Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permit (MRGP)- Reissuance Fall 2022
MRGP Timeline of Deliverables (Near-Term)

Summer-Fall 2017
- MRGP public hearings and comments

January 2018
- MRGP Issued

July 31, 2018
- Municipalities apply for MRGP coverage (NOI) and pay fees

2021 and 2022
- Required implementation of priority road projects. A minimum of 15% of non-compliant segments upgraded to meet standards in 2021 and 2022

Starting in 2019
- Annual Reports due April 1st

December 31, 2020
- Initial Road Erosion Inventory and Implementation Table Due
MRGP Timeline of Deliverables (Longer-Term)

- **December 31, 2025**
  - All Very High Priority segments (except Class 4) upgraded
- **December 31, 2028**
  - All Class 4 Very High Priority segments upgraded
- **December 31, 2025**
  - Road Erosion Inventory - Due fall 2027
- **December 31, 2036**
  - All connected roads meet MRGP Standard. On-going practice maintenance forward
- **2023**
  - Municipalities apply for MRGP coverage (NOI) and pay fees
- **2028**
  - Annual MRGP schedule updates - due June 1st

**On-going MRGP practice implementation and maintenance throughout**
Hydrologically-Connected Roads

Connected Criteria:

- Within 100’ of a water resource
- Bisects (crosses) and drains to a water resource
- Located within the DEC river corridor
- Connectivity status can be changed during the inventories
- Catch basin outfalls within 500’ of a water resource and those segments associated with those outfalls

Water Resources:

- Perennial streams
- Intermittent streams/Defined channel (even if dry)
- Wetlands
- Lakes and Ponds
Percent of municipal roads hydrologically-connected and under MRGP requirements

- 55% Hydrologically connected
- 45% Not connected
Types of Erosion

Rill erosion 1” to <12” deep

Gully erosion 12” plus
Standards Check List:

- Does your road have a good crown?
- Are the road shoulders lower than the travel lane?
  - If no, question - do you have an adequate ditch?
- Is your ditch stone lined if 8 percent or higher?
- Is your ditch stone lined or have check dams or have 2 cross culverts or turnouts if 5-7.99 percent slope?
- Are your ditches turned away from water and/or stable?
- Are your drainage and drive culverts adequately sized and not eroding?
Standards Implementation

“Exemptions”

- Historic trees
- Historic stone walls
- Buried utilities
- Excessive ledge
- Lakeshore vegetation- (vegetation within 250’ of a lakeshore)
- Acquisition of land needed
- Public Safety (NEW)
Erosion control requirement

- Any bare soils on connected segments stabilized within 5 days
- Stabilization includes seed and mulch, hydroseeding and/or stone stabilization
We are in the 5th and last year of the first MRGP permit cycle

- DEC reconvened the MRGP Core Team to assist in the re-issuance of the MRGP for the second 5-year permit cycle

- The Core Team consists of stakeholder representatives from VTrans, DEC, regional planning commissions and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
MRGP is being Re-issued in January 2023

• The second 5-year permit cycle will run 1/26/2023- 1/26/2028, approximately. (NEW)

• Towns will have to re-apply for coverage under the new permit before 1/26/2023 (NEW)

• Towns will be required to pay Administrative Processing Fee and Permit Review fees totaling $640. (NEW)

• Annual Report Forms and Annual Fees (NEW) will be due April 1st each year
Proposed Changes for the MRGP in the Second 5-Year Permit Cycle

• REI due by October 31, 2027 for all connected segments (NEW)

• New REI compliance scoring and prioritization template based on % of practice in place, degree of erosion and road slope (NEW)

• Implementation requirements- 7.5% of non-compliant segments upgraded annually (same as current requirement)

• 20% of Very High Priority segments upgraded to MRGP standards annually (NEW)
New Very High Priority- “Fast Track” Implementation

• DEC may assess individual segments ahead of the new REI deadline when there is a potential serious road-related water quality threat. (NEW)

• If the DEC assessed segments score as Very High Priority, towns will be notified and have 2 years to bring those segments up to MRGP standards. (NEW)
Segment Upgrades and Annual Reporting

- Towns will continue to upgrade a minimum of 7.5% of non-compliant road segments annually. (Same)

- Those upgrades will be documented by reassessing individual segments using the DEC REI Survey Form app tool or web-based Reporter tool. (Same)

- Any segments upgraded to Fully Meets status starting in the 2023 field season, will not have to be reassessed as part of the town-wide REI reassessment (NEW)
New REI App Tool

• DEC and the Agency of Digital Services will be developing a new Survey 123 REI field form (app) that towns will be required to use in conducting REIs and for segment upgrades (NEW)

• The new scoring formula will be conducted in the Survey 123 form so that segment compliance scores will be calculated and available for immediate viewing (NEW)
New REI Schedule

- The new REI Survey 123 form will be required for townwide and individual segment assessments in spring of 2023. (NEW)

- DEC and ADS will provide REI training in early spring 2023. (NEW)

- The baseline (original) REI will be used to determine implementation requirements until the new REI reassessment is complete. (NEW)
Road Type Name Changes

Current Road Type Names:

• Paved Roads with Curbs and Catch Basins
• Paved and Gravel Roads with Open Drainage Systems
• Class 4 Roads

Road Type Names (NEW):

• Roads with Closed Drainages
• Roads with Open Drainages
• Class 4 Roads
Change to the MRGP Standards

• The current “recommended” Active Channel Width intermittent stream culvert size will now be required for non-compliant intermittent stream culverts. (NEW)

• Non-compliant intermittent stream culverts requiring upgrades are those that are eroding or failing due to inadequate size and for new construction.

• Stone headers and outlet stabilization required for road slopes 5% or greater (same as current requirement)
Intermittent Stream Crossing Profile and Cross Section and Embedding Situations

![ACW Culvert Profile View](image)

- End Treatments: VTans stone fill with grubbings or other approved methods
- Match new culvert slope to equilibrium stream bed slope
- Gravel or Paved Road (with adequate crown)
- Existing culvert (to be replaced)
- New culvert (sized to ACW)
- Existing stream bed
- Culvert embedment below the stream bed
- Existing sediment wedge (to remain)

*ACW Culvert Profile View (not to scale)*

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![ACW Culvert Cross-section View](image)

- Municipal Road (gravel or paved)
- Minimum cover over new pipe per the manufacturer
- ACW is ~75% of the Bankfull Width (Wbki)
- Stream Bank
- Culvert width = Active Channel Width (ACW)
- *Minimum embedment of 1 ft for culvert diameter or span of 4-6 ft

*ACW Culvert Cross-section View (not to scale)*
Erosion from lack of culvert headwall/header
MRGP Re-issuance Public Input

• The MRGP public notice period will begin shortly after Labor Day 2022 for a 45-day comment period

• Public meetings will be held on October 10th (virtual- Teams meeting invite 5:00-7:00) and October 11th (in-person at the ANR Annex Building in Montpelier 1:00-3:00)

• There will be a Comment Responsiveness Report prepared

• The permit will be re-issued in late November 2022

• Towns will re-apply for coverage and pay fees from November through January 26, 2023 (all MRGP towns will be notified)
Assistance to Towns

- Funding Sources:
  - Municipal Grants-in-Aid – For upgrading segments (VTrans)
  - Better Roads- for inventories and remediation (VTrans)
  - Outreach and Technical Assistance
Held in-person and virtually

Topics include:

• How to upgrade segment status using the DEC App or desktop

• Correct practice installation (grading, ditching, berm removal, and turnouts) and maintenance and correct equipment use

• Culvert sizing and installation

• Grant funding sources
For Additional information:

https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program

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