

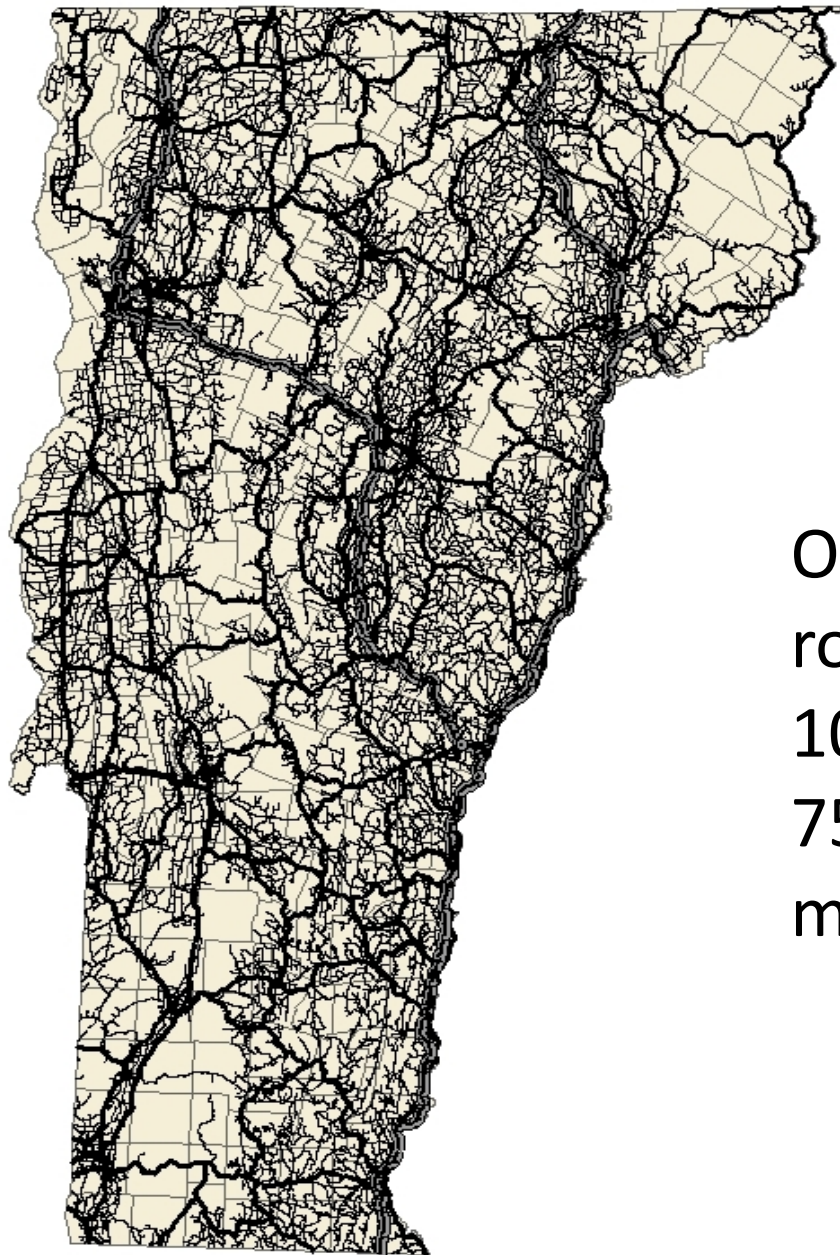
# VTRANS AND THE MUNICIPAL ROADS GENERAL PERMIT

---

Gina Campoli, VTrans Environmental Policy Manager  
House Fish, Wildlife and Natural Resources Committee  
January 26, 2017

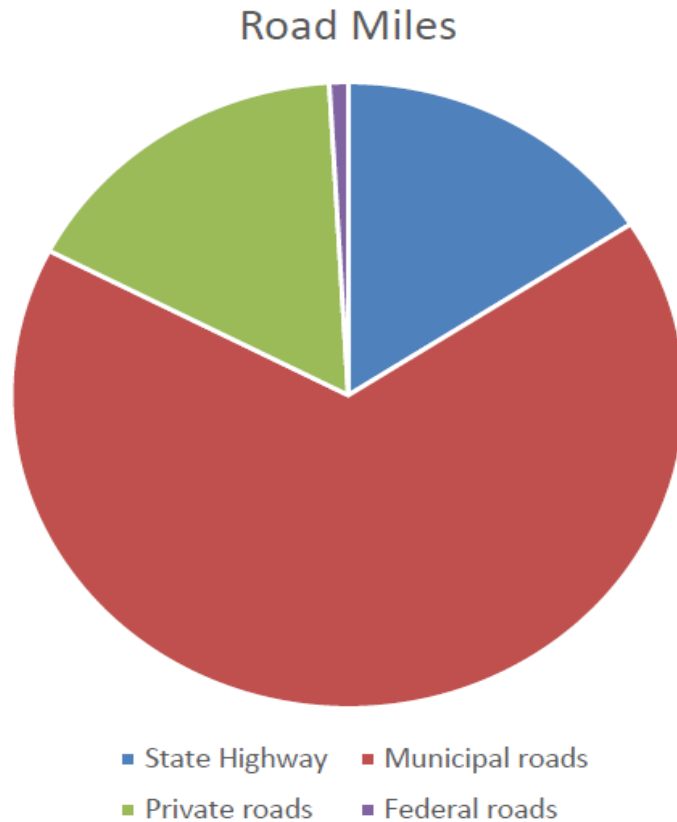






Of the 14,158 miles of roadway in Vermont, 10,705 miles or over 75% are managed by municipalities.

