

VERMONT WETLAND PERMITTED LOSSES AND GAINS 2017

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The goal of the Vermont Wetlands Program (Program) is to have no net loss of wetland function, value or acreage. Each year the Program issues around 100 permits for activities to occur within wetlands. In 2017 the Program issued 154 permits. Permittees are required to report on when construction has completed. Using permittee reports the Program is able to report on wetland losses and gains for calendar year (CY) 2017. In 2017 no completed projects required wetland creation or restoration. Less than an acre of wetland was filled. There were requirements for enhancement or conservation of wetland which was far greater than the amount