Municipal Roads Stormwater General Permit (MRGP) - Reissuance Fall 2022
Municipalities apply for MRGP coverage (NOI) and pay fees.

Required implementation of priority road projects. A minimum of 15% of non-compliant segments upgraded to meet standards in 2021 and 2022.

Starting in 2019 - Annual Reports due April 1st

Initial Road Erosion Inventory and Implementation Table Due

Municipalities apply for MRGP coverage (NOI) and pay fees.

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022
MRGP Timeline of Deliverables (Longer-Term)

On-going MRGP practice implementation and maintenance throughout

- Municipalities apply for MRGP coverage (NOI) and pay fees
- Road Erosion Inventory - Due fall 2027
- All Very High Priority segments (except Class 4) upgraded
- December 31, 2025
- All Class 4 Very High Priority segments upgraded
- December 31, 2028
- December 31, 2028
- All connected roads meet MRGP Standard. On-going practice maintenance forward
- December 31, 2036
- Annual MRGP schedule updates - due June 1st
- 2023
- 2025
- 2028
- 2036

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION
STORMWATER PROGRAM
Hydrologically-Connected Roads

Connected Criteria:

- Within 100’ of a water resource
- Bisects (crosses) and drains to a water resource
- Located within the DEC river corridor
- Connectivity status can be changed during the inventories
- Catch basin outfalls within 500’ of a water resource and those segments associated with those outfalls

Water Resources:

- Perennial streams
- Intermittent streams/Defined channel (even if dry)
- Wetlands
- Lakes and Ponds
Percent of municipal roads hydrologically-connected and under MRGP requirements

- 55% Hydrologically connected
- 45% Not connected
Types of Erosion

Rill erosion 1” to <12” deep

Gully erosion 12” plus
Standards Check List:

- Does your road have a good crown?
- Are the road shoulders lower than the travel lane?
- If no, question - do you have an adequate ditch?
- Is your ditch stone lined if 8 percent or higher?
- Is your ditch stone lined or have check dams or have 2 cross culverts or turnouts if 5-7.99 percent slope?
- Are your ditches turned away from water and/or stable?
- Are your drainage and drive culverts adequately sized and not eroding?
Standards Implementation “Exemptions”

• Historic trees
• Historic stone walls
• Buried utilities
• Excessive ledge
• Lakeshore vegetation - (vegetation within 250’ of a lakeshore)
• Acquisition of land needed
• Public Safety (NEW)
Erosion control requirement

- Any bare soils on connected segments stabilized within 5 days
- Stabilization includes seed and mulch, hydroseeding and/or stone stabilization
We are in the 5\textsuperscript{th} and last year of the first MRGP permit cycle

- DEC reconvened the MRGP Core Team to assist in the re-issuance of the MRGP for the second 5-year permit cycle

- The Core Team consists of stakeholder representatives from VTrans, DEC, regional planning commissions and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns
MRGP is being Re-issued in January 2023

• The second 5-year permit cycle will run 1/26/2023- 1/26/2028, approximately. (NEW)

• Towns will have to re-apply for coverage under the new permit before 1/26/2023 (NEW)

• Towns will be required to pay Administrative Processing Fee and Permit Review fees totaling $640. (NEW)

• Annual Report Forms and Annual Fees (NEW) will be due April 1st each year
Proposed Changes for the MRGP in the Second 5-Year Permit Cycle

• REI due by October 31, 2027 for all connected segments (NEW)

• New REI compliance scoring and prioritization template based on % of practice in place, degree of erosion and road slope (NEW)

• Implementation requirements- 7.5% of non-compliant segments upgraded annually (same as current requirement)

• 20% of Very High Priority segments upgraded to MRGP standards annually (NEW)
New Very High Priority- “Fast Track” Implementation

• DEC may assess individual segments ahead of the new REI deadline when there is a potential serious road-related water quality threat. (NEW)

• If the DEC assessed segments score as Very High Priority, towns will be notified and have 2 years to bring those segments up to MRGP standards. (NEW)
Segment Upgrades and Annual Reporting

- Towns will continue to upgrade a minimum of 7.5% of non-compliant road segments annually. (Same)

- Those upgrades will be documented by reassessing individual segments using the DEC REI Survey Form app tool or web-based Reporter tool. (Same)

- Any segments upgraded to Fully Meets status starting in the 2023 field season, will not have to be reassessed as part of the town-wide REI reassessment (NEW)
New REI App Tool

• DEC and the Agency of Digital Services will be developing a new Survey 123 REI field form (app) that towns will be required to use in conducting REIs and for segment upgrades (NEW)

• The new scoring formula will be conducted in the Survey 123 form so that segment compliance scores will be calculated and available for immediate viewing (NEW)
New REI Schedule

- The new REI Survey 123 form will be **required** for townwide and individual segment assessments in spring of 2023. *(NEW)*

- DEC and ADS will provide REI training in early spring 2023. *(NEW)*

- The baseline (original) REI will be used to determine implementation requirements until the new REI reassessment is complete. *(NEW)*
Road Type Name Changes

Current Road Type Names:

• Paved Roads with Curbs and Catch Basins
• Paved and Gravel Roads with Open Drainage Systems
• Class 4 Roads

Road Type Names (NEW):

• Roads with Closed Drainages
• Roads with Open Drainages
• Class 4 Roads
Change to the MRGP Standards

• The current “recommended” Active Channel Width intermittent stream culvert size will now be **required** for non-compliant intermittent stream culverts. (NEW)

• Non-compliant intermittent stream culverts requiring upgrades are those that are eroding or failing due to inadequate size and for new construction.

• Stone headers and outlet stabilization required for road slopes 5% or greater (same as current requirement)
What type of culvert is it??

**Drainage**
- No defined channel below structure
- 15” minimum for drives (18” recommended)
- 18” minimum for road drainages

**Intermittent**
- Defined channel bed but dries up most years
- 18” minimum
  - (Recommend Active Channel width)

**Perennial**
- Defined channel and runs year-round (most years)
- **Bankfull Width generally required with Stream Alteration Permit**
Intermittent Stream Crossing Profile and Cross Section and Embedding Situations
Erosion from lack of culvert headwall/header
Culvert outlet stabilization
(Detail from VTrans Better Roads Manual)
MRGP Re-issuance Public Input

• The MRGP public notice period will begin shortly after Labor Day 2022 for a 30-day comment period

• Public meetings will be held on September 26th (virtual- Teams meeting invite 5:00-7:00) and September 27th (in-person at the ANR Annex Building in Montpelier 1:00-3:00)

• There will be a Comment Responsiveness Report prepared in October 2022

• The permit will be re-issued in November 2022

• Towns will re-apply for coverage and pay fees from November through January 26, 2023 (all MRGP towns will be notified)
Assistance to Towns

- Funding Sources:
  - Municipal Grants-in-Aid – For upgrading segments (VTrans)
  - Better Roads- for inventories and remediation (VTrans)
  - Outreach and Technical Assistance
VTrans and DEC Road Roundtable Trainings

Held in-person and virtually

Topics include:

- How to upgrade segment status using the DEC App or desktop
- Correct practice installation (grading, ditching, berm removal, and turnouts) and maintenance and correct equipment use
- Culvert sizing and installation
- Grant funding sources
For Additional information:

https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program

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