

Ecosystem Restoration Grant Opportunities

Fiscal Year 2018



Ecosystem Restoration Grant Opportunities – FY 2018

Ecosystem Restoration Grant RFP - est. \$3.1 million

Standard grant program

Release May 22

Batch review - July 5

*Announce approximately July 28**

River Corridor Easement RFP – est. \$325,000

Released May 10

Due June 20

Announce approximately June 30



Ecosystem Restoration Grant Opportunities – FY 2018

Block grant Program – est. \$2 million

Construction of priority projects statewide –Step 3/“Go-list”

Additional projects continually recruited for database

Release of RFP - May 22 for process only

Due June 5

Municipal Roads Grant-in-aid Pilot - est. \$2.5 million

Support for municipalities to implement road BMPs by directly distributing funds

Implementation – approximately May 30

Other categories

Clean Water Fund Partner support – est. \$592,000

Direct Grants – est. \$597,00

Direct Contracts – est.\$314,000

*New and improved
grant application
process for FY2018*

1. **Grant application manual**
2. Grant Award timeline
3. Funding sources, amounts, priorities
4. Equipment grants
5. Watershed Project database
6. ANR Atlas Map requirement
7. Operations and maintenance
8. Milestones and deliverables
9. Grant reporting
10. Signage
11. Application



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2. Grant Award Timeline

Grant Round	Deadline for Batch Review	Notification of Awards
Round 1	July 5, 2017	July 28, 2017
Round 2	September 19, 2017	October 17, 2017
Round 3	December 15, 2017	January 22, 2018
Round 4 (if funds remain)	March 15, 2018	April 9, 2018



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3. Funding Sources, Amounts, and Priorities

- Capital Construction Fund
- Clean Water Fund

Funding Source	Amount
Funding Source	Amount
FY2017 Reserve for Final FY17 Grant Round	\$1,700,000
Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Block Grants – Capital Funds	\$6,000,000
Clean Water Fund Allocation – Adjusted	\$1,716,378
Total	\$9,416,378



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3. *Funding Sources, Amounts, and Priorities*

- Tier 1 costs: Regulatory cost of compliance with federal and state-required clean water plans, known as total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, compliance with Act 64 of 2015, and the 2016 Combined Sewer Overflow Policy;
- Identified in the Tactical Basin Planning
- Pollution reduction potential: The estimated nutrient pollutant reduction (i.e., phosphorus or nitrogen) expected to occur through project implementation. Nutrient pollutant reduction estimates are modeled using DEC's BMP Accounting and Tracking Tool (BATT) within the Watershed Project Database.
- Project Readiness – The determination of a project's readiness for timely implementation, with consideration of the ability to permit the project if a permit is required, confirmation of state support, and documentation of local support for project implementation and long term operation and maintenance.
- Budget and cost-effectiveness: Screening for projects that achieve maximum pollutant reduction results and environmental co-benefits, such as flood resilience and habitat function, for the lowest possible cost.
- Targets Impaired Waters: Addresses sources of water pollution in waters listed as impaired (33 U.S.C. §1313(d)).



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3. Funding Sources, Amounts, and *Priorities*
Private Land

- Applications to construct clean water improvement projects on private land are eligible for ecosystem restoration funds.
- DEC places municipal project proposals at a higher priority for funding than similar projects on private property.
- Applicants seeking ecosystem restoration funds for stormwater mitigation projects on private land or for road BMPs on private roads will need to:
 - (a) demonstrate that the project will address a significant water quality concern;
 - (b) (b) ensure that the project is not for achieving compliance with a state permit or state order; and
 - (c) (c) include an operations and management plan for the life of the project (a minimum of 10 years).

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database*
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4. **Equipment Grants**

- \$100,000 available for equipment grants
- Required match
 - Large munis (>5,000)– 50%
 - Smaller munis/shared – 20%
- Operation and maintenance required
 - Must demonstrate ongoing use past grant funds (may request an annual report)



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5. The Watershed Projects Database

- All projects must be entered into the database by your project's Watershed Coordinator and given an ID number
- Projects are categorized within the database by their sector and step.

VERMONT OFFICIAL STATE WEBSITE

VERMONT

Watershed Projects

Name: Status: Grant Number:

Project Type: County: Project ID:

Basin Plan: Town:

Grade Type: Grade:

ID	Project Name	Project Type	Status	Grant Number(s)
1	St. Johnsbury Stormwater Master Planning	Stormwater Master Planning	Completed	2016-ERP-1-02
4	Taylor Street Redevelopment - Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Green Space	Stormwater - Implementation	Funded	2016-ERP-2-11
5	Taylor Street Redevelopment - Bioretention, Stormwater Sidewalks, and Tree Filters	Stormwater - Implementation	Funded	2016-ERP-2-12
7	Towle Neighborhood Road Erosion Control - Planning and Design	Road Project - Final Design	Completed	2016-ERP-1-22

