

# Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council Meeting

18 December 2025

# Agenda

**1:00 Call to order & Roll call**

1:05 Updates to agenda

1:10 Public Comment

1:15 Review & approve minutes from 20 November 2025 meeting (action)

1:35 Project Proposal Final Review (action)

1:55 Projects in the pipeline (discussion)

2:15 Announcements

2:20 Adjourn

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# Final Proposal Review:

## Riparian Buffer Planting – Cheeseactory Road

- ◆ Primary Contact: Lucas Goldfluss, Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District
- ◆ Project Type: Riparian Buffer Planting – Implementation
- ◆ Project Description: This proposal seeks funds to plant a 100' wide riparian buffer at a density of 400 stems / acre on ~4-acres across two parcels in the Muddy Brook watershed (Shelburne & South Burlington).
- ◆ Project Deliverables:
  - ◆ Acres of riparian buffer planted / restored: ~4
  - ◆ P-reduction: 3.9 kg / yr
- ◆ Project Budget:
  - ◆ Formula Grant: \$30,056
- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Fund this proposal



# Final Proposal Review: Riparian Buffer Planting - Cheeseactory Road

**Table 1- 1: Cost-Effectiveness Score**

Criteria	Value
Funding Request	\$30,056
Future Funding Request	\$0
Total Cost	\$30,056
P-Reduction (kg / yr)	3.9
Design Life	15
Cost Effectiveness* (\$ / kg)	\$7,707
<b>Cost-Effectiveness Score</b>	<b>65</b>

Maximum Implementation-phase  
Cost-Effectiveness Score = 75 points

\*Cost Effectiveness

$(\$ / \text{kg} / \text{yr}) = ((15 \text{ years} / \text{project design life}) * (\text{Total Cost})) /$   
 $(\text{Phosphorous Reduction (kg / yr)})$

**Table 1-2: Project Risk Score**

Risk Category	Points
Landowner Relations	2.5
Organizational Capacity	2.5
Operations & Maintenance	0
Permitting	2.5
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>7.5</b>

Maximum Total Score = 10 points

# Final Proposal Review:

## Riparian Buffer Planting - Cheeseactory Road

**Table 1-3: Co-Benefits Score**

Co-benefit	Score	Weight	Weighted Score
<b>Environmental Justice</b>	<b>3</b>	17.78%	0.5334
Income	0		
Race	0		
Language	3		
<b>Ecological Benefits</b>	<b>3</b>	30.44%	0.9132
Listed / Impaired Water Resource	3		
Priority Water Resource	0		
Habitat & Species Enhancement	0		
<b>Ecosystem Services</b>	<b>10</b>	23.78%	2.378
Flood Regulation	5		
Carbon Sequestration	5		
<b>Community Building</b>	<b>3</b>	15.78%	0.4734
Community Involvement	0		
Working Landscape	3		
Recreation	0		
<b>Education</b>	<b>0</b>	12.22%	0
Interpretive Signage	0		
Meetings & Workshops	0		
<b>Total Co-benefits Score</b>			<b>4.298</b>

**Table 1-4: Total Project Score**

Criteria	Score
Cost-Effectiveness Score	65
Project Risk Score	7.5
Design Life Score	5
Co-benefits Score	4.298
<b>Total Project Score</b>	<b>81.80</b>

Maximum Total Score = 100 points

**CWSP Staff Recommendation:  
prioritize this funding request.**

Maximum Weighted Co-  
Benefits Score = 10 points







# Final Proposal Review:

## Riparian Buffer Planting – Project Development

- ◆ Primary Contact: Sam Puddicombe, Friends of the Winooski River
- ◆ Project Type: Project Development
- ◆ Project Description: This proposal seeks funding to scope potential riparian buffer planting projects throughout the Winooski River Basin and develop 3 – 5 projects with cost-efficient phosphorus reduction potential.
- ◆ Project Deliverables:
  - ◆ Number of projects scoped: 10+
  - ◆ Identification of 3 – 5 priority projects
- ◆ Project Budget:
  - ◆ Formula Grant: \$6,669
- ◆ Staff Recommendation: Fund this proposal

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# Completed Projects

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission			
Berlin Riparian Buffer & Culvert Replacement	Project Development	\$29,908	n/a
Waitsfield Floodplain Restoration	Project Development	\$8,461	n/a
Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission			
Huntington River	Project Development	\$23,358	n/a
Friends of the Winooski River			
Strategic Wood Addition	Final Design	\$19,337	n/a
Tyler Place Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$17,534	2.21 kg p
1735 Main Rd (Huntington) Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$14,379	2.73 kg p



