

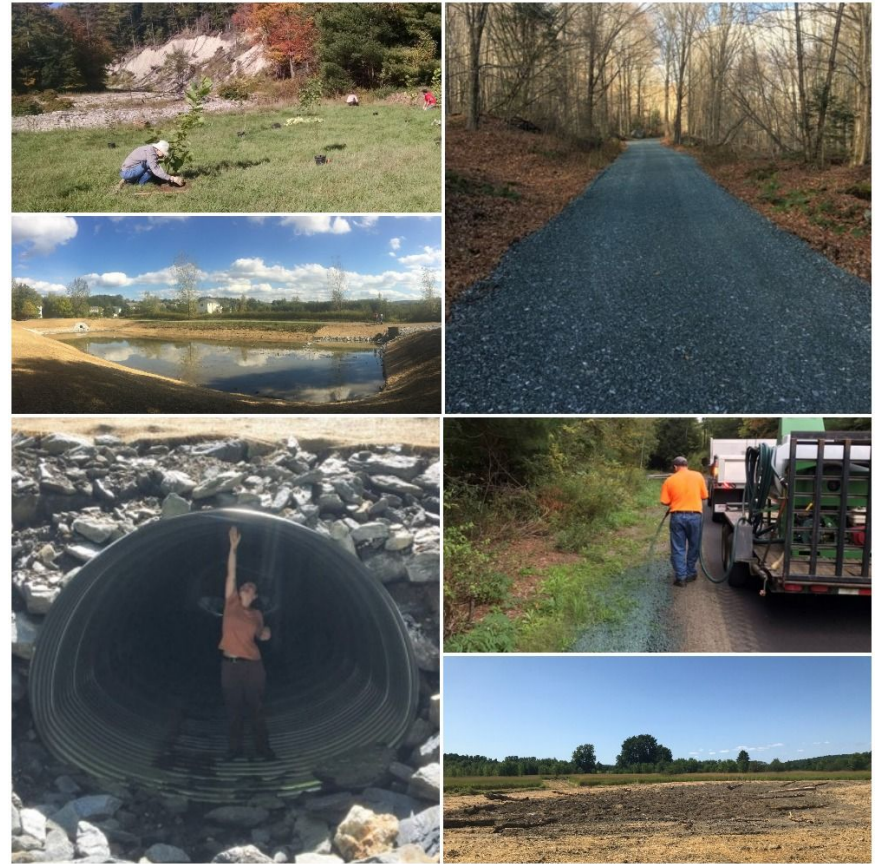
# Municipal Clean Water Funding and the Clean Water Service Delivery Act (Act 76 of 2019)

Emily Bird

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Clean Water Initiative Program

Agency of Natural Resources Municipal Day

Montpelier, October 25, 2019



# Outline

DEC municipal clean water funding opportunities

Clean Water Initiative Program

Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Finding State of Vermont clean water funding opportunities

Clean Water Service Delivery Act (Act 76 of 2019) overview, future grant programs

# DEC Clean Water Initiative Program SFY 2020 Funding Policy

Vermont Clean Water Initiative Program Funding Policy

August 15, 2019

Updates:

Anticipated changes: Act 76, Developed  
Lands General Permit (page 6)

Definition block grant and grants-in-aid  
program delivery (page 9)

Eligibility for all CWIP funds (page 10)

Match requirements and match eligibility,  
(page 14)

Long-term operation and maintenance  
requirements (page 15)