# Vermont Road Mileage



- 18,818 total road miles
- 155 miles of federal roads- 1%
- 2,709 miles of state highway- 14%
- 2,823 miles of private roads- 15%
- 13,131 miles of town highway (Classes 1-4)- 70%



# MRGP and VTrans Town Road and Bridge Standards

- Current VTrans *Orange Book* Standards will be extended until MRGP coverage begins
- Practices Standards will be compatible
- The geographic applicability will likely differ



Handbook for Local Officials

January 23, 2013

**TOWN ROAD AND BRIDGE STANDARDS  
TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_, VERMONT**

The Town of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby adopts the following Town Road and Bridge Standards which shall apply to the construction, repair, and maintenance of all town roads and bridges.

The standards listed here are considered minimum and apply to construction projects and repair and maintenance activities. The standards include management practices and are designed to: ensure the safety of the traveling public, minimize damage to road infrastructure during flood events, and enhance water quality protections by minimizing sediment delivery to surface waters and/or wetlands.

The select board reserves the right to modify the standards for a particular project or repair or maintenance activities where, because of unique physical circumstances or conditions, there is no possibility that the project or activities can be completed in strict conformance with these provisions. Any modifications to the standards must be done in a manner that serves the underlying intent of the management practice, be it public safety, flood hazard avoidance, or water quality protection. Fiscal reasons are not a basis for modification of the standards. Questions about modifications to the standards should be directed to the VTrans District Office.

Municipalities must comply with all applicable state and federal approvals, permits and duly adopted standards when undertaking road and bridge activities and projects.

Any new road regulated by and/or to be conveyed to the municipality shall be constructed according to the minimums of these standards. If any federal and/or state funding is involved in a project, the VTrans district office must be notified prior to **any** field changes taking place that would alter the original scope of work.

**Roadways**

- All new or substantially reconstructed gravel roads shall have at least a 12-inches thick processed gravel sub-base, with an additional 3 inches (minimum) top course of crushed gravel.
- All new or substantially reconstructed paved roads shall have at least a 15 inches thick processed gravel sub-base.
- All roadways shall be graded so water does not remain on the road surface. For roadways that are not super-elevated, this generally means a 2-4% ( $\frac{1}{4}'' - \frac{1}{2}''$  per ft) crown for gravel roads and a 1-2% ( $\frac{1}{8}'' - \frac{1}{4}''$  per ft) crown for paved roads to promote sheeting of water.
- Proper grading techniques for gravel roadways must be used to avoid creating a ridge or berm between the crown and the ditch.
- Any berm along the roadway shoulder that prevents the proper sheeting of water must be removed.

# VTrans Water Quality Roles & Responsibilities



Funding to Address Run-off from  
Municipal Roads



Outreach & Technical Assistance



TS4 State Roads General Permit

## VTrans Municipal Water Quality Funding – FY 18 Request

*State Transportation Fund:*            \$1,640,000

*Federal Revenue Funds:*            \$7,242,342

*Clean Water Fund:*            \$1,100,000

---

**FY 18 TOTAL:**            **\$9,982,342**



## Program Priorities Begun Last Year :

- Continue building on popular and successful programs that are easy to implement & make a difference
- Brought paved roads into the Better Back Roads program – *Better Roads*
- Help towns undertake the planning and implementation necessary to comply with the municipal roads permit – for example erosion inventories and prioritization & improvements mandated by the permit
- Include Tactical Basin Plan priorities in grant selection criteria
- Program accountability through performance monitoring

# The Vermont Better Roads Program SFY 2017

## Category “A” Grants (Road Erosion Inventory and Capital Budget):

- ❑ Capped at \$10,000 per project  
\$8,000 (state) \$2,000 (local)
- ❑ 62 Projects



# The Vermont Better Roads Program SFY 2017

**Category “B” Grants:** Correction of road erosion problems and stormwater mitigation/retrofits for both gravel & paved roads:

- ❑ Examples of work: stone or grass lined ditches, turnouts, stone check dams, splash pools, rain gardens, swirl concentrator devices, dry wells, gravel wetlands, level spreaders
- ❑ Capped at \$25,000 per project, \$20,000 state and \$5,000 local
- ❑ 81 Projects



Fairfield, VT Before

*4/25/2014*



Fairfield, VT After

*9/02/2014*

# The Vermont Better Roads Program SFY 2017

**Category “C” Grants:** Correction of stream bank or slope - related problem:

- Examples of work: stream bank stabilization or restoration, stone lined slopes.
- Capped at \$50,000 per project, \$40,000 state and \$10,000 local
- Consultation with ANR Stream Alteration program and/or US Army Corp required
- 14 Projects



# The Vermont Better Roads Program SFY 2017

## Category “D” Grants:

Structure/culvert upgrades:

- ❑ Examples of work: culvert and structure upgrades & replacements and culvert head gut and gully stabilization
- ❑ Capped at \$50,000 per project, \$40,000 state and \$10,000 local
- ❑ 39 Projects





# VTrans Water Quality Outreach & Technical Assistance

Focus of work:

- ❑ Availability of grants & how to apply – Better Roads Program
- ❑ Coordination with DEC (Jim Ryan!) in reaching out to municipalities regarding the Municipal Roads Permit - RPCs, Vermont Local Roads program, VLCT
- ❑ Ongoing and continuous dialogue with local officials regarding what works and what doesn't from a practitioner's perspective – VT Local Roads Program



# Vermont Local Roads Program



## Some Trainings Include:

- Grader operations
- Road fundamentals
- Road drainage
- Rivers and Roads (with DEC)
- Roads Roundtables (with DEC)

<http://localroads.vermont.gov/>



Daniel Dutcher, VTrans Senior Environmental Policy Analyst

[Daniel.Dutcher@vermont.gov](mailto:Daniel.Dutcher@vermont.gov)