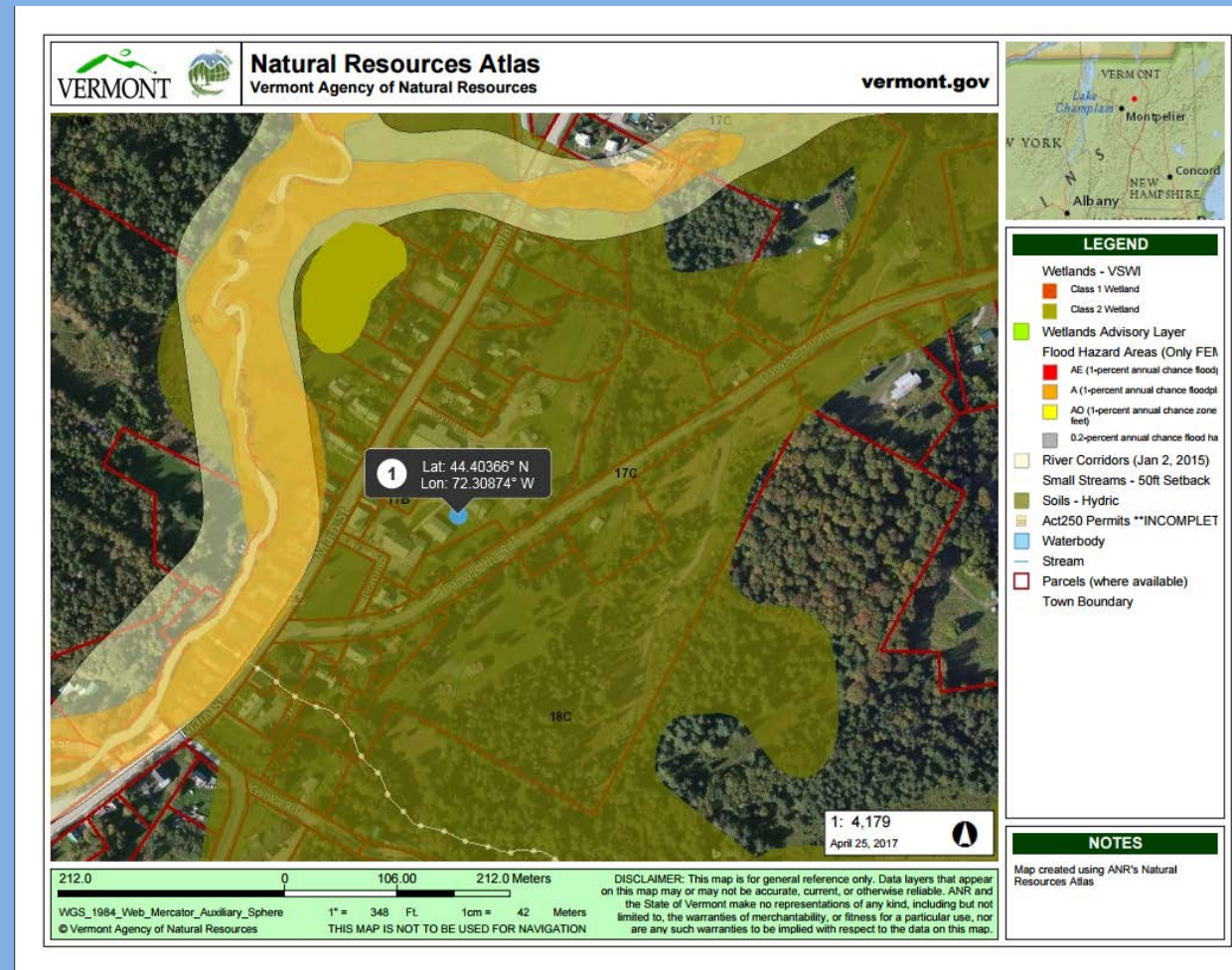


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6. The ANR Atlas Map Requirement

- Requirement for all project types
- ANR Atlas link: <http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra5/>

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7. Operations and maintenance
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9. Grant reporting
10. Signage
11. Application



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3. *Funding sources,
amounts, priorities*
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5. *Watershed Project
database*
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7. Operations and Maintenance agreements

- Implementation projects require a letter of commitment for project operation and maintenance
- Other project proposals that include a letter of commitment to provide operation and maintenance will receive a higher evaluation score
- Operation and maintenance plan must be approved by DEC and business office
- May require future annual reporting (may be part of the grant agreement)

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8. Performance measures, milestones and deliverables

(a) Performance measures – applicant uses those attached to each project type

Stormwater	Stormwater - Final Design	2	Number of 100% designs completed
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(b) Milestones and deliverables – pre-selected for each project type

