

**Major Changes to Standard  
Stream Crossing (Code 578)  
April 2012**

The main differences between the 2012 and 2008 VA Stream Crossing Standards are:

- Renewed conditions for permit exemption from state and Federal agencies (no substantial change in policy or procedure).
- New design specifications for bridges (AASHTO reference provided).
- The 10-year, 24-hr storm stability criterion has been dropped for rock ford crossings. Rock must be sized to remain stable for the bankfull flow (the criterion used prior to 2008).
- New emphasis on aquatic organism passage: greater attention must be paid to avoid creating barriers to aquatic life migration. Several excellent references were added that address this topic.
- Details were added to the DESIGN DATA requirements to clarify existing documentation expectations.