

# Organizing Village Wastewater Solutions

A Workbook for  
Community Leaders



Use this workbook to help organize a village wastewater committee and to initiate wastewater solutions for your village.

August 30, 2018



Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)  
Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

# Getting Organized

✓	<b>THINGS YOU CAN DO TO START:</b>
	Form a diverse and committed wastewater committee
	Have the committee formally created or endorsed by the Selectboard
	Include a member of the selectboard, planning commission or other town official/staff on the committee
	Address village wastewater needs in the town plan
	Have the town plan approved by the regional planning commission with a confirmed planning process
	Establish a town planning fund that will allow you to match state grant funds
	Form a community vision for what you want your village to be
	Obtain Village Center designation from the state
	Conduct a survey of village residents, businesses and property owners to understand their water/ wastewater needs and concerns
	Write a short statement articulating why you need wastewater solutions and use it for outreach and grant applications

# Getting Organized

**An effective wastewater committee includes different types of people with diverse skills and traits:**

- organized
- enthusiastic
- has a stake in finding solutions
- has no stake in a solution
- has time
- persuasive
- well-connected in community
- provokes and questions
- has relevant knowledge
- has an official role in the town
- Other characteristics you need:  
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## **Wastewater Advisory Committee for Warren Village**

a.k.a. the “sewer rats,” achieved successful wastewater solutions through community involvement.

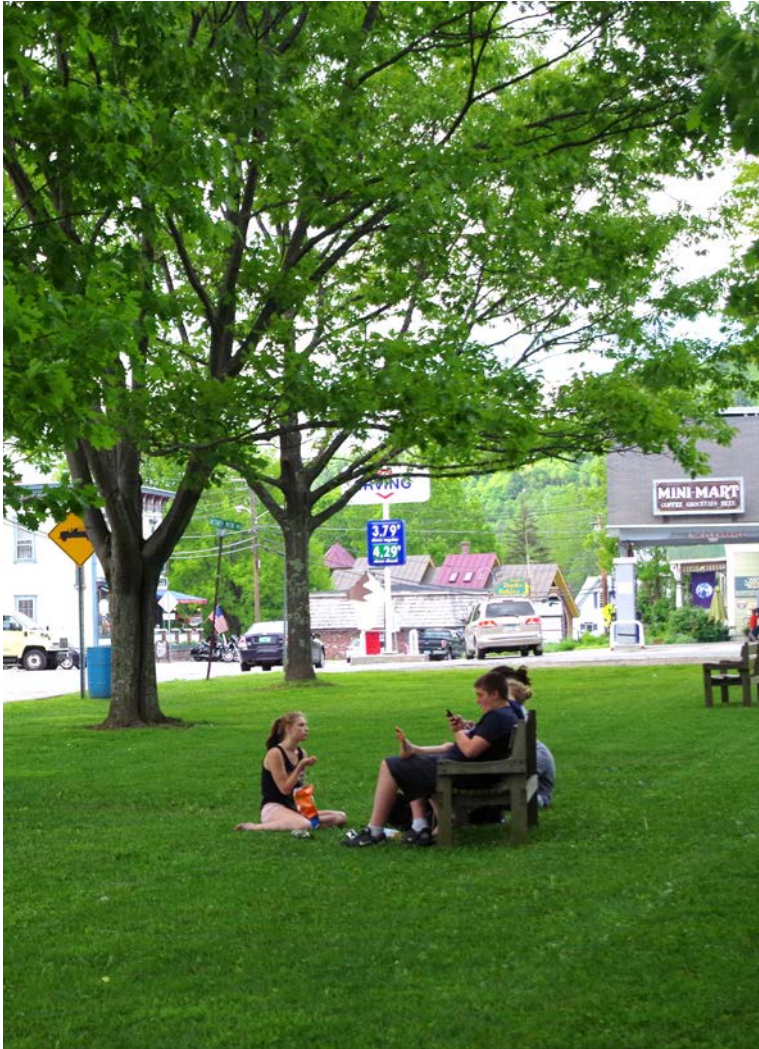
- Created by selectboard
- Included several village residents, a selectboard member and town staff
- Included some members who were wary of the project
- Door to door surveys to learn about wastewater needs and issues
- Kept survey and property information confidential
- Informed townspeople about the importance of wastewater treatment and the proposed solutions
- Held neighborhood pot lucks and other outreach to discuss results of studies



Wastewater management in Warren Village now includes a large shared system at the elementary school, two smaller shared systems, and some individual systems.



