### DEC Municipal Roadway General Permit Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2015 &amp; Winter 2016</td>
<td>Outreach to municipalities and regional planning commissions will commence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter 2016</td>
<td>Undertake stakeholder process to develop permit and standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2016 &amp; Winter 2017</td>
<td>Draft general permit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2017 &amp; Winter 2018</td>
<td>Issue final general permit</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018–2021</td>
<td>Specific permit application and implementation deadlines will vary and will be determined during the development process</td>
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### Contact Information

**DEC Municipal Roads General Permit**
- Regulatory process and requirement questions
  - Jim Ryan, DEC, jim.ryan@vermont.gov, 802-490-6140

**Vermont Back Roads**
- General Information and application instructions
  - Alan May, VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau, alan.may@vermont.gov, 802-828-4585

**Transportation Alternatives Program**
- Scott Robertson, VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau, scott.robertson@vermont.gov, 802-828-5799

**VTrans District Offices**
- vtransoperations.vermont.gov/maintenance_districts

**Regional Planning Commissions**
- http://www.vapda.org/

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**How Act 64, the 2015 law to improve water quality, will affect municipal roadways**
**Act 64 and Transportation**

**Cap on phosphorus levels in Lake Champlain**

The Environmental Protection Agency has developed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TDML) that sets a cap on the amount of phosphorus that is allowed to enter Lake Champlain. Excess phosphorus is a main contributor to blue-green algae blooms that impair the lake’s water quality.

*Pictured: Blue-green algae bloom in Lake Champlain*

**Transportation infrastructure and phosphorus**

Developed lands, wastewater treatment facilities, agriculture, unstable stream banks, and forestland all contribute to phosphorus loading. State and municipal roadways and other transportation infrastructure constitute a considerable portion of pollution from developed lands.

**Act 64 and municipal roads**

In response to the TDML phosphorus loading allocations, the Vermont legislature passed Act 64, the Vermont Clean Water Initiative, which creates a new permit process for municipalities aimed at addressing stormwater run-off from roadways, both paved and unpaved. The Vermont Department of Conservation (DEC) and VTrans are developing new financial and technical assistance programs to aid municipalities in their efforts to comply with this new mandate.

**VTrans: Lending a hand to Municipalities**

**DEC Municipal Roads General Permit**

Under the DEC Municipal Roads General Permit (DEC MRGP), municipalities must implement a customized, multi-year municipal stormwater management plan. Strategies may include:

- inventorying roadways and identifying connections to surface waters;
- implementing solutions such as stone-lined and U-shaped ditches, turnouts, check dams, road crowning, and grass-lined drainage ditches;
- upgrading drainage culverts and stabilizing culvert outlets where erosion is present.

*Pictured: Stone-lined ditch*

**Technical and financial assistance from VTrans and DEC**

VTrans, DEC scientists and regulators, and regional planning commissions will be available to help municipalities understand the requirements and implement their stormwater management plans.

VTrans will continue to provide funding and technical assistance through the Municipal Mitigation Grant Program, which includes the Vermont Better Roads Program (formerly Vermont Better Back Roads), and the Transportation Alternatives Program—all growing sources of funding for developing and implementing municipal stormwater plans. Managing stormwater protects roadways from deterioration and makes our natural and built environment more resilient to future flood events, thus saving taxpayer dollars.

Once the permit is in effect, municipalities will be given a 20-year implementation schedule that is prioritized based on the greatest water quality benefit and the road stormwater management plan. VTrans Regional Maintenance Districts will be available to help provide direct technical assistance to municipalities. The VT Local Roads Program will provide training and other resources starting in 2016.