

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission – Clean Water Advisory Committee

10 July 2025

Agenda

4:00 Call to order & Roll call

4:05 Updates to agenda

4:10 Public Comment

4:15 Introductions (discussion)

4:20 Member Roundtable (discussion)

4:50 Rules of Procedure (discussion)

5:00 Election of Officers (action)

5:10 CVRPC Water Resources Program Areas (discussion)

5:50 Other Business (discussion)

6:00 Adjourn

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Member Roundtable

- ◆ Question 1: What is your primary area of expertise or focus related to water quality?

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- ◆ Question 2: Can you briefly share a water quality project or initiative you've worked on?

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- ◆ Question 2: Can you briefly share a water quality project or initiative you've worked on?
- ◆ Question 3: What do you hope to contribute to or gain from participating in this committee?

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Rules of Procedure: Purpose

To oversee the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's (CVRPC) water quality planning program in accordance with CVRPC plans, policies, and procedures, to act as a liaison between local communities and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and to provide local and regional input regarding water quality issues important to the region.

The CWAC is a special committee of the Regional Planning Commission, and is therefore subject to the Commission's bylaws. These Rules of Procedure, combined with Robert's Rules of Order, provide procedural and administrative guidance for the CWAC.

Rules of Procedure: General Activities

1. Oversee programming related to the CVRPC's assistance to ANR with basin planning and surface water management
2. Undertake water quality related technical assistance and policy activities and coordinate activities with the Transportation Advisory Committee including but not limited to activities related to implementation of Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permits.
3. Participate in special studies conducted by the CVRPC
4. Provide input and policy recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding pertinent water quality issues, including review of State plans, policies, and legislation

Rules of Procedure

- ◆ Advisory Role: The CWAC shall be advisory to the Board of Commissioners. The CWAC will offer advice and input to ANR and other organizations and individuals as appropriate, provided it is compatible with plans, policies, positions or resolutions adopted by the Board of Commissioners.
- ◆ Membership:
 - ◆ 3 CVRPC Commissioners + 1 Alternate
 - ◆ 5 Representatives of the region's municipalities
 - ◆ 1 Interested stakeholder
 - ◆ Members serve 2-year terms

Rules of Procedure

◆ Attendance & Quorums

- ◆ A quorum shall consist of a majority of members (51%)
- ◆ Members with three consecutive unexplained absences will be contacted by the Chair to determine if they still wish to serve on the CWAC

◆ Conflict of Interest: Upon joining the Commission or its committees, individuals must review and sign the Commission's most recently adopted Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy to indicate that they have read, understood, and agree to comply with it

◆ Adoption of Organizational Procedures: The CWAC may, at any time, vote to amend these procedures, upon 51% vote of the membership.

Rules of Procedure: Communication, Coordination & Expectations

- ◆ Meetings shall be noticed & held in accordance with Vermont Open Meeting Law.
- ◆ Draft policies and resolutions shall be forwarded to CWAC members and interested/affected parties for comment before action by the CWAC, or final action/approval by the Board of Commissioners.
- ◆ Committee membership brings the expectation of active involvement outside of meeting time. CWAC members are expected to review shared materials in advance of meetings and to become knowledgeable concerning background facts and information regarding issues to be discussed.
- ◆ Minutes of all regular and special meetings will be prepared by staff, distributed to CWAC members and interested parties, and made available to the public in accordance with open meeting and public records laws described in 1 V.S.A. §§310-320.
- ◆ CWAC members are encouraged to serve as liaisons to their local legislative boards by facilitating communication and coordination on a regular basis.
- ◆ CWAC members are encouraged to offer input on all matters before the CWAC, and are encouraged to bring up items of local or regional concern for CWAC consideration.

Rules of Procedure: Election of Officers

The Clean Water Advisory Committee will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually at its first meeting of the fiscal year.

◆ Chair:

- ◆ Run meetings
- ◆ Set agendas in conjunction with staff
- ◆ Review & sign correspondence on behalf of the Committee
- ◆ Represent the Committee at other meetings as needed

◆ Vice-Chair:

- ◆ Support the Chair as needed

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Water Resources Program Areas

- ◆ **Tactical Basin Planning**

- ◆ Clean Water Service Provider
- ◆ Stormwater management
- ◆ 604b
- ◆ Flood Bylaw Updates

- ◆ **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

FY26 Basin Planning Support Grant Priorities*

- ◊ FEMA map updates & Vermont Flood Safety Act
- ◊ Flood Hazard & River Corridor Bylaw adoption
- ◊ Forest Road Inventory prioritization and training
- ◊ Stormwater Master Planning & project implementation
- ◊ Lake Watershed Action Planning & wastewater education
- ◊ Additional Opportunities:
 - ◊ River Corridor Planning Updates
 - ◊ River Restoration Project Development
 - ◊ Municipal Outreach & Technical Assistance