<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants>

# DEC Clean Water Initiative Program

## SFY 2020 Municipal Clean Water Funding Opportunities

Program	Area of Focus	Grant Size	Status
Ecosystem Restoration Grants	To support development and implementation of projects identified in tactical basin plans and listed in the Watershed Projects Database.	Minimum grant size: \$20,000	~70% obligated (natural resources restoration funds remaining for next round)
Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program	To provide funds to municipalities to implement road erosion control projects that bring hydrologically connected road segments into full compliance with the Municipal Roads General Permit, including purchase of equipment.	Disbursement formula based on municipal hydrologically connected road-miles	100% obligated; enrollment through local RPCs complete
Design/Implementation Block Grant	To support partners in managing multiple projects involving preliminary design, final design and/or implementation. Individual projects are identified in tactical basin plans and listed in DEC Watershed Projects Database. A minimum of 50% of the award must support projects that cost at or below \$20,000.	Minimum grant size: \$500,000	Awarded to RPCs, NRCDS, WUV; recipients posting RFPs fall 2019
Watershed Work Crew Block Grant	To support work crew implementation of clean water projects.	Minimum grant size: \$20,000	0% obligated, pending competitive process fall 2019
Project Development and Technical Capacity Block Grant	To prepare for Act 76 by supporting project development to move projects towards design and implementation; support partnerships via technical outreach and capacity building (e.g., train-the-trainer).	Minimum grant size: \$20,000	0% obligated, pending competitive process fall 2019
Lake Champlain TMDL Implementation Grants	To support green stormwater infrastructure projects that will result in reduced phosphorus and sediment loads from developed lands, targeting schools and combined sewer systems in the Lake Champlain Basin of Vermont.	\$2,231,990 available	0% obligated, pending competitive process spring 2020

# DEC Clean Water State Revolving Fund

## SFY 2020 Municipal Clean Water Funding Opportunities

Program	Area of Focus	Grant Size	Status
Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loans	Low interest loans to municipalities and private entities for clean water projects including wastewater, stormwater, natural resources projects, and a variety of projects with a clean water benefit.	\$80 million available; no minimum/maximum	Accepting priority list applications beginning December 2019
Water Infrastructure Sponsorship Program (WISPr)	Up to 10% of a municipality's Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan can be used to implement natural resources restoration projects. A reduced administrative fee over the life of the loan will cover the total value of the sponsored restoration project.	\$5 million available; no minimum/maximum	Contingent on available sponsoring municipal project
Natural Infrastructure Interim Financing	Bridge financing for natural infrastructure projects as low as 0%. Available for municipalities and private entities. Loan forgiveness available on certain project types.	\$20 million available; (\$10 million municipal and \$10 million private)	New round of funding available 7/1/2020, pending funding availability

# Find State of Vermont Municipal Clean Water Funding Opportunities

1. Go to: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/CleanWaterDashboard/>
2. Select: [Funding Opportunities Tool](#)
3. Search by “Municipalities” target audience to see listing:



## Funding Opportunities Tool

This tool provides information on anticipated clean water funding opportunities, across state agencies, in the upcoming year. Program and funding information will be updated on an annual basis and as funding information changes, contingent upon agencies' ability to report changes. Please reach out to the project contact for the most current information.

VERMONT OFFICIAL STATE WEBSITE

Agency	All	Sector	All	View Report
Target Audience	Municipalities	Funding Source	All	

1 of 1 Find | Next

Search by target audience

## Clean Water Funding Opportunities

*Program and funding information will be updated on an annual basis and as funding information changes, contingent upon agencies' ability to report changes. Please reach out to the project contact for the most current information.*

### ANR Clean Water Initiative Program Grants

#### Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program

To support development and implementation of projects identified in tactical basin plans and listed in the Watershed Projects Database.

Details

Expand for funding details

### ANR Clean Water Initiative Program Grants

#### Woody Buffer Block Grant

To support multiple woody buffer restoration projects along river corridors, floodplains, shorelands, and wetlands.

Details

### ANR Clean Water Initiative Program Grants



# Funding Opportunity Contacts (included in packets):

Subscribe to grants notification list: <http://tiny.cc/SubscribeCWIPgrants>

Clean Water Initiative Program grant contact: Allison Lewis,  
[allison.lewis@vermont.gov](mailto:allison.lewis@vermont.gov), 802-490-6124

Clean Water State Revolving Fund contact: Terisa Thomas,  
[terisa.thomas@vermont.gov](mailto:terisa.thomas@vermont.gov), 802-249-2413



