

ECTC's Online Privacy Agreement

Updated June 26, 2025

Erosion Control Technology Council (ECTC) values its users' privacy. This Privacy Policy ("Policy") will help you understand how we collect and use personal information from those who visit our website or make use of our online facilities and services, and what will and will not do with the information we collect. Our Policy has been designed and created to ensure those affiliated with the Erosion Control Technology Council of our commitment and realization of our obligation not only to meet, but to exceed, most existing privacy standards.

We reserve the right to make changes to this Policy at any given time. If you want to make sure that you are up to date with the latest changes, we advise you to frequently visit this page. If at any point in time the Erosion Control Technology Council decides to make use of any personally identifiable information on file, in a manner vastly different from that which was stated when this information was initially collected, the user or users shall be promptly notified by email. Users at that time shall have the option as to whether to permit the use of their information in this separate manner.

The Policy applies to Erosion Control Technology Council, and it governs any and all data collection and usage by us. Through the use of www.ectc.org or erosioncouncil.org, you are therefore consenting to the data collection procedures expressed in this Policy.

This Policy does not govern the collection and use of information by companies that ECTC does not control, nor by individuals not employed or managed by us. If you visit a website that we mention or link to, be sure to review its privacy policy before providing the site with information.

Specifically, this Policy will inform you of the following:

1. What personally identifiable information is collected from you through our website
2. Why do we collect personal identifiable information and the legal basis for such collection
3. How ECTC use the collected information and with whom it may be shared
4. What choices are available to you regarding the use of your data; and
5. The security procedures in place to protect the misuse of your information

Information We Collect

It is always up to you whether to disclose personally identifiable information to us, although if you elect not to do so, we reserve the right not to register you as a user or provide you with any products or services. The website collects various types of information, such as:

- Voluntarily provided information which may include your name, address, email address, billing and/or credit card information etc. which may be used when you purchase membership in ECTC.
- Information automatically collected when visiting ECTC's website, which may include cookies, third part tracking technologies and server logs.

In addition, ECTC may have the occasion to collect non-personal anonymous demographic information, such as age, gender, the type of browser you are using, IP address, or type of operating system, which will assist us in providing and maintaining superior quality service. ECTC may also deem it necessary, from time to time, to follow websites that our users may frequent to understand what types of services and products may be the most interesting to customers or the general public.

ECTC's website will collect personal information that you know and willingly provide to us by way of survey, completed membership forms and emails. It is the intent of this site to use personal information only for the purpose for which it was requested, and any additional uses specifically provided for in this Policy.

Why We Collect Information and For How Long

We are Collecting your data for several reasons:

- To better understand your needs and provide you with the services you have requested
- To fulfill our legitimate interest in improving our services and products
- To send you promotional emails containing information we think you may like when we have your consent to do so
- To contact you to fill out surveys or participate in other types of market research, when we have your consent to do so
- To customize our website according to your online behavior and personal preferences.

The data we collect from you will be stored for no longer than necessary. The length of time we retain said information will be determined based upon the following criteria; the length of time your personal information remains relevant; the length of time it is reasonable to keep records to demonstrate we have fulfilled our duties and obligations; any limitation periods within which claims might be made; any retention periods prescribed by law or recommended by regulators, professional bodies or associations; the type of contract we have with you, the existence of your consent, and our legitimate interest in keeping such information as stated in this Policy.

Use of Information Collected

The Erosion Control Technology Council may collect and may make use of personal information to assist in the operation of our website and to ensure delivery of the services you need and request. At times, we may find it necessary to use personally identifiable information as a means to keep you informed of other possible products and/or services that may be available to you from www.ectc.org or erosioncouncil.org.

ECTC may also be in contact with you with regards to completing surveys and/or research questionnaires related to your opinion of current or potential future services that may be offered.

ECTC uses various third-party social media features including but not limited to Facebook; LinkedIn; Instagram; Fiverr and other interactive programs. These may collect your IP address and require cookies to work properly. These services are governed by the privacy policies of the providers and are not within ECTC's control.

Disclosure of Information

Erosion Control Technology Council may not use or disclose the information provided by you except under the following circumstances:

- As necessary to provide services or products you have ordered
- In other ways described in this Policy or to which you have otherwise consented
- In the aggregate with other information in such a way that your identity cannot reasonably be determined
- As required by law, or in response to a subpoena or search warrant
- To outside auditors who agreed to keep the information confidential
- As necessary to enforce the Terms of Service
- As necessary to maintain, safeguard and preserve all the rights and property of ECTC.

Non-Marketing Purposes

ECTC respects your privacy. We maintain and reserve the right to contact you if needed for non-marketing purposes (such as security breaches, account issues, and/or changes in products and services). In certain circumstances, we may use our website, newspapers, or other public means to post a notice.

Children Under the Age of 13

ECTC's website is not directed to, and does not knowingly collect personal identifiable information from, children under the age of thirteen (13). If it is determined that such information has been inadvertently collected on anyone under the age of thirteen (13), we shall immediately take the necessary steps to ensure that such information is deleted from our system's database, or in the alternative, that verifiable parental consent is obtained for the use and storage of such information. Anyone under the age of thirteen (13) must seek and obtain parent or guardian permission to use this website.

Unsubscribe or Opt-Out

All users and visitors to our website have the option to discontinue receiving communications from us by way of email or newsletters. To discontinue or unsubscribe from our website, click the unsubscribe link that is found at the bottom of emails. If you wish to unsubscribe or opt-out from any third-party websites, you must go to that specific website to unsubscribe or opt-out. ECTC will continue to adhere to this Policy with respect to any personal information previously collected.

Links to Other Websites

ECTC's website does contain links to affiliate and other websites. ECTC does not claim nor accept responsibility for any privacy policies, practices and/or procedures of other such websites. Therefore, ECTC encourages all users and visitors to be aware when they leave our website and to read the privacy statements of every website that collects personally identifiable information. This Privacy Policy Agreement applies only and solely to the information collected by our website.

Notice to European Union Users

ECTC's operations are located primarily in the United States. If you provide information to us, the information will be transferred out of the European Union (EU) and sent to the United States. (The adequacy decision on the EU-US Privacy became operational on August 1, 2016. This framework protects the fundamental rights of anyone in the EU whose personal data is transferred to the United States for commercial purposes. It allows the free transfer of data to companies that are certified in the US under the Privacy Shield.) By providing personal information to us, you are consenting to its storage and use as described in this Policy.

Security

ECTC takes precautions to protect your information. When you submit sensitive information via the website, your information is protected both online and offline. Wherever we collect sensitive information, (e.g. credit card information), that information is encrypted and transmitted to us in a secure way. You can verify this by looking for the lock icon in the address bar and looking for "https" at the beginning of the address of the webpage.

Acceptance of Terms

By using this website, you are hereby accepting the terms and conditions stipulated within the Privacy Policy Agreement. If you are not in agreement with our terms and conditions, then you should refrain from further use of our sites. In addition, your continued use of our website following the posting of any updates or changes to our terms and conditions shall mean that you agree and accept such changes.

How to Contact Us

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Privacy Policy Agreement related to our website, please feel free to contact us at the following email, telephone number or mailing address.

Email: info@erosioncouncil.org

Mailing address: 3273 Argent Blvd. Suite 103C Ridgeland, SC 29936