Vermont DEC’s Municipal Roads General Permit

Jim Ryan
VT DEC Stormwater Program
Municipal Day
November 1, 2018 – Rutland
Overview

• Total Maximum Daily Load Plans (TMDLs)
• Municipal Roads General Permit- timelines, deliverables, and fees
• Training, funding and other assistance for municipalities
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Lake Champlain – Phosphorus
- Lake Memphremagog – Phosphorus
- Connecticut River to Long Island Sound – Nitrogen
Sources of phosphorus in the Vermont portion of the Lake Champlain Basin (Preliminary estimates from Tetra Tech, 2013)

- Wastewater Treatment Facilities: 3%
- Forest Lands: 15%
- Developed Lands Including Paved Roads: 14%
- Unpaved Roads: 6%
- Stream Instability: 22%
- Agricultural Lands: 40%
Modeled phosphorus loading to Lake Memphremagog
(Municipal roads approximately 6.6% of total P)
Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP)

Discharges of stormwater from *hydrologically connected* municipal roads:

- Town highways, Classes 1-4
- SW infrastructure associated with town highways under the operational control of the municipality
Hydrologically-Connected Roads

- Municipal roads within 100’ of a water resource
- Municipal road that bisects (crosses) and drains to a water resource
- Road segments that drain to waters
- Municipal road located within the DEC river corridor
- Segments can be re-classified as connected, or not connected, during the inventories
- Catch basin outlets within 500’ of a water resource and those segments associated with those outfalls
- Perennial streams
- Intermittent streams/Defined channel (even if dry)
- Wetlands
- Lakes and Ponds
Hydrologically-Connected Road Segments
Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP)

• Baseline Standards
• Standards if erosion is present
• Permit framework
  – Road Erosion Inventory
  – Implementation Table
  – Deadlines
MRGP Standards: **Baseline requirements**

1. Crowning

2. Removal of grader berm
MRGP Standards: **Baseline requirements**

3. Stable ditches

4. Stable turnouts
MRGP Standards: **If erosion is present**

Identify source of erosion and implement:

- **Culvert end treatments**
- **Stabilized Outlets**
- **18” culverts (driveway culverts may be 15”)**
MRGP Standards: If erosion is present

- Class 4 Roads
  - if *gully* erosion is present

- Paved Roads with catch basins
  - *erosion at the outlet*

Gully erosion = 12” deep or greater
MRGP Requirements: Road Erosion Inventory
MRGP Requirements: Road Erosion Inventory

• Ditches
• Crowning
• Shoulders
• Culverts
• Outlets
New DEC Road Erosion Inventory App

- App uses Collector for mapping and Survey 1, 2, 3 for the road assessment

- Information collected by the DEC App automatically populates the DEC Implementation Table when sent
MRGP Requirements: Implementation Table

- REI scores for each 328 ft segment
- Table can help prioritize road segment remediation
- Table is both a “snapshot in time” of road conditions and a “progress report” of work implemented
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About ½ of connected roads already meet the MRGP Standards.
MRGP Requirements: Begin Implementation no later than 2021 field season
MRGP Deadlines

- Initial applications were due July 31, 2018

- Road Erosion Inventory & Implementation
  Table due Dec 31, 2020

- All roads must meet standards by 2036
MRGP Fees

- Administrative processing fee - $240 was due July 31, 2018

- $400 Application review fee and Annual operating fee – prorated $500-$1,800 per town (based on population and mileage)
  - Due at end of fiscal year; 6/1/2019
Assistance to Towns

- Funding – Year 2 of Municipal Grant-in-Aid
- Equipment Grant
- Outreach and Technical Assistance
Grant in Aid – FY18 and FY19 Funding

FY 18 GIA – Actual Funding:

• 186 participating towns – 70% participation
• $2.6 million
• Approximately 42 road miles already brought up to MRGP standards

FY 19 GIA – $3.1 million
MRGP Outreach

- Road Roundtables
- Site visits
- RPC meetings/Road Foremen meetings
- DEC Municipal Day
- VLCT workshops
VTrans and DEC Road Roundtable Trainings

Spring 2018 Roundtable Forums:

• 4/26 Wallingford
• 5/3 Bellows Falls
• 5/10 Hinesburg
• 5/17 Groton
• 5/24 Wolcott
For more information:

Jim Ryan – Jim.ryan@Vermont.gov

http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater