

VT DEC Existing Developed Lands Stormwater General Permit

Reducing the pollutant load from existing developed lands and associated impervious surfaces is necessary to implement the Lake Champlain TMDL. The vast majority of developed land in the Lake Champlain basin does not currently have a stormwater permit or treatment system. This general permit will require implementation of stormwater best management practices designed to reduce phosphorus and other pollutants.

Who Will be Regulated

- VT DEC will need to manage 25% of existing developed lands in order to implement the Lake Champlain TMDL. US EPA is currently undertaking an impervious-surface-per-parcel analysis that will allow DEC to identify the range of parcels that will require permit coverage. Additionally, current state legislation (H.35) would require all parcels with greater than 3 acres of impervious surface to obtain permit coverage.
- Smaller parcels in densely developed areas served by municipal stormwater systems are also likely to require permit coverage to attain phosphorous reduction goals under the Lake Champlain TMDL

What Will be Required

- Developed land that requires permit coverage will be required to implement a best-fit stormwater system that maximizes the reduction of phosphorus from their stormwater discharges (in the Lake Champlain basin)
- Municipalities may develop stormwater management plans that include standards for new development, and that improve water quality practices as part of planned infrastructure replacement. Development of municipal stormwater management plans may be integrated in plans for managing stormwater from municipal highways.
- Stormwater systems will use best management practices (BMPs) that include rain gardens and stormwater infiltration systems

Timing of Requirements

- Under the Lake Champlain TMDL Phase I implementation Plan DEC will issue a draft general permit in 2016, and a final permit in 2017
- Permit implementation will be prioritized and phased over up to a 20-year period

Permit Process

- Public process to develop permit and standards
- 20-year Implementation schedule prioritized by greatest benefit
- Regulated projects have ongoing maintenance and reporting requirements