



Vermont Clean Water Fund Fiscal Year 2018 Priorities

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather public input on Vermont's clean water funding priorities for the next state fiscal year. Supporting documents can be found at <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/cwf> and are linked below.

Supporting documents:

[Draft Fiscal Year 2018 Clean Water Fund Priorities](#)

[Summary of Vermont Clean Water Fund Progress](#)

The Vermont Clean Water Act, signed into law in June of 2015, focuses on improving water quality in the State's lakes, rivers, ponds, and wetlands. The legislation also created the Vermont Clean Water Fund to assist municipalities, farmers and others in making needed investments in priority clean water restoration projects.

The Act established a Vermont Clean Water Fund Board, which manages the Clean Water Fund. The Board consists of the secretaries from the agencies of Natural Resources (ANR), Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM), Transportation (VTrans), Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) and the Administration.

The Board will convene on August 24, 2016 and on September 8, 2016 and will use the information from this questionnaire to draft its recommendations for the Clean Water Fund for the next state fiscal year (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 or FY2018).

Your participation in the Clean Water Fund process is important to us. Your answers to this questionnaire will help the State to set funding targets across all sectors, and make investments in programs to achieve results.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. For those wishing to submit written comments without completing the questionnaire, you may do so by sending an email to: anr.cleanwatervt@vermont.gov or mailing comments to:

Attention: Vermont Clean Water Initiative
Department of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

If you have any questions, please contact: bethany.sargent@vermont.gov or (802) 490-6131.

The deadline for submitting this questionnaire is 4:30 pm, Sunday, July 30, 2016



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Major Water Pollution Sources and Priorities in Vermont

Vermont’s economic future is intimately tied to clean water. Vermont’s clean water provides fishing and other recreational opportunities, bolsters tourism and property values, and protects public health. Unfortunately, pollution continues to threaten our waters.

State scientists tell us that Vermont’s primary water pollution sources are runoff and erosion from rainwater or snowmelt that drain off of farm lands, barnyards, construction sites, parking lots, roads and other developed areas, unstable stream channels and logging areas. Lack of trees and shrubs along our waterways and lack of functioning floodplains and wetlands add to our water quality problems. The runoff carries with it sediment, nutrients (such as phosphorus that are naturally present in soils), pet and animal wastes, fertilizers, and other pollutants and deposits these pollutants into waterways.

1. Rate the water pollution sources that the Clean Water Fund Board should focus on for the next state fiscal year (FY2018).

	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	I do not know
Agricultural lands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developed lands such as parking lots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Industrial facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lack of vegetated buffers along waterways	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Logging areas and logging roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Roads	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unstable stream channels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wastewater treatment facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify in comment box below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other



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Targeting the Most Significant Water Pollution Problems in Vermont's Watersheds

Vermont has 17 major “watersheds” – land masses that drain to a common water body. In turn, these watersheds drain into a large watershed or “basin,” which include the basins of Lake Champlain, the Connecticut River, the Hudson River and Lake Memphremagog.

2. The fundamental purpose of the Clean Water Fund is to target the most significant water pollution sources in order to achieve clean water in the most cost-effective manner. How well does this targeting of the Clean Water Fund meet your expectations for achieving clean water across the state?

- Meets my expectations extremely well
- Meets my expectations very well
- Somewhat meets my expectations
- Does not meet my expectations well
- Does not meet my expectations at all
- I do not know



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Activities the Vermont Clean Water Fund Could Support

3. Which of the following activities should the Vermont Clean Water Fund employ to address current water quality needs for FY2018? (Select all that apply).

- Financial assistance to implement clean water actions using grants
- Financial assistance to implement clean water actions using loans
- Technical assistance to advise on practices and offer guidance in implementation
- State of the art mapping for project identification and prioritization
- Technical assistance to help municipalities establish local stormwater management programs, such as stormwater utilities
- Innovation, such as technologies and practices, to reduce water pollution
- Research, such as studies of impacts from emerging pollution sources or effectiveness of pollution controls
- Monitoring, such as water quality testing and mapping to track progress
- Regulation and enforcement
- I do not know
- Other (please specify)

4. Indicate how you would allocate FY2018 funds from the Clean Water Fund among the program categories listed below to address the State's priority clean water needs. Your answers should represent percentages and add up to 100%.

	Up to 10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%	I do not know
Farmers	<input type="radio"/>						
Assistance for municipalities	<input type="radio"/>						
Programs to restore river channels, floodplains, lake shorelands and wetlands	<input type="radio"/>						
Grants for municipal roads	<input type="radio"/>						
Other (please specify in comment box below)	<input type="radio"/>						

Other

5. Please offer any additional comments for the Clean Water Fund Board to consider when it convenes on September 8, 2016 to draft recommendations on the use of the Clean Water Fund as part of the FY2018 state budget.



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Vermont Clean Water Initiative Communications

6. If you would like to be added to the Vermont Clean Water Fund mailing list to be kept informed about the State's progress in safeguarding clean water, please provide your contact information below.

Name:

Company:

Address:

Address 2:

City/Town:

State:

ZIP:

Country:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

7. How did you hear of this questionnaire? (Select all that apply.)

Clean Water Conversation Meeting

Email

Blog

Website

Facebook

Mail

Word of mouth

I do not know

Other (please specify)