*Pending state approval

FY26 Tactical Basin Workplan: CWAC Meetings

Topic	Partner
Winooski River Basin Clean Water Service Provider & Project Funding Opportunities 11 September 2025	Central VT Regional Planning Commission
	Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District
	Vermont Land Trust
River Corridor Planning & The Flood Safety Act 13 November 2025	Department of Environmental Conservation
	The Nature Conservancy
	Lake Champlain Sea Grant
Winter Road Maintenance Strategies for Municipalities 8 January 2026	UVM Extension
	Agency of Transportation
	Municipal Road Foreman / Road Commissioner
Watershed Partner Updates 12 March 2026	Friends of the Mad River
	Friends of the Winooski River
	Lake Champlain Basin Program

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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
FY25	\$640,538	\$230,503	\$918,335 ¹	\$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 ²

1. This amount includes \$47,294 for Operations & Maintenance costs.
2. 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

Ongoing Activities

◆ Outreach

- ◆ Municipal: meet with municipal representatives, determine local water quality restoration priorities, identify project sponsor, facilitate funding request(s)
- ◆ Project Implementors: 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 – Culvert replacement & riparian buffers
- ◆ Calais: Project Final Design – Culvert replacement & gully stabilization
- ◆ Waitsfield: Project Scoping & Development – Floodplain reconnection
- ◆ Northfield: Stormwater Project Adoption – Operations & Maintenance (pending)

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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](#)

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 Mad River and Kingsbury Branch Stormwater Master Plan ([Watershed Projects Database ID #4965](#))
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Project completion: June 2025

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604b

- ◆ **Scope of work:** Compilation of assessment-based priority projects in the Watershed Project Database (Water Quality Division of VT ANR)
- ◆ 2022
 - ◆ Reviewed Stormwater Master Plans and Stormwater Infrastructure Map Reports
 - ◆ Identified 57 projects for entry into the Watershed Projects Database and 28 projects with discrepancies
- ◆ 2023
 - ◆ Reviewed River Corridor Plans and Stream Geomorphic Assessments
 - ◆ Identified ~100 projects for entry into the Watershed Project Database
 - ◆ Analyzed municipal goals, strategies, and actions that align with local clean water project opportunities
- ◆ 2025
 - ◆ Review of Stormwater Infrastructure Map Reports & DEC Stormwater Retrofit Data
 - ◆ Enhanced Regional Planning For Water Quality as it related to Climate Change, Flood Resilience, and Environmental Justice

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- ◆ **FEMA Flood Bylaw**

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Flood Bylaw Updates

- ◆ **Scope of Work:** Assist municipalities update and adopt Flood Hazard Bylaws that meet or exceed National Flood Insurance Program standards (VT DEC).
- ◆ Support municipal adoption of flood hazard bylaws in preparation for updated FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
 - ◆ Review of municipal flood hazard bylaws for National Flood Insurance Program conformance
- ◆ Provide support and training for community boards as needed to adopt state model bylaws in alignment with Act 121 the Flood Safety Act.
 - ◆ 7 May 2025 CVRPC Municipal Training: [Maximizing Flood Relief Money & Protecting Community Investments](#)
- ◆ Engage priority communities in alignment with Act 154, the State of Vermont Environmental Justice Law through public outreach.

Municipal Technical Assistance

- ◆ Emergency Watershed Protection Program
 - ◆ Middlesex, Plainfield, Woodbury
 - ◆ Liaison between town & Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - ◆ Coordinate with Selectboard and Conservation Commission
 - ◆ Provide administrative & contracting support + project oversight
- ◆ Planning & Zoning

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Other Business: Announcements

- ◆ River corridor & flood hazard bylaw updates: [schedule meeting](#)
- ◆ Winooski River Basin Clean Water Service Provider: [schedule meeting](#)
- ◆ Winooski Basin Forest Roads and Trails Inventory Workshop: 22 August 2025 (details to follow).
- ◆ DEC Clean Water Board Meeting – FY27 Budget Strategy Discussion:
 - 15 July 2025, 8:00-9:30 AM
 - [RSVP online](#) by 14 July 2025 at 12:00 pm.
- ◆ Lake Champlain Sea Grant - Vermont Municipal Officials and Staff Boat Trip
 - FREE Educational boat trip aboard the University of Vermont research and education vessel to learn about flood resiliency and water quality impacts on Lake Champlain
 - 15 July 2025, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.
 - [Register online](#)

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