent nearby areas of Connecticut and Massachusetts and other RIGIS data.
- Raster - The 2003/2004 RIGIS/RIDOT statewide Orthophotography in MrSid (MG3) format and image index catalog files.
- Metadata - Documentation for all data in the above GISVector and Raster file folders

**IMPERVIOUS SURFACE** – A Statewide Impervious Surface data set in an ESRI Grid format with metadata.html

**METADATA** – Metadata documentation on ril0304 and all derivatives in html, sgml and xml formats as well as the consultants “Processing Document” explaining on how ril0304 was created with supporting LCLU code classifications and Buffer Rule documents used to create and classify polygon features.