# What are Your Community Goals?















Rochester invested in a soil-based wastewater system that supports business and homes in the village center


- Revitalize village businesses
- Redevelop and reuse existing buildings
- Improve housing options
- Enable new development on vacant sites
- Retain value of existing homes and businesses
- Protect existing drinking water supplies
- Eliminate wastewater releases into river/lake/groundwater
- Work together to solve wastewater problems
- Other:

# Village Uses Now and in Future

Use	Existing	Hope to have	Wastewater Needs
Single family homes			
Multifamily homes			 
Senior housing			 
General store			
Cafe			  
Bakery			  
School lunch			  
Restaurant			  
Pub & brewery			  
Health care facility			
Hotel/motel			
Offices/bank			

# Village Uses (continued)

Use	Existing	Hope to have	Wastewater Needs
Town hall			
Library			
Community center			 
Gas station			
Retail			
Light industrial			 
Food processing			  
Public toilet/shower			
Other Uses:			

 = Volume of wastewater likely to be generated by the use and needing treatment

**Vermont Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules** – detail on the volume anticipated for permitting various uses. See tables on pages 66-72:

<http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/dec-wastewater-system-and-potable-water-supply-rules-2007-09-29.pdf>

# Vision for the Future



Waitsfield addressed village economic recovery and flood resilience in this community-driven master plan while implementing their wastewater solutions.

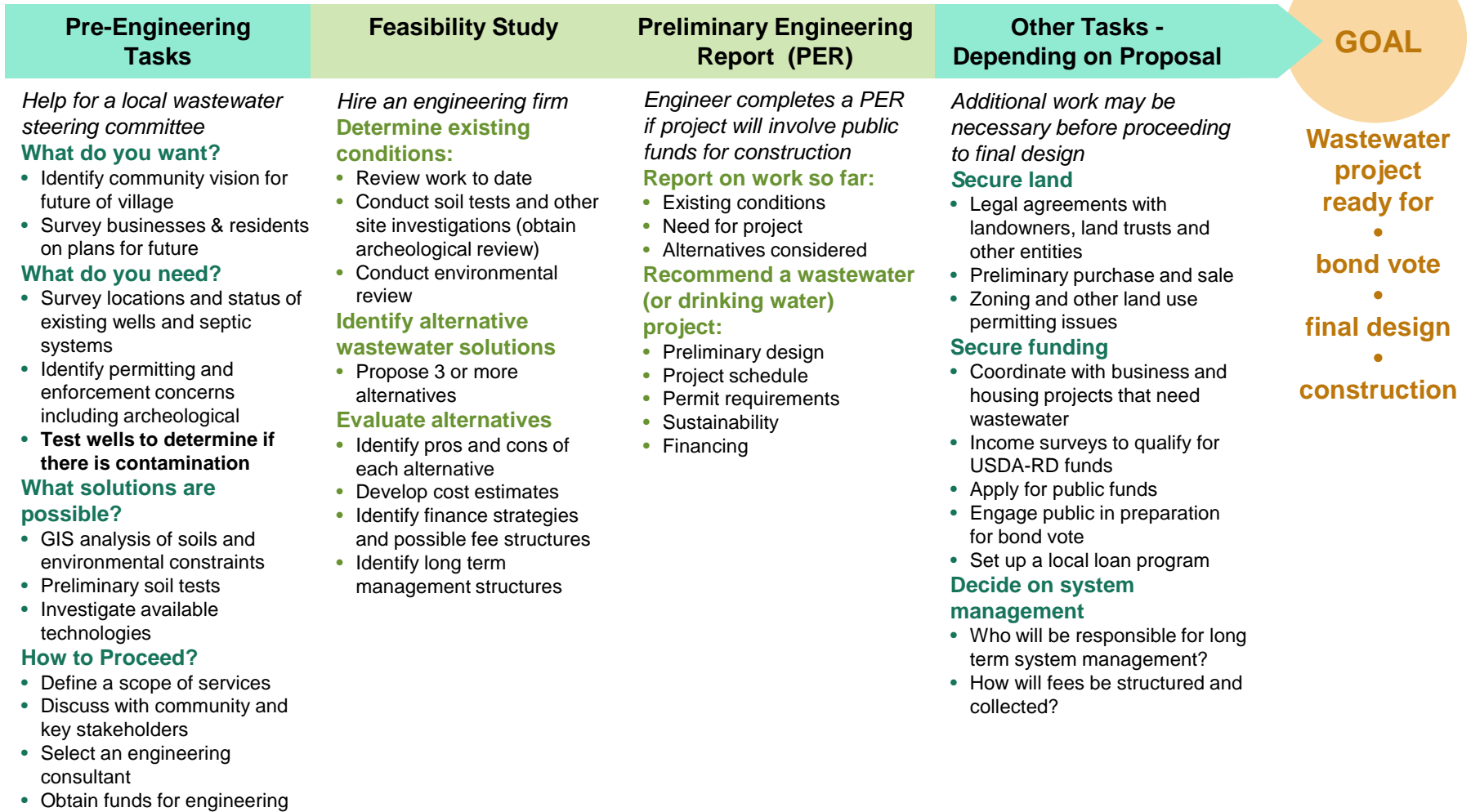
## Stimulate a community conversation:

