



State of Vermont
GROUNDWATER CLASSIFICATION INFORMATION

RECLASSIFICATION OF GROUNDWATER

**SUMMARY
DESCRIPTION
OF GROUNDWATER
RECLASSIFICATION**

Reclassification of groundwater is not a permit, instead it is a designation assigned to a geographic area. Classification is designed to manage and protect Vermont's groundwater resources.

**EXAMPLE OF
REGULATED
ACTIVITY**

Class I: Suitable for public water supply. Character uniformly excellent. No exposure to activities that pose a risk to its current or potential use as a public water supply.

Class II: Suitable for public water supply. Character uniformly excellent but exposed to activities that may pose a risk to its current or potential use as a public water supply.

Class III: Suitable as a source of water for individual domestic water supply irrigation, agricultural use and general industrial and commercial use.

Class IV: Not suitable as a source of potable water but suitable for some agricultural, industrial and commercial use.

By default, all of Vermont's groundwater is classified as Class III Groundwater unless reclassified by the Secretary.

**CRITERIA FOR
JURISDICTION**

Groundwater can be reclassified by the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources based upon a petition and the following considerations:

1. its use or potential future use as a public water supply source;
2. the extent of an activity which poses a risk to the groundwater;
3. its current water quality;
4. its availability in quantities needed for beneficial use;
5. the consequences of its potential contamination and the availability of alternative sources of water; and
6. the classification of adjacent surface waters and other factors relevant to determine the maximum beneficial use of the aquifer.

**INFORMATION
REQUIRED**

The information required varies depending upon the type of classification requested. Please contact the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division for specific information.

WEB ADDRESS

<https://dec.vermont.gov/water/groundwater>

FEES

No fees are presently required.

APPLICATION

No time frame is presently established.

TIME FRAME

**ADMINISTERING
AGENCY**

<p>AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION DIVISION</p> <p>CONTACT: Rodney Pingree rodney.pingree@vermont.gov 802-585-4912</p> <p>ADDRESS: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 4 Montpelier, VT 05620-3521</p> <p>Application Forms and additional information are available at https://dec.vermont.gov/water/forms</p>

AUTHORITY

10 VSA Chapter 48, § 1390 - 1394 and 1410

**APPLICABLE
RULES**

Environmental Protection Rules, Chapter 12, Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategy

**APPEAL
PROCESS**

Within 30 days of the date of a decision, any person may appeal to the Environmental Division of the Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of [10 VSA Chapter 48](#).