

Notes from FNLC

1. Time line on small farm inspections – should be every other year.
2. Tile Drainage – Flow Data – what we have for the state of Vermont. Good we are finally looking at it. Describe our project. We don't think a knee jerk reaction at this point is appropriate, but we should define what the next steps are: 1. Going forward as part of their Nutrient Management Plan – they should create/produce a map of where the tiles are or where they are installing them.
3. Page 13 – line 86 – We are concerned that the manure certification is only once every 5 years and only an 8 hour training. We also think that everyone who handles manure needs to go through a certification program and that the program should be robust. Maybe give everyone 2 years to get up to speed, but offer local trainings and partner with Extension or Ben & Jerry's Caring Dairy Program to provide these trainings. You could then do tiered trainings for people that have done the initial training – they would go to the second phase training.
4. We agree with Current Use. We will be interested to see how the standards are set for removing ag land from the Current Use Program.
5. We also support a contract fee on the Current Use Program that would be used towards the Clean Water Fund.
6. We support having the Regional Planning Commissions implement the Basin Planning Process. The local regional planners and the municipalities are all intimately involved with planning, transportation, and water quality and are more connected to local issues.
7. What I don't see in here:
 - a. Any monitoring?? How do we know we are achieving success if we are not measuring our reductions? There has to be some reporting on what this is doing to surface waters and how we are reducing P in our rivers and streams. Will there be additional resources dedicated to monitoring? On farm monitoring – technology is changing – adaptive management?
8. Stormwater – this bill is putting a lot of work on our small towns that mostly have 1 staff member and a volunteer board... how are we going to support them in this work and who is going to do it?
9. Clean water fund – All fees and fines from ag and stormwater permits should go into the clean water fund to support activities that address water quality.
10. There needs to be a local representative on that board from the most impaired water bodies in Lake Champlain, the Connecticut River Valley, and Lake Memphermagog.
11. The projects and priorities should be informed by a local/regional water quality delegation that understands and lives in the communities and the dynamics of the problem and not selected by
12. The fund should first work to address problems in the critical source areas in the regions with the most impaired water bodies.
13. Will the clean water fund group have a staff?
14. The reports to the legislators should include the projects implemented, maps of the location, and monitoring data, or estimates of sediment and P reductions.
15. We maintain that an environmental or clean water assessment of \$30 on every parcel in Vermont (up to 10 parcels) maximum \$300 per person should be assessed to provide

approximately \$10 million in the Clean Water Fund annually in addition to a Contract Fee for the Current Use Program.

16. Reallocation of staff in ANR

17. Release the EPA Section 319 money to local watershed groups for project implementation and/or have the staff that receive that money in ANR work in the communities that have the most impaired bodies of water.