# Implementation of Clean Water Service Delivery Act (S. 96/Act 76 of 2019)





# Vermont's Clean Water Priorities and Clean Water Restoration Plans (i.e., Total Maximum Daily Loads, or TMDLs)

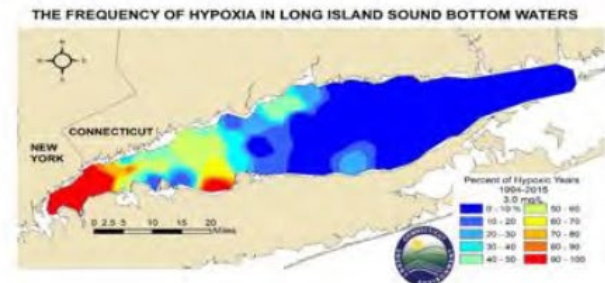
**Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain**



**Lake Memphremagog Phosphorus TMDL**



**Nitrogen TMDL for Dissolved Oxygen in Long Island Sound**



# Vermont Clean Water Act (Act 64 of 2015)

## “All-in for Clean Water”

Reasonable assurance to meet nonpoint source targets



Water quality regulations

Clean Water Fund



Tracking, accounting, and reporting requirements



# Clean Water Service Delivery Act (Act 76 of 2019/S. 96)

Long term clean water  
funding source, updated  
priorities

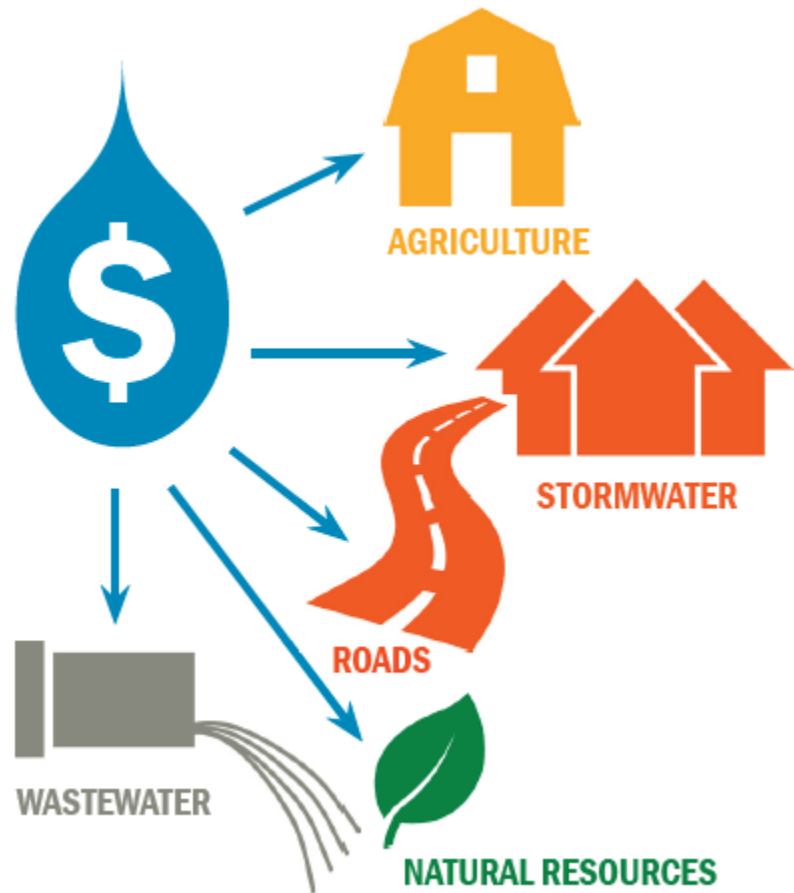
Four new grant programs

Clean water service  
providers (CWSP)

Assurances to meet non-  
regulatory targets

Assurances of project  
operation and maintenance

Interim targets, enhanced  
accounting



# Long Term Clean Water Funding Source

Clean Water Fund:      6% Rooms and Meals Tax  
Property Transfer Tax Clean Water Surcharge  
Escheats from unreturned bottle deposits

State Fiscal Year 2021 budget targets:



