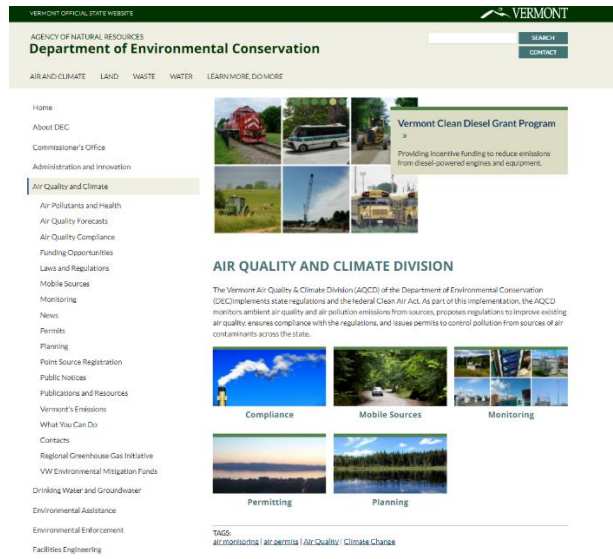


**Air Quality and Climate Division**  
**http://dec.vermont.gov/air-quality**  
**February 20, 2018**

The Vermont Air Quality & Climate Division (AQCD) of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) implements state regulations and the federal Clean Air Act. As part of this implementation, the AQCD monitors ambient air quality and air pollution emissions from sources, proposes regulations to improve existing air quality, ensures compliance with the regulations, and issues permits to control pollution from sources of air contaminants across the state.



### **AIR QUALITY COMPLIANCE SECTION**

The Air Quality Compliance Section ensures that industry, businesses, institutions, and individuals comply with air quality regulations and air pollution control permits issued by the Agency of Natural Resources. The Air Quality Compliance Section is responsible for:

- **Industrial and Commercial Air Pollution Source Inspections**
- **Monitoring of Air Pollutant Source Emission Testing**
- **Complaint Investigations**
- **Issuing Open Burning Permits**
- **Receipt of Fire Training Notifications**
- **Control of Vapors from Gasoline Marketing**
- **Wood Stoves and Wood-Fired Central Heater Compliance**

The Air Quality Compliance staff also provides technical assistance to industries and individuals, produces outreach materials for the public and business sectors, and assists in the drafting of air quality-related statutes and regulations.

### **AIR QUALITY MOBILE SOURCES SECTION**

Mobile sources, primarily motor vehicles, are the largest source of a number of air pollutants in Vermont, including greenhouse gases, air toxics, the ozone precursors (volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides), and carbon monoxide. In order to reduce the impact of mobile source emissions on air

quality and human health, the Mobile Sources Section implements and manages a number of programs and strategies for controlling on-road and non-road mobile sources of air pollution.

- Vermont's Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Program
- The Diesel Emissions Reduction
- The Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program
- The [Automotive Technician Training Program](#)

### **AIR QUALITY MONITORING SECTION**

The Air Monitoring Section operates the division's statewide ambient air monitoring network for the measurement of EPA criteria pollutants- ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide, as well as meteorological parameters such as wind speed and direction, temperature, barometric pressure, precipitation, and solar radiation. The air monitoring network includes sampling and analyses for numerous air toxics compounds including many volatile organic compounds such as benzene and 1,3-butadiene, carbonyl compounds such as formaldehyde and acetaldehyde, toxic metals such as lead and arsenic, and semi volatile organic compounds such as naphthalene and benzo (a) pyrene. Monitoring sites within the network are participants in EPA National Networks such as SLAMS (State and Local Air Monitoring Stations), NCORE (National Core Monitoring Stations), NATTS (National Air Toxics Trends Stations), IMPROVE (Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments) and CSN/STN (Chemical Speciation Trends Network).

### **AIR QUALITY PERMITTING SECTION**

The Vermont Air Quality & Climate Division (AQCD) implements two permitting programs for the control of air pollution from stationary sources: [Permits to Construct](#), which are required prior to commencing construction or modification of an air pollution emitting facility to ensure necessary emission controls are designed and built into the project from the beginning, and [Permits to Operate](#), which incorporate all air pollution related requirements a facility is subject to and is renewed every 5 years to keep it up-to-date with any new requirements. Both permit programs incorporate the respective federal Clean Air Act permit program requirements for Permits to Construct and Permits to Operate that Vermont is delegated by the U.S. EPA to implement. Examples of permitted air pollution emitting facilities include: incinerators, boilers for space or process heating, stationary diesel engines such as used for generators or compressors, stationary engines used to generate power from landfills or anaerobic digesters, electric utility power plants, bulk gasoline storage, and industrial processes such as wood furniture manufacturing, spray coating operations, dust generating activities, metal plating operations, plywood and veneer manufacturing, concrete cement batching, hot mix asphalt production, and mineral mining and processing operations such as rock crushing and/or screening operations.

### **AIR QUALITY PLANNING SECTION**

- Develops plans and programs to meet federal requirements;
- Implements regulations developed by the Air Quality & Climate Division;
- Performs necessary revisions of state air quality plans required by federal law;
- Collects data and develops air pollutant emission inventories;
- Facilitates operation of the annual registration program for point sources of air pollution;
- Performs computer modeling and other analyses needed for new programs or attainment / maintenance strategies; and
- Coordinates activities on issues such as air toxics, climate change, acid rain, visibility, and protection of air quality in Vermont's pristine areas;
- GHG Inventory for VT.