- Determine Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
- Inventory and map what exists: businesses, homes, gathering places, vacant parcels & structures, building constraints, problem sites, etc.
- Map any future plans for the village: sidewalks, parks, public buildings, anticipated development, etc.
- Meet with property owners to determine their needs and aspirations
- Hold one or more public design and visioning workshops to generate concrete ideas for village improvements

Will you **MAINTAIN**, **EVOLVE** or **TRANSFORM** your village?

# Path to Wastewater Solutions for Villages

## TYPICAL ENGINEERING STUDIES



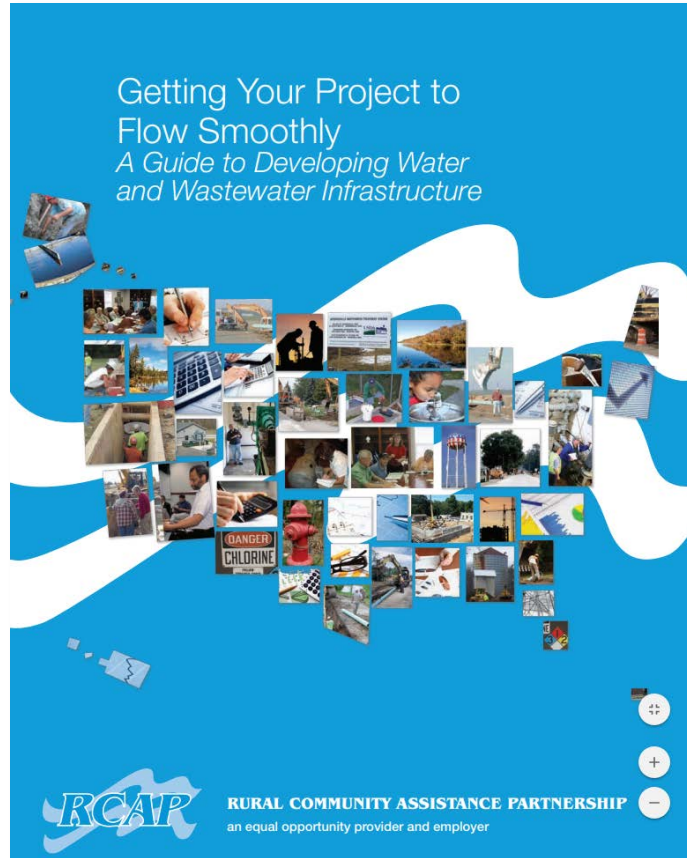
## PROJECT COORDINATOR

Work normally funded by DEC and USDA

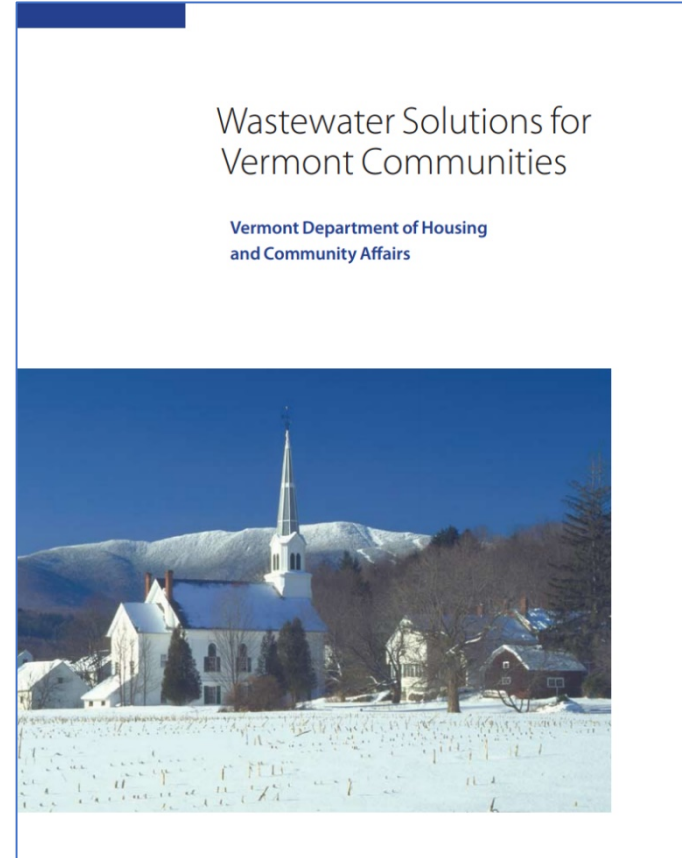
Work requiring other funds



# Where to Find Help



<https://rcap.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/RCAP-Getting-Your-Project-to-Flow-Smoothly.pdf>



<http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/C/D/CPR/DHCD-Planning-WW-Treatment-Options-Guidance.pdf>

**Guidebooks for Getting Started**

# Where to Find Help

PROGRAM	ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE	CONTACT
<b>Vermont Pollution Control Planning Advance</b>	Planning advances for unsewered villages, up to \$25,000	<b>Lynnette Claudon</b> <a href="mailto:lynnette.claudon@vermont.gov">lynnette.claudon@vermont.gov</a> 802-490-6226
<b>Vermont Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)</b>	Planning, design, and construction loans for clean water projects, currently no funding cap.	<b>Tom Brown</b> <a href="mailto:thomas.brown@vermont.gov">thomas.brown@vermont.gov</a> 802-622-4205
<b>Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)</b>	Planning, design, and construction loans for drinking water projects, currently no funding cap.	<b>Ashley Lucht</b> <a href="mailto:ashley.lucht@vermont.gov">ashley.lucht@vermont.gov</a> 802-585-4904
