

Vermont Rivers and Roads Training Program Update

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A Three Tier Training Program

Tier 1: Online introduction to river processes
(<http://wsmd.vt.gov/rivers/roadstraining/>)

Tier 2: Classroom and field-based training on accommodating river stability and aquatic habitat

Tier 3: Advanced class and field training on use of the VT Standard River Management Practices Guidance

Training Descriptions and Delivery Schedules

Tier 1 Online training is a prerequisite for the Tier 2 training and is publicly available on the Rivers Program website.

Tier 2 VTrans trainings began in 2013. Class size is 25 and classes are held at the VTrans Training Center (VTTC). The VTTC handles advertising, registration and logistics.

Tier 2 municipal trainings will begin in 2014. Municipal classes will be held at regional locations. Training advertising, marketing, registration and logistics are handled by the Local Roads Program.

Tier 2 trainings are co-instructed by Rivers Program Scientists and Engineers as well as Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Fisheries Biologists.

Tier 3 classes will be developed in fall and winter of 2014 and delivered beginning in spring of 2015. Tier 3 classes will focus on use of the recently completed Vermont River Management Standard Practices Guidance Document.

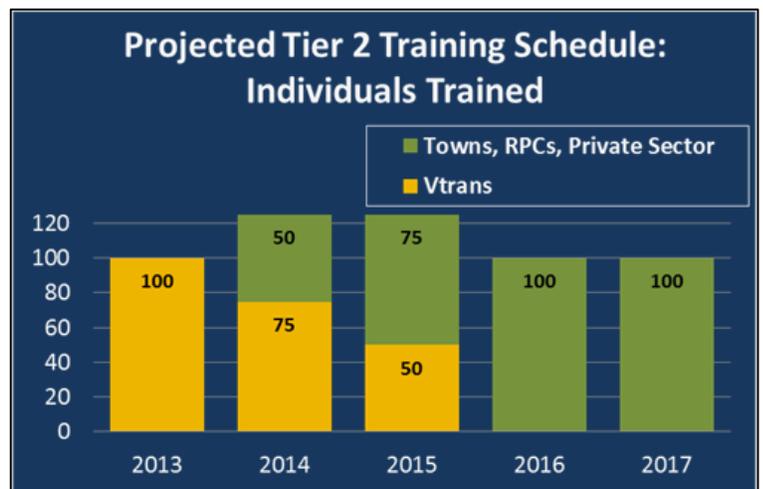


Figure 1 Delivery schedule for Tier 2

Feedback

Formal and informal feedback from participants, VTrans management and third party stakeholders has been very positive to date. Responses to two of the most informative evaluation questions are shown in figure 2.



Figure 2 Tier 2 survey results

Ongoing Training Development

Training programs continue to evolve in response to participant and co-instructor feedback and observations.

Tier 1 Overview

Training Description

Online Interactive Training

Self-Guided Presentation

Embedded River Management Audio and Video Clips

Interactive Quizzes

Subject Matter

- Lesson 1: An Introduction to Rivers
 - The Values of Rivers
 - Hydrologic and Sediment Regimes

- Lesson 2: Understanding River Behavior
 - River Morphology
 - River Equilibrium
 - Channel Evolution

- Lesson 3: Rivers and Human Developments
 - Flood and Erosion Hazards
 - Controlling the River to Resolve Conflicts

- Lesson 4: River Management Going Forward
 - Managing For Equilibrium

Tier 2 Overview

Rivers and Roads Tier 2 Agenda

Start Time

Day 1 River Morphology and River Equilibrium (Stability)

- 8:00 AM Welcome and Introductions (what is your flood recovery experience)
- 8:15 AM Training Overview: Why a Rivers and Roads Training, What to expect
- 8:20 AM Introduction to Geomorphology Presentation
- 8:40 AM Field Manual Introduction
- 8:50 AM Habitat Introduction Presentation
- 9:15 AM Introduction to Pond Brook Exercises
- 9:20 AM Group Up and Travel to Berlin Pond Brook Field Site
- 9:50 AM Pond Brook Field Exercises and Breaks
- 1:50 PM Travel to VTTC
- 2:10 PM Pond Brook Recap and Data Summary, Morphology Presentation
- 2:40 PM Building an Equilibrium River Model Exercise
- 4:10 PM The Equilibrium and AOP Standards
- 4:20 PM Daily Summary
- 4:30 PM Break For the Day

Day 2 Rivers in Adjustment, Channel Evolution

- 8:00 AM Channel Adjustments and Evolution Presentation
- 8:15 AM Channel Evolution Exercises
- 9:45 AM Crossett Brook Introduction
- 10:00 AM Group up and Travel to Crossett Brook
- 10:30 AM Crossett Brook Field Exercise and Breaks
- 2:15 PM Travel to VTTC
- 2:45 PM Stabilization Structures Presentation
- 3:15 PM Building Stabilization Structures River Model Exercise
- 4:15 PM Daily Summary
- 4:30 PM Break for the Day

Day 3 Building and Maintaining Roads Along Rivers

- 8:00 AM AOP Presentation
- 8:30 AM Culverts Presentation
- 8:40 AM Designing the Reconstruction Exercises
- 9:40 AM Flood Recovery River Model Exercise
- 10:55 AM Travel to Culvert Sites
- 11:25 AM Culvert Field Exercises and Breaks
- 3:10 PM Travel to VTTC
- 3:25 PM Training Review
- 3:55 PM Wrap Up and Evaluation Survey
- 4:15 PM Training Concludes