

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission – Clean Water Advisory Committee

~~11 July 2024~~

~~8 August 2024~~

12 September 2024

Agenda

- 4:00 Call to order, roll call & introductions**
- 4:15 Updates to agenda
- 4:20 Public Comment
- 4:25 Approve May 2024 CWAC minutes (action)
- 4:30 Election of Chair and Vice Chair (action)
- 4:45 FY25 Tactical Basin Plan (discussion)
- 5:15 Upcoming Meetings (discussion)
- 5:35 Municipal Technical Assistance (discussion)
- 5:50 Announcements (information)
- 6:00 Adjourn

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Water Resources Program Areas

- ◆ Tactical Basin Planning
- ◆ Clean Water Service Provider
- ◆ Stormwater management
- ◆ 604b

- ◆ Acronyms
 - ◆ BMP: Best management practice
 - ◆ TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load
 - ◆ VT ANR: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
 - ◆ VT DEC: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Tactical Basin Planning

- ◆ Strategic plan to protect and restore Vermont's surface waters
- ◆ Developed by Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
 - ◆ 5-year update cycle
 - ◆ Basin Planner: Keith Fritschie (keith.fritschie@vermont.gov)
- ◆ Identify strategies and prioritize resources to have the greatest influence on surface water restoration & protection
- ◆ Helps meet federal & state statutory requirements
- ◆ [2024 Winooski River Tactical Basin Plan](#)

Tactical Basin Plan Chapters

1. Basin Overview: presents water quality monitoring & assessment results that identify water quality protection & restoration priorities
2. Protection Priorities: lists waters that meet criteria for special state designations
3. Restoration Priorities: lists waters that do not meet water quality standards + identifies cause(s) / source(s) of pollution
4. Strategies by Sector: addresses pollution sources across agricultural, developed lands, wastewater and natural resources
5. Implementation Table: outlines targeted strategies and the associated priority areas, towns, partners & potential funding sources

FY25 Tactical Basin Plan Priorities

- ◆ FEMA map updates / Flood Hazard & River Corridor Bylaws
- ◆ Wetlands Mapping & Reclassification
- ◆ Forest Road Inventories / Town Forest Management
- ◆ Municipal Wastewater Assistance & Workshops
- ◆ Additional Opportunities:
 - ◆ Stormwater Master Planning and Project Implementation
 - ◆ River Restoration Project Development
 - ◆ Municipal Outreach & Technical Assistance
 - ◆ Agricultural Nutrient Management Planning

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Clean Water Service Provider

- ◆ Act 76 - Clean Water Service Delivery Act of 2019
 - ◆ Provides long-term funding, including Clean Water Funds to support non-regulatory programs
 - ◆ Establishes a network of decentralized Clean Water Service Providers (CWSPs) & Basin Water Quality Councils (BWQCs)
 - ◆ Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission: CWSP for the Winooski River Basin
 - ◆ Nine member BWQC comprised of representatives from: land conservation organizations (1), watershed organizations (2), Natural Resources Conservation Districts (2), Regional Planning Commissions (2) & Municipalities (2)
- ◆ 5-year (renewable) service agreements
- ◆ Funding based on phosphorous reduction target

FY25 Formula Grant Funding

Annual Funding Based on Formula					
	Design, Engineering & Construction	Project Identification & Development	Total Project Funding	Maximum Administrative Costs	Total Project Funding + Max Admin
FY23	\$827,068	\$57,737	\$884,805	\$156,142	\$1,040,947
FY24	\$871,791	\$60,859	\$932,650	\$164,585	\$1,097,235
FY25¹	\$640,538	\$230,503	\$918,335 ²	\$162,059	\$1,080,394

Phosphorous Reduction Targets (kg / yr)				
Farm Fields	Developed Lands	Forest	Streams	Total
9.2	23.9	0	36.4	69.6 ³

1. Proposed award amount and funding distribution.
2. This amount includes \$47,294 for Operations & Maintenance costs.
3. Proposed p-reduction target: 53.9 kg / yr

CVRPC Role as CWSP

- ◆ Provide staff support to the Winooski Basin Water Quality Council
- ◆ Develop policies to govern the BWQC according to the Act, the Rule & guidance documents
- ◆ Pre-qualify Project Implementors + Engineering & Construction Services
- ◆ Solicit & score projects
- ◆ Issue sub-grants & sub-contracts
- ◆ Maintain adequate records
- ◆ Report results to VT DEC staff

Pre-qualified Entities

Project Implementors



Engineering & Construction



Progress Report

Project Type	Project Phase	Cost (\$)	Future funding (\$)	P-reduction (kg)
berm removal	final design / implementation	\$157,481		118.95 14.9
floodplain restoration	preliminary design	\$27,500	Final Design & Implementation: unknown	22.04
strategic wood addition	final design	\$19,500	Implementation: \$120,000	80.1
project development	scoping & development	\$20,058	Preliminary Design, Final Design & Implementation: unknown	?
	Total	\$204,481	\$120,000+	221.09 117.04

What's next?

