

2021 LPP Site Selection Process, Criteria, and Instructions

In summary, the site selection process will go like this:

1. Partners will work with their watershed planner to nominate sites based on the nomination criteria listed below and complete the Monitoring Site Nomination Form by **January 29th**.
2. A site selection team will review all the nominated sites and select the final sites from these site nominations according to the criteria detailed below.
3. The final list of sites approved for monitoring in 2021 will be released by mid-March.

2021 LPP Timeline:

Tentative Dates	Explanation
January 8, 2021	LPP staff distribute site nomination materials: Instructions, nomination form excel document, timeline, nomination, and selection criteria
January 8-29, 2021 (3 weeks)	Partners work with their watershed planner to develop site nominations
January 29, 2021	Partners send site nominations to LPP staff, cc'ing the watershed planner
February 1-March 1, 2021 (One month)	LPP Site Selection Team reviews nominated sites and applies selection criteria
Mid-March 2021	LPP staff share selected sites with partners
Early April 2021	LPP staff and partners: LPP Annual Meeting and Training
Week of May 10 th (2 days, yet to be determined which days of the week)	Sample pickups begin. Continue every two weeks: week of May 10 (1 st week), May 24 (2 nd week), June 7 (3 rd week), June 21 (4 th week), July 5 (5 th week) but not Monday that week b/c State holiday celebrated on Monday, July 19 (6 th week), August 2 (7 th week), August 16 (8 th and final week) but not Monday that week due to Bennington Battle Day holiday
Week of August 16 th	Sample pickups end this week.

Monitoring Site Nomination Form Instructions:

There are several parts to this form, so **please read the more detailed instructions and guidance on the first tab** of the excel document.

1. List nominated sites and associated information in the corresponding Site Nomination Form tab. **Green fields** are required. **Gray fields** are useful if information is available. Email completed forms to [Jim](#) and [Meaghan](#) and **CC your watershed planner** by **January 29th**.
2. If the site has been approved under an LPP QAPP in **2019 or earlier**, add it to the **Existing Site Nomination Form tab**.
3. If the site is not a pre-existing LPP site or is a site **proposed in 2020**, add it to the **New Site Nomination Form tab**.

Site Nomination Criteria:

All sites being nominated by partners should meet the following conditions:

1. Partners are familiar with the site, its location, and general water quality conditions.

2. Meets Monitoring Matrix category, criteria, and sampling design (explained in the Monitoring Matrix tab of the attached Monitoring Site Nomination Form).
 - a. All sites being proposed must fit under one of the monitoring matrix categories and;
 - b. For categories B and C, must be identified as a monitoring priority through one of the following: [Tactical Basin Plans](#) or [Lake Score Card](#) or [2020 Stressed Waters List](#) or [2020 Impaired Waters List](#).
 - c. For Categories A, B and C, must demonstrate significant data gaps where VTDEC lacks monitoring or the data is > 10 years old.
3. Chemical parameters of Total Phosphorus, Total Nitrogen and/or Total Chloride are appropriate for the goal of monitoring.
4. Partner is capable of meeting sampling design: bi-weekly sampling, from May to August, with a goal of 8 sampling events + 2 high flow events if conditions allow.

Site Selection Criteria:

Once we have received all nominations, final sites approved for monitoring during the 2021 season will be selected from these site nominations by the LPP Site Selection Team based on the following criteria:

1. Meets the site nomination criteria as outlined above
2. Provides state-wide spatial distribution of sites
3. Sites directly linked to a TMDL (total maximum daily load) process in impaired watersheds will receive highest priority
4. Final site list will fit within budget (\$100,000 in 2021 for analysis) and LPP staff capacity.