# **Clean Water Funding Updated Priorities**

## **New Grant Programs\***

Tier 1: Inspection, verification, operation, and maintenance

### **Water Quality Restoration Formula Grants\***

Agency of Agriculture water quality programs

### **Water Quality Enhancement Grants\***

Basin planning and basin water quality councils

Tier 2: Repair riparian conditions for flood resiliency

Education and outreach on forest AMPs

### **Municipal Stormwater Implementation Grants\***

Innovative/alternative technologies or practices

Purchase agricultural land

Tier 3: **Developed Lands Implementation Grants\***



# Municipal Stormwater Implementation Grants

Recipient(s)	Municipalities
Geographic Focus	Statewide
Project Types	Municipal stormwater projects required by stormwater regulation (e.g., Municipal Roads General Permit, 3-acre permit, MS4 permit)
Funding Level	Determined by Clean Water Board; administrative costs capped at 15% of total award; contingent on CWSP satisfactory progress
Fund Dispersal	Competitive and formula process
Effective Date	November 1, 2021

# Developed Lands Implementation Grants

Recipient(s)	Individuals
Geographic Focus	Initially, Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog basins and stormwater impaired watersheds; other basins in 2033
Project Types	Stormwater treatment practices required to comply with 3-acre permit
Funding Level	Determined by Clean Water Board complemented with CWSRF financing; administrative costs capped at 15% of total award; contingent on CWSP satisfactory progress
Fund Dispersal	Competitive process
Effective Date	November 1, 2021

