

**TWELFTH CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR CLEAN WATER  
PROJECTS IN THE LAMOILLE BASIN**

**ISSUED OCTOBER 8, 2026**

**PROPOSALS DUE NOVEMBER 12, 2026 @ 5:00 PM**

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019f22fbc2e2722b8338c6c2588f51e7>

## A. Introduction

The Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC), in its role as the Clean Water Service (CWSP) Provider for Basin 7 (the Lamoille River watershed), is again accepting applications for funding for projects that improve water quality. Projects must be in keeping with the vision set forth by Act 76, the Clean Water Service Delivery Act, and policies and guidance set forth by [the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation](#) to implement the Act. **The CWSP has funding available to carry out eligible projects in the basin.**

## B. Eligible Projects

Projects eligible for funding must be best management practices or other programs designed to improve water quality. Projects must not be required by a permit (10 VSA, Chapter 47), or subject to the requirements of Vermont Agricultural Water Quality statutes (6 V.S.A, Chapter 215). Funding may be available for the portion of projects that exceed requirements set forth in the statutes above. Project eligibility shall be determined by the Clean Water Initiative Program [FY23 funding policy, as updated](#), along with [Appendix A \(Screening form\)](#) and [Appendix B \(regarding project types\)](#).

### • Generic Project Types

|                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agricultural Pollution Prevention –Engineering Design                               |
| Agricultural Pollution Prevention – Implementation                                  |
| Road Project – Preliminary Engineering Design                                       |
| Road Project – Final Engineering Design                                             |
| Road Project – Implementation                                                       |
| Stormwater Master Plan - Project Identification                                     |
| Stormwater – Preliminary Engineering Design                                         |
| Stormwater – Final Engineering Design                                               |
| Stormwater – Implementation                                                         |
| Roads/Stormwater Gully - Design                                                     |
| Roads/Stormwater Gully - Implementation                                             |
| Forestry – Design                                                                   |
| Forestry – Implementation                                                           |
| Lake Wise Assessments - Project Identification                                      |
| Lake Watershed Action Planning (LWAP) - Project Identification                      |
| Lake Shoreland – Preliminary Engineering Design                                     |
| Lake Shoreland – Final Engineering Design                                           |
| Lake Shoreland – Implementation                                                     |
| Stream Geomorphic Assessment Phase 1 - Project Identification                       |
| Stream Geomorphic Assessment Phase 2 (River Corridor Plan) - Project Identification |
| Dam Removal – Preliminary Engineering Design                                        |
| Dam Removal – Final Engineering Design                                              |
| Dam Removal – Implementation                                                        |
| Floodplain/Stream Restoration – Preliminary Engineering Design                      |
| Floodplain/Stream Restoration – Final Engineering Design                            |
| Floodplain/Stream Restoration – Implementation                                      |
| River Corridor and Wetland Easement – Design                                        |
| River Corridor and Wetland Easement – Implementation                                |
| Riparian Buffer Planting                                                            |
| Wetland Restoration – Preliminary Engineering Design                                |
| Wetland Restoration – Final Engineering Design                                      |
| Wetland Restoration – Implementation                                                |
| Project Development                                                                 |
| Block Grants                                                                        |
| Operations and Maintenance                                                          |

- **Currently Eligible Project Phases**

- i. Assessments / Identification
- ii. Development
- iii. Design
  - 30% AKA Preliminary
  - 100% AKA Final
- iv. Implementation
- v. Operation and Maintenance (O&M)<sup>1</sup>

For details relating to the eligible project types and phases , see DEC's updated [FY23 funding policy](#).

## C. Eligible Entities

The CWSP is authorized to provide grant funding to qualified non-profit watershed organizations, natural resource conservation districts, regional planning commissions, other non-profit organizations, and municipalities. Projects not sponsored by one of these entities may still be eligible for funding via contracted services. Ineligible entities include Private citizens, individuals; Private for-profit businesses and industries; Private for-profit colleges and universities; Federal agencies.

## D. Evaluation Process

All design and/or implementation projects will be evaluated using the CWSP's prioritization process. This process emphasizes phosphorus reduction benefits (estimated using DEC's [Interim Phosphorus Reduction Calculator Tool](#) as updated or other DEC-approved methods) and phosphorus reduction cost effectiveness. The process also considers project life span, operation and maintenance costs, conformance with applicable Tactical Basin Plan, and Co-benefits identified in the application materials. (Note: Implementation projects requiring easements will have budgets expanded to include legal costs incurred by the CWSP.) A list or lists of eligible projects will be presented to the CWSPs Basin Water Quality Council ([BWQC](#)). The BWQC meets regularly to evaluate projects and recommend qualified projects for advancement.

**COST EFFECTIVENESS THRESHOLD: APPLICATIONS FOR PROJECTS THAT DO NOT MEET THE CWSP's COST EFFECTIVENESS THRESHOLD (\$50,000 per kilogram for stormwater projects, \$30,000 per kilogram for all other projects) SHOULD NOT BE SUBMITTED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH CWSP STAFF.**

## E. Awards Process

Recommendations of project awards will take place at or following bi-monthly BWQC meetings. Once the BWQC finalizes recommendations for funding and the CWSP confirms the project's eligibility, they will take one of the two paths below.

1. For projects with a sponsor that is an eligible prequalified entity, the CWSP will determine if the entity has the experience and financial and staffing capacity to carry out the project. If so, the CWSP will develop a subgrant or contract with the sponsoring entity, depending on the nature of the work. If not, the project will follow the second path.
2. For projects lacking an eligible prequalified sponsor, or if the sponsor does not have the capacity to manage the project, the CWSP will either manage the project or identify another entity to manage the project following the CWSPs procurement process.

## F. Application

- To apply, please fill out the new project application form for this funding round.  
<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019f22fbc2e2722b8338c6c2588f51e7>
- In addition to answering the questions in the form, you will need to upload many if not all of the following documents:
  - Indication of Landowner support (if applicable);
  - Completed [DEC screening form](#);
  - Completed DEC [Interim Phosphorus Reduction Calculator Tool](#) (if applicable) or [Functioning Floodplain Initiative Tool](#) outputs;
  - Project budget;
  - Map of Project Area;
  - Project Schedule.
- If applicable, you also need to supply a [Vermont Division for Historic Preservation Project Review Form](#). We encourage you to pay close attention to DEC's cultural resource assessment requirements, as they can have an impact on both project schedule and budget.

## G. How this call for projects compares with earlier rounds

- This call for projects will resemble previous ones in most respects. The CWSP strongly desires to receive applications for projects at all stages of development, including 1) early stage (ID/Assessment and development), 2) design (preliminary, final), and 3) implementation. If you have an idea for a project application, we very much want hear about it.

## H. Additional Information

For additional information, or if you have any questions, please contact

Dean Pierce [dpierce@nrpcvt.com](mailto:dpierce@nrpcvt.com) 802-524-5958 x124

Also please visit the CWSP Projects & Funding page at

<https://www.nrpcvt.com/services-programs/water-resources/cwsp-projects-funding/>

and NRPC's RFQ page at

<https://www.nrpcvt.com/about-nrpc/rfp-rfq/>

for any updates relating to the application process.

<sup>1</sup> While the Funding Policy authorizes use of CWSP funds for Operation and Maintenance activities, those activities must meet specific requirements. The CWSP may also "adopt" existing projects for O&M in certain situation.