<b>USDA-RD</b>	Construction loans and grants for clean water and drinking water projects & more.	<b>Jon Muise</b> <a href="mailto:jon.muise@vt.usda.gov">jon.muise@vt.usda.gov</a>
<b>Municipal Planning Grants (MPG)</b>	State grants up to \$22,000 fund a wide range of community planning needs including work on wastewater solutions.	<b>Faith Ingulsrud</b> <a href="mailto:faith.ingulsrud@vermont.gov">faith.ingulsrud@vermont.gov</a> 802-839-0964
<b>Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP)</b>	Federal grants for Planning and implementing projects that benefit people of low and moderate incomes.	<b>Nate Cleveland</b> <a href="mailto:nathan.cleveland@vermont.gov">nathan.cleveland@vermont.gov</a> 802-828-2998
<b>RCAP Solutions</b>	Assistance with planning, finance, project development, administration, operation and maintenance. Free for eligible communities.	<b>Mark Johnson</b> <a href="mailto:mjohnson@rcapsolutions.org">mjohnson@rcapsolutions.org</a> 802-505-1037
<b>Regional Planning Commissions (RPC)</b>	Community organization support, education & outreach, proposal development, plan elements, and project administration.	<b>Find your RPC here:</b> <a href="https://www.vapda.org/">https://www.vapda.org/</a>
<b>Vermont DEC Environmental Assistance Office</b>	Information resources and non-regulatory environmental compliance assistance to municipalities and businesses	<b>Ed Antczak</b> <a href="mailto:ed.antczak@vermont.gov">ed.antczak@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Village Center Designation</b>	State designation supports the historic center and targets training and financial incentives to bring additional public and private investment to the village.	<b>Richard Amore</b> <a href="mailto:richard.amore@vermont.gov">richard.amore@vermont.gov</a>