Stormwater	Stormwater - Final Design	1. Project initiated; required permits secured	1. Permit documentation, including locator map
		2. Operation and maintenance plan created and signed	2. Signed 10-year minimum operation and maintenance plan
		3. 100% design completed	3. Final Design Report (includes synthesis of prior completed project deliverables, 100% designs, written landowner commitment to implement project, and final cost-estimate)
		4. Project complete	4. Final Performance Report**; press release, additional publicity



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9. Tracking and Reporting on Clean Water Restoration Efforts within the Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program: **Best Management Practice (BMP) Reporting**

Clean Water Outreach Efforts online nFORM

Funding Amount

Project Performance Measures

New
Best Management Practice Reporting

These two project types are **required** to submit additional reporting data at the close of their grant:

River - Planting
Stormwater - Implementation

BMP Report	Applicable BMPs	Required Data (in addition to location and land use information)
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bioretention areas • Extended dry detention ponds • Grass swales • Gravel wetlands • Sand filters • Wet ponds 	BMP Storage Volume
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infiltration trenches • Surface infiltration projects • Porous pavement with subsurface infiltration 	BMP Storage Volume BMP Infiltration Rate
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porous pavement with an under-liner and underdrain 	BMP Filter Course Depth
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riparian buffer plantings 	Total acreage, length, and average width

The information from these BMP reports are loaded into the Watershed Projects Database and used to calculate nutrient load reductions



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5. *Watershed Project
database*
6. *ANR Atlas Map
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10. Project signage

- Section 35a of the Vermont Legislature Capital Bill (H. 519) requires signage to be installed at clean water projects funded by the state.
- Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in collaboration with the Secretaries of Natural Resources and of Transportation, shall develop a plan for signage to identify any clean water projects funded by the State. The signage shall include uniform language and a logo to identify the projects. The signage shall be displayed in a location as visible to the public as possible for the duration of the construction phase of the project.
- Funds appropriated for water quality projects shall be used to pay the costs associated with the signage in accordance with the plan.
- Applicants may be required to use signage as part of their projects in FY18. Details are to be determined and will be included in development of the grant agreement.



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5. *Watershed Project
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Questions...
Contact us!!

Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program

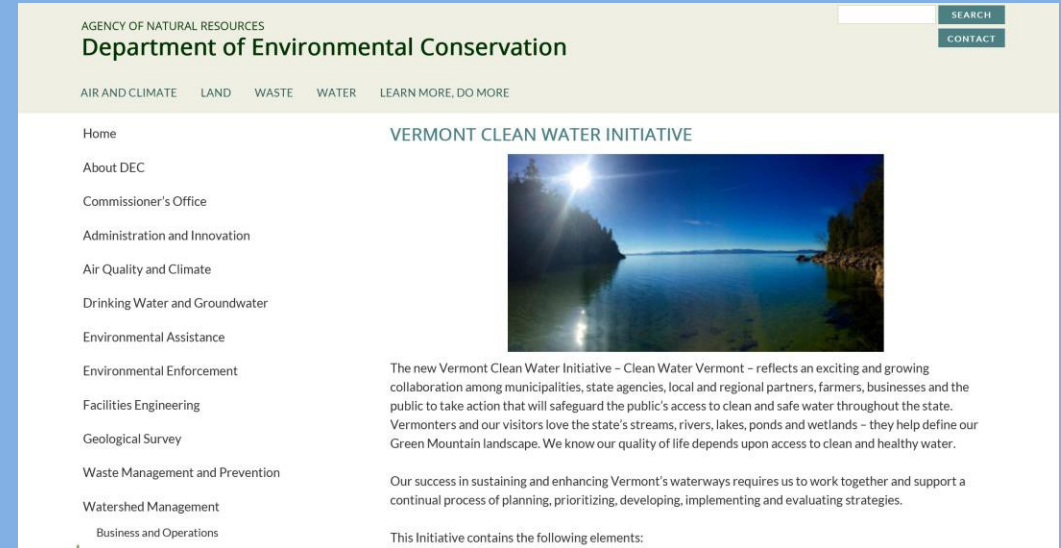
marli.rupe@vermont.gov

Emily.bird@Vermont.gov

david.pasco@vermont.gov

www.cleanwater.vermont.gov

<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi>




AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation

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VERMONT CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE



The new Vermont Clean Water Initiative – Clean Water Vermont – reflects an exciting and growing collaboration among municipalities, state agencies, local and regional partners, farmers, businesses and the public to take action that will safeguard the public's access to clean and safe water throughout the state. Vermonters and our visitors love the state's streams, rivers, lakes, ponds and wetlands – they help define our Green Mountain landscape. We know our quality of life depends upon access to clean and healthy water.

Our success in sustaining and enhancing Vermont's waterways requires us to work together and support a continual process of planning, prioritizing, developing, implementing and evaluating strategies.

This Initiative contains the following elements:

Thank you for joining us for this webinar!

