Water Resources Assistance Program

With grant support from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and other granting sources, MAC offers professional assistance for municipalities seeking to promote comprehensive water quality and water resource protection. We can assist with recommended updates to land use regulations with sample language that protects floodplains, river corridors and lake shorelands, and encourages low impact development stormwater management. For more information email info@vlct.org [1] or call 1-800-649-7915.

STORMWATER

Stormwater is any form of precipitation which runs off the land. The construction of impervious surfaces prevents stormwater runoff from effectively infiltrating the ground. Examples of impervious surfaces include paved surfaces, concrete, buildings, rooftops, and gravel roads. During precipitation events high impervious surface areas and unmanaged stormwater runoff can cause increased flooding and pollution runoff and concentration in water bodies.

Stormwater runoff from municipal roads is one of the major sources of surface water pollutants identified by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. Under the Municipal Roads Stormwater Program towns must address stormwater runoff from roadways and implement customized, multi-year plans to stabilize road drainage systems.

The VT Department of Environmental Conservation Municipal Roads Program [2] page has created a clearinghouse of funding, tools, and guidance resources related to the Municipal Roads General Permit.

Related Resources


Vermont’s Clean Water Act

Act 64, passed in 2015, is commonly known as Vermont’s Clean Water Act. The bill requires changes to stormwater, forestry, agricultural and road maintenance practices in order to improve the quality of surface water in Vermont. The Lake Champlain TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) is a plan developed under federal clean water laws to set guidelines for phosphorus reduction in the Lake Champlain Basin. Together, the Lake Champlain TMDL and Act 64 will require changes to how municipalities, farmers and property owners manage stormwater runoff and land development. To view a power point presentation on Act 64 click here.

The Vermont Clean Water Initiative has statutory support to strengthen efforts aimed at reducing water pollution, thanks to the Vermont Clean Water Act. The new Vermont Clean Water Initiative focuses on reducing sediment and nutrient (phosphorus and nitrogen) pollution across the State from six major sources. The initiative will also help finance actions using a new Clean Water Fund.

Related Resources

VT Department of Environmental Conservation Clean Water Initiative [5]

VTrans Vermont’s Clean Water Act and Municipal Transportation Handout [6]

Links

[1] mailto:info@vlct.org
[9] mailto:marcher@vlct.org
[10] https://www.vapda.org/resources/