

The Pipeline

the official Dufresne Group newsletter

Vermont Clean Water Act – Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permit

On June 16, 2015, Governor Peter Shumlin signed into law the Vermont Clean Water Act. The Vermont Clean Water Act is focused on reducing nutrient and sediment pollution from six major sources:

- Agricultural Runoff
- Stormwater from Developed Lands
- Stormwater from Roads
- River Corridors and Floodplains
- Wetlands Management
- Forest Lands Management



The area generally most concerning to municipalities is the stormwater from roads. To regulate pollutants running off roadways, all municipalities will be required to obtain a Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permit (GP). The permit will cover all Classes of municipal roads including paved and gravel. Class 4 roads may be required to install best management practices, but will not be required to be open to travel. The anticipated schedule for the GP is as follows:

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|-------------------------|--|
| Fall 2015 & Winter 2016 | DEC reached out to municipalities and regional planning commissions to receive input and develop permit standards. |
| Fall 2016 & Winter 2017 | Drafting of the General Permit |
| Fall 2017 & Winter 2018 | Issuing of the final General Permit |
| 2018-2021 | Permit application and implementation |

The GP will require municipalities to develop a Road Stormwater Management Plan using the following steps:

1. Identify sections of the roadway network connected to surface waters.
2. Inventory the connected portions to determine if the roadways meet new Standards, which are anticipated to be updated by the end of 2017. The new Standards will be consistent with the Town Road and Bridge Standards and will likely include:
 - a. Ditch slopes greater than 5% to be stone-lined or have stone check dams
 - b. Ditches: "U-shaped" and disconnected from surface waters where possible
 - c. Upgrading road drainage culverts and installing outlet stabilization and/or headers where erosion is present
 - d. Soils exposed by maintenance would be seeded and mulched or otherwise stabilized
3. Develop a long-term plan to bring all sections of connected road up to Standard over 20 years.

Funding to assist municipalities with development of the Road Stormwater Management Plan and compliance with the GP is available through the 2016 Better Roads Program (formerly Better Back Roads program) and the Transportation Alternative Program.

The information above is summarized from documents prepared by the Vermont Department of Conservation available at cleanwater.vermont.gov and watershedmanagement.vt.gov/stormwater/html/sw_municipalroads.htm.

If your community would like assistance with funding applications or preparation of the Road Stormwater Management Plan, please contact us at info@dufresnegroup.com.

Dufresne Group Welcomes Four New Staff Members

Dufresne Group is pleased to announce that we have added two summer interns and two permanent staff members. We are excited to welcome these new staff members as we kick-off the 2016 construction season.

- Rachel Hastings from Monroe, NH joined the St. Johnsbury office as a summer intern. She is a rising junior Civil Engineering student at the University of New Hampshire with an interest in structural and water resource engineering.
- Jacob Sprague from Brookfield, VT will be entering his senior year in the Fall studying Civil Engineering at the University of Vermont and has joined as a summer intern in the Barre office. He has an interest in wastewater and transportation engineering.
- Zachary Ferguson from East Fairfield, VT joined the Springfield office as an Engineering Technician. He is a recent UVM Civil Engineering graduate with knowledge in structural analysis and design.
- Ryan Nickerson from Waterbury, VT joined the Manchester office as an Engineering Technician. He graduated from Norwich University in 2015 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering.

Dufresne Group's Home Office Relocated to Springfield, Vermont

On May 1, 2016, Dufresne Group's home office relocated to Springfield, Vermont at 56 Main Street, Suite 200 (The Bank Block). Please note that our main phone and fax numbers are unchanged. We encourage you to stop in and check out our new space.