◆ Outreach

- ◆ Municipal: meet with municipal representatives, determine local water quality restoration priorities, identify project sponsor, facilitate funding request(s)
- ◆ Organizations: continue to offer support for project development and funding requests
- ◆ State: coordinate with Basin Planner to identify cost-efficient projects throughout the basin

◆ Funding

- ◆ Berlin: Project Scoping & Development funding request submitted

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Stormwater Management

- ◆ Stormwater infrastructure mapping (VT DEC Watershed Management Division)
- ◆ Stormwater master plans
 - ◆ Desktop analysis, stakeholder engagement, field assessment
 - ◆ Typical partner organizations include: municipalities, RPCs, watershed organizations, VT DEC Basin Planner, land conservation organizations
 - ◆ Identify stormwater priorities and 30% design for the highest priority projects
 - ◆ Resource for identifying projects for advancement
 - ◆ Review [Stormwater Master Plans & Stormwater Infrastructure Maps](#)
 - ◆ Explore the [Watershed Projects Database](#)

Barre City Auditorium – Final Design

- ◆ 2018 Central Vermont Stormwater Master Plan – Barre Town, Barre City and Plainfield, VT ([Watershed Projects Database ID #5624](#))
 - ◆ produce 100% design & prepare application(s) for required permit(s)
 - ◆ address stormwater drainage over a 27.4-acre area
 - ◆ reroute existing storm lines to an underground sand filter system
 - ◆ site retrofit benefits: prevent > 24,000 pounds of total suspended solids and 8.7 pounds of total phosphorus from entering receiving waters
- ◆ Project budget: \$35,744
- ◆ Project funder: Mount Ascutney Regional Commission
- ◆ Project completion: June 2024

Moretown Town Office & Elementary School – Project Implementation

- ◆ 2019 Central Vermont Stormwater Master Plan – Duxbury, Fayston, Moretown, Waitsfield, and Warren ([Watershed Projects Database ID #5624](#))
 - ◆ contract with Engineering & Construction services
 - ◆ address stormwater drainage over a 10-acre area
 - ◆ install three sand filters & a gravel wetland
 - ◆ site retrofit benefits: prevent 5.2 pounds of total phosphorus from entering receiving waters
- ◆ Project budget: \$398,066
- ◆ Project funder: Mount Ascutney Regional Commission
- ◆ Project completion: May 2024

Upper Winooski – Project Implementation

- ◆ 2019 Kingsbury Branch Stormwater Master Plan
- ◆ CVRPC successfully solicited funds for 100% design through the Design Implementation Block Grant Program
- ◆ CVRPC successfully solicited funds for project implementation through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
- ◆ Projects:
 1. East Calais Post Office: treat 6.9 acre catchment, 4.1 lbs p-reduction
 2. Moscow Woods gully: treat 2.9 acre catchment, 2 lbs p-reduction
- ◆ Project budget: \$445,288

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604b

- ◆ Water Quality Division of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- ◆ 2022
 - ◆ reviewed all of the Stormwater Master Plans and Stormwater Infrastructure Map Reports (39 plans and reports in total) for the 20 Washington County municipalities served by CVRPC
 - ◆ logged discrepancies between project reports and database entries
 - ◆ generated location & sub-basin tags for database entries lacking that information
 - ◆ identified 57 projects for entry into the Watershed Projects Database and 28 projects with discrepancies
- ◆ 2023
 - ◆ reviewed Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Reports, Road Erosion Inventories, River Corridor Plans and Stormwater Master Plans
 - ◆ ensured projects identified through these assessments are both included and accurately represented in the Agency of Natural Resource's Watershed Projects Database

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Upcoming Meeting Topics

	Partner	Name	Title
FEMA map updates, River Corridor Bylaws, & Hazard Mitigation Funding <u>12 November 2024</u>	DEC	Ned Swanberg	Regional Floodplain Manager
	VEM	Stephanie Smith (awaiting reply)	State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Wetlands Mapping & Reclassification	DEC	Shannon Morrison	District Wetlands Ecologist
Municipal Wastewater Assistance	DEC	John Merrifield	Direct Discharge
	DEC	Cristin Ashmankas / Alison Marchione	Lakewise Clean Water Workshop
	Municipal Rep		Public Works Director
Forest Road Inventories & Town Forest Management	Forest Parks & Recreation	Robert Nelson / Dave Paganelli	Washington / Orange County Forester
	Urban & Community Forestry Program	Ginger Nickerson	Forest Pest Education Coordinator

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Municipal Technical Assistance Program

◆ Pre-approved municipalities

Barre City	Plainfield
Cabot	Roxbury
Duxbury	Washington
Marshfield	Woodbury
Middlesex	Worcester

◆ Middlesex

- ◆ Emergency Watershed Protection Program
- ◆ Liaison between town & USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- ◆ Coordinate with Selectboard and Conservation Commission
- ◆ Provide administrative & contracting support + project oversight

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Announcements

- ◇ FEMA Bylaw Updates - CVRPC assistance: [schedule meeting](#)
- ◇ Winooski Clean Water Service Provider: [schedule meeting](#)
- ◇ [Tree Maintenance & Removal Grants](#): One-time allocation due January 2025
- ◇ [Community Tree Planting Grants](#): Round 2 applications due January 2025
- ◇ [2024 DEC Clean Water Conversations](#)
 - 3/7/24 - Phosphorus Loading into Lake Champlain Post 2023 Flooding
 - 8/1/24 - American Rescue Plan Act - Funded Clean Water Projects Panel

Next Meeting: 14 November 2024

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