DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION DIVISION

WW PERMITAPPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE For permits issued under 10 V.S.A Chapter 64 Effective 7/1/2012

The 2011-2012 Session of the Vermont Legislature passed a new fee structure for projects requiring a Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Permit. The former fee structure intended to represent a fair method of calculating application fees but was extremely complicated to follow. It was also recognized that the structure, while attempting to be fair, created inconsistent fee decisions and that the fees did not always represent the amount of time required by staff to complete the application process from receipt to permit issuance. The goals of the new structure are to:

- Simplify the present fee structure by reducing the number of categories.
- Consolidate projects into categories that are similar in work and time spent by staff for review and permitting.
- Eliminate special fee categories to allow our program to operate independent of other programs within the Division and to ensure consistent fee decisions.
- Eliminate the \$15,000.00 maximum fee application fee.

With the new structure, we recognize that projects with design flows at the lower portion of each new category (particularly those served by municipal water and wastewater systems) will see a fee increase while projects that have design flows at the higher end of each new category will see a fee decrease. This is a consequence of having the new fee structure meet the above goals while at the same time attempting to generate fee revenues similar to that of recent years in order to help offset the program's operational costs.

We further recognize that projects filing an application to construct either a wastewater system or a potable water supply (but not both) will now see a fee increase. These projects still require staff to review the existing/unchanging supply or system and the fee increase also reflects the fact that these reviews frequently result in additional staff time being spent on considering potential variances that are needed for these types of projects.