# Completed Projects

Friends of the Winooski River			
John Fowler Rd (Marshfield) Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$14,288	2.00 kg p
Huntington Acres Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$10,051	1.58 kg p
Vermont Land Trust			
John Fowler Rd Berm Removal	Preliminary Design	\$44,603	<b>118.95 kg p</b>
John Fowler Rd Berm Removal	Final Design	\$35,674	<b>14.95 kg p</b>
John Fowler Rd Berm Removal	Implementation	\$85,703	14.95 kg p
Total		<b>\$303,396</b>	<b>23.47 kg p</b>

# Currently Funded Projects

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission			
Marshfield Rd Gully Stabilization & Culvert Replacement	Final Design	\$39,365	8.06 kg p
Northfield Water Street	Project Adoption	\$13,100	22.30 kg p
Friends of the Winooski River			
Tyler Place Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$25,572	3.75 kg p
Graber Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$11,155	1.70 kg p
GMC & VTACT Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$15,548	1.50 kg p
SHO Riparian Buffer Planting	Implementation	\$13,940	1.10 kg p

# Currently Funded Projects

Lamoille County Conservation District			
Upper Little River	Project Development	\$30,000	n/a
Vermont Land Trust			
VLT Lands & Easements	Project Development	\$25,000	n/a
Total		\$173,680	30.35 kg p



# Projects in the Pipeline

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission			
McCarty Rd Culvert Replacement	Final Design & Implementation	\$330k - \$500k	20.9 kg p
Lower Fairgrounds Floodplain Reconnection	Final Design & Implementation	\$1,175,000	50.7 kg p
Randall Meadow Floodplain Reconnection	Preliminary Design - Implementation	\$2,000,000	~100 kg p
Friends of the Mad River (?)			
Perot Floodplain Reconnection	Final Design & Implementation	\$155,000	5.6 kg p
Friends of the Winooski River			
Riparian Buffer Planting	Project Development	\$6,669	n/a
Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District			
Cheesefactory Rd RBP	Implementation	\$30,056	3.9 kg p

**\$3.87 million**

# Status Check

	Cost	P-reduction (kg)
Completed Projects	\$303,396	23.47
Funded Projects	\$173,680	30.35
Pending Projects	\$3,870,000	181.1
Total	\$477,000 <b>(\$4,347,076)</b>	53.82 <b>(234.92)</b>

State Fiscal Year	Agreement Amount	Assigned Phosphorous Reduction Target (kg)
2023	\$1,040,947	29.7
2024	\$1,097,235	30.1
2025	\$1,080,394	28.8
2026	\$1,004,301	26.3
Total	<b>\$4,222,880</b>	<b>114.9</b>

# Reconsidering Cost-Efficiency

Price / kg (\$)	Implementation	Design
<\$10,000	75	37.5
\$10,000 - \$12,500	65	32.5
\$12,500 - \$15,000	55	27.5
\$15,000 - \$17,500	45	22.5
\$17,500 - \$20,000	35	17.5
\$20,000 - \$25,000	25	12.5
\$25,000 - \$30,000	15	7.5
\$30,000 - \$40,000	5	2.5
>\$40,000	0	0



# Reconsidering Cost-Efficiency & Project Development

- ◆ Should there be a maximum award value?
- ◆ Should we hold a “special” call for projects where:
  - ◆ the cost-threshold is further relaxed?
  - ◆ specific sub-watersheds are prioritized?
  - ◆ specific project types are prioritized?
- ◆ How should we incorporate O & M into project evaluation?

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# Announcements

- ◆ The **Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District** is inviting you to participate in our 2026 Locally Led Conservation Process. Each year the Conservation Districts collaborate with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to identify local natural resource conservation priorities to help direct Federal spending. Please complete the survey and attend one of two in-person forums (RSVP to [Kara@winooskinrcd.org](mailto:Kara@winooskinrcd.org)):
  - ◆ January 12 from 10 AM - Noon at the Richmond Town Clerk Office (203 Bridge St, Richmond, VT 05477)
  - ◆ January 14 from 10 AM to Noon at the Marshfield Town Clerk Office (122 School St #1, Marshfield, VT 05658)
- ◆ **CVRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee Meeting:** *Winter Road Maintenance Strategies for Municipalities*, 8 January 2026 from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, [Registration required](#)
  - ◆ Speakers: UVM Extension & VT Agency of Transportation
  - ◆ In person: CVRPC Office, 29 Main Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602
  - ◆ Online: via Zoom link on [Meeting Agenda](#)
- ◆ **CWSP Funding** - The deadline for consideration at the January 2026 Winooski River Basin Water Quality Council meeting is 8 January 2026. [Schedule a meeting](#) with Brian & Lincoln for project reviews & proposal development assistance.



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**Next Meeting: 15 January 2026**