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How to Use this Guide

The *MaineDOT Highway Design Guide* has been developed to provide uniform design practices for Department and consultant personnel preparing contract plans for Department projects. The highway designer should attempt to meet all criteria presented in the guide. Where both desirable and minimum criteria are available, the designer should meet the desirable criteria if practical. However, this guide should not be considered a standard which must be met regardless of impacts.

The guide presents most of the information normally required in the design of a highway project; however it is impossible to address every situation which the designer will encounter. Therefore designers must exercise good judgment on individual projects and frequently be innovative in their approach to highway design. This may require additional research into highway literature.

Each page contains the page issue date in the upper left hand corner. The page number is located on the top in the middle with the section name underneath it. Pages, figures and tables are numbered consecutively throughout each chapter. The Department will provide revisions of the *Highway Design Guide* as they are made in the future if the holder has returned the "Registration Form for Future Guide Updates" that is included with the guide.

The *MaineDOT Highway Design Guide* is divided into two volumes:

- Volume I is based on the National Standards as set forth by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) in *A Policy of Geometric Design of Highways and Streets*. This volume of the Guide may be utilized for all State roadway projects but must be utilized for all projects on the National Highway System (NHS).
- Volume II is based on standards developed for the State of Maine and may be utilized for all non-NHS roadway projects.

If there are errors discovered in the *Highway Design Guide* or you have questions regarding any part please contact the following:

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