# Water Quality Enhancement Grants

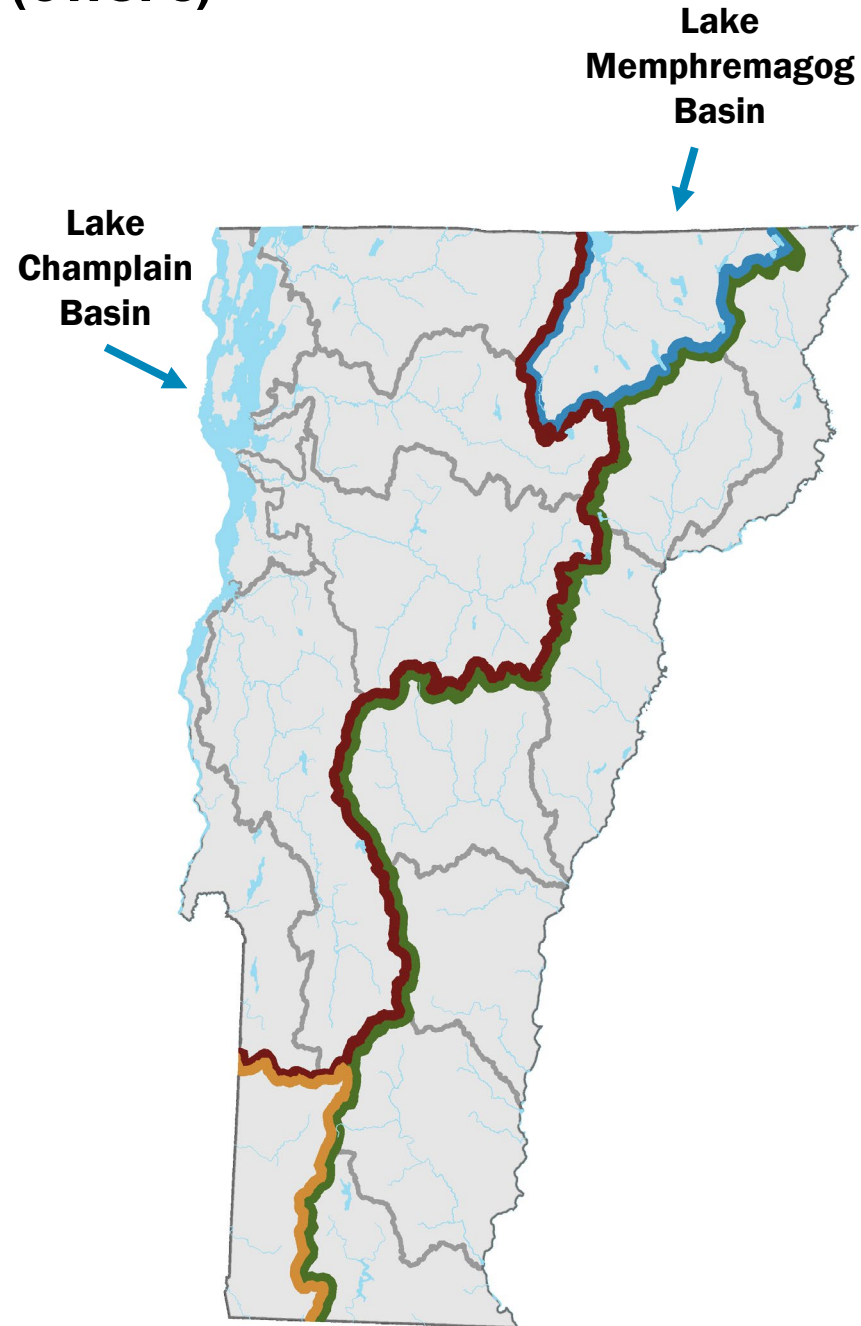
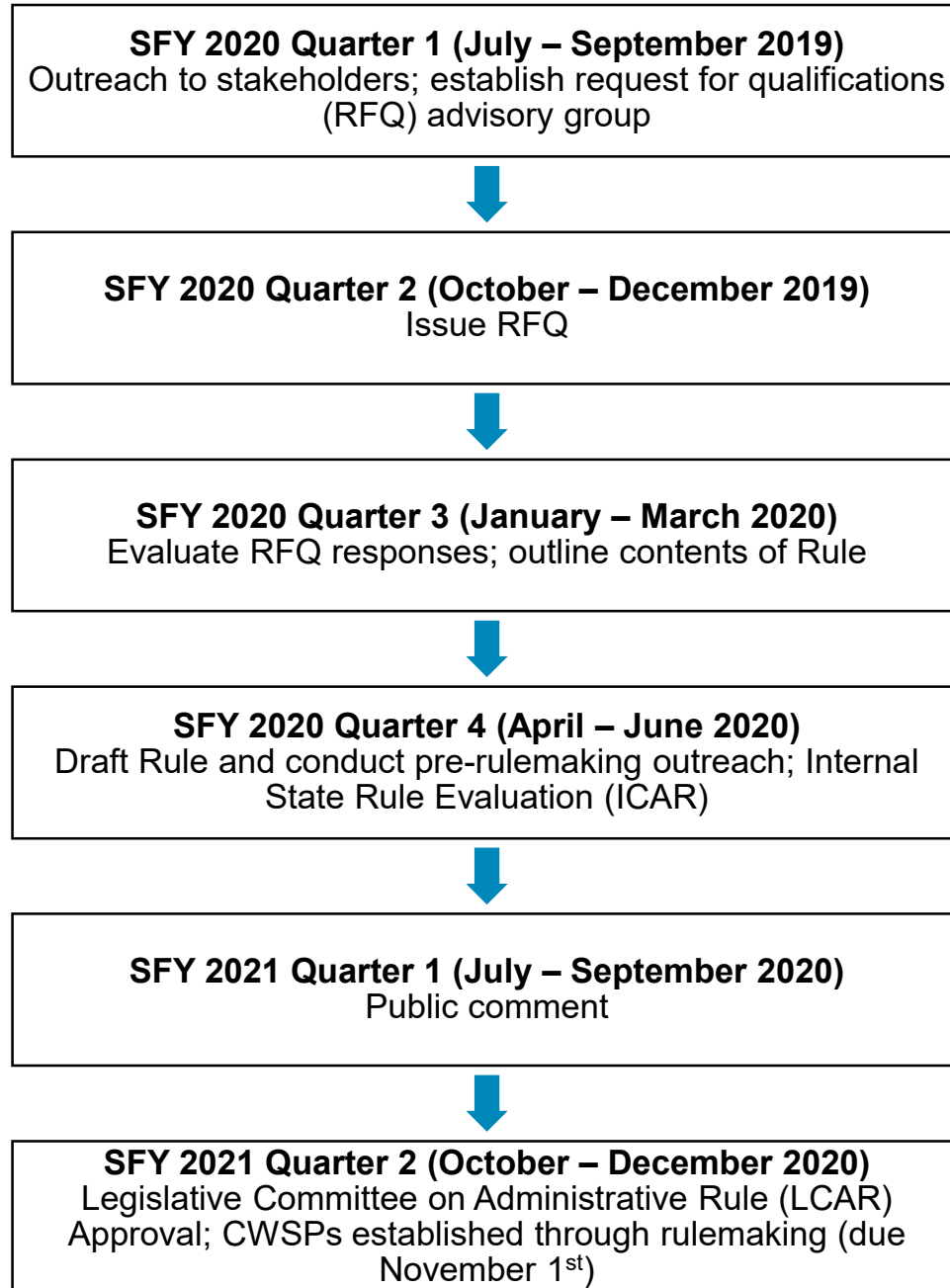
Recipient(s)	Includes watershed organizations, regional planning commissions, conservation districts, municipalities
Geographic Focus	Statewide, but not to overlap with Water Quality Restoration Formula Grant eligibility
Project Types	Non-regulatory clean water projects
Funding Level	Determined by Clean Water Board; at least 20% of annual Clean Water Fund not to exceed \$5 million; administrative costs capped at 15% of total award
Fund Dispersal	Competitive process
Effective Date	November 1, 2021

# Water Quality Restoration Formula Grants

Recipient(s)	Clean Water Service Providers (CWSP) advised by Basin Water Quality Councils*
Geographic Focus	Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog basins by tactical basin planning watershed
Project Types	Non-regulatory clean water projects
Funding Level	Determined by Clean Water Board; administrative costs capped at 15% of total award
Fund Dispersal	Formula based on phosphorus reduction target and cost/unit phosphorus reduction
Effective Date	November 1, 2021

\* At least \$500,000 available to partners for basin planning, basin water quality council participation, education, and outreach

# Establishing Clean Water Service Providers (CWSPs)

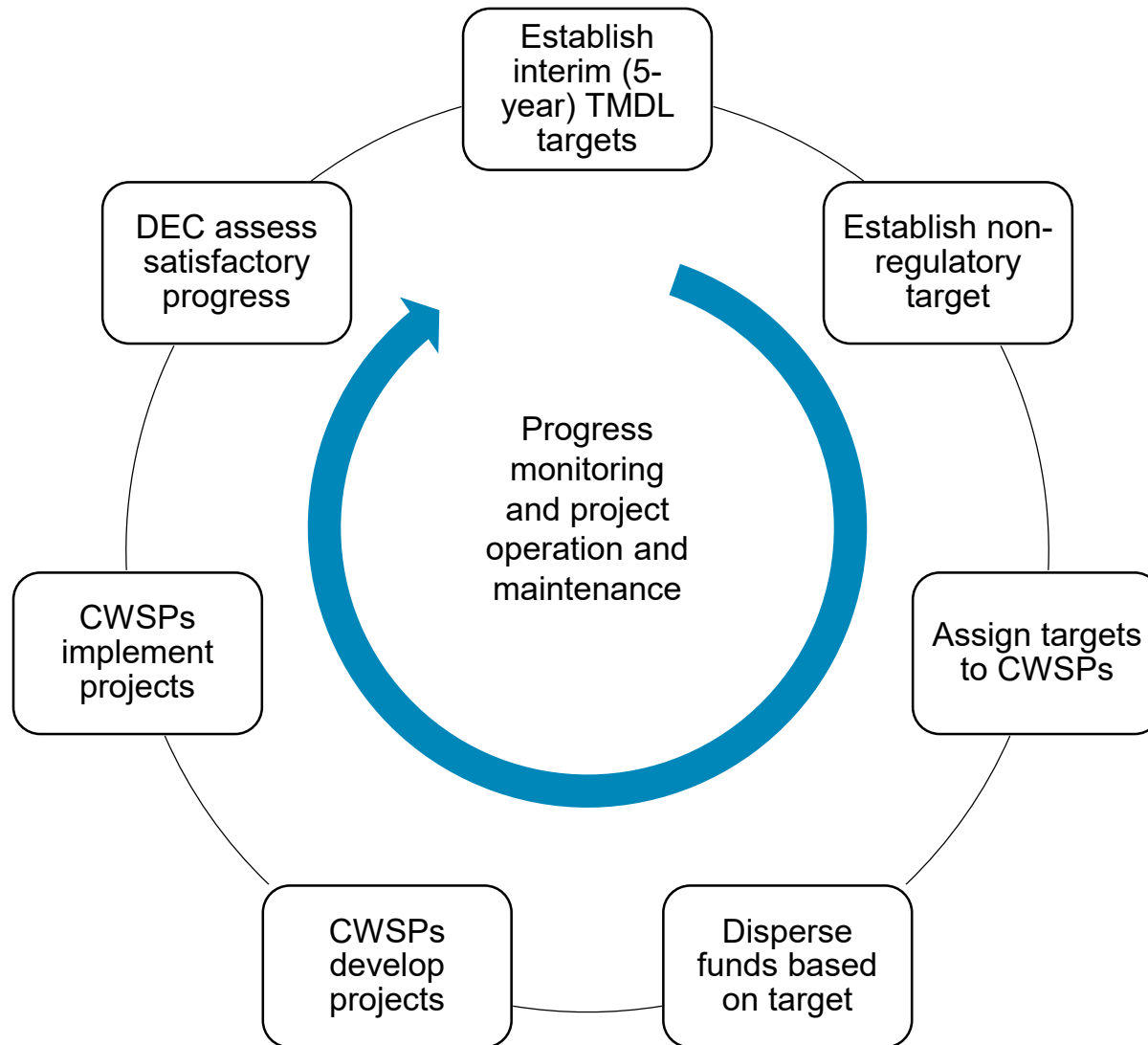




# Clean Water Service Providers (CWSPs) Roles and Responsibilities

CWSPs and Basin Water Quality Councils	ANR-DEC
Facilitate and staff basin water quality councils	Establish CWSP through rulemaking
Follow Water Quality Restoration Formula Grant guidelines	Participate on basin water quality councils
Identify, prioritize, develop, and implement non-regulatory projects to meet target	Establish Water Quality Restoration Formula Grant guidelines
Develop partnerships and subcontract/subgrant work	Establish interim (5-year) non-regulatory targets for CWSPs
Operate and maintain non-regulatory projects	Establish standard cost per unit phosphorus reduction
Report progress to DEC	Support Clean Water Board's dispersal of funds to CWSPs
	Provide technical assistance to CWSPs
	Oversee and determine CWSPs' satisfactory progress

# Clean Water Service Provider Targets and Accountability



# **SFY 2020 Spending Plan: Act 76 Program Development**

1. Build partner capacity to manage funds through block grants and grants-in-aid programs
2. Enhance project identification, prioritization, and development activities to increase project readiness
3. Contractor support to bridge gaps in state's ability to establish interim targets and account for phosphorus reductions

# **SFY 2020 Spending Plan: Act 76 Program Development**

1. Build partner capacity to manage funds through block grants and grants-in-aid programs
2. Enhance project identification, prioritization, and development activities to increase project readiness
3. Contractor support to bridge gaps in state's ability to establish interim targets and account for phosphorus reductions
  1. Interim target setting for TMDL streams allocation and phosphorus accounting for river/floodplain and wetland restoration projects
  2. Interim target setting for TMDL forests allocation and phosphorus accounting for forest best management projects
  3. Development of operation and maintenance standards for clean water projects
  4. Development of standard cost per unit phosphorus reduced by clean water projects

# ANR-DEC Organizational Changes to Support Act 76



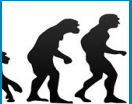
New Division dedicated to water infrastructure planning, financing, engineering, and reporting



Aligns Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Water Initiative Programs



Coordinates tactical basin planning to bridge DEC regulatory programs and municipal and CWSP-led efforts



Provides for evolution of granting programs to align with Act 76



Supports engineering services across all aspects of clean and drinking water infrastructure



# Contact

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Website: [cleanwater.vermont.gov](http://cleanwater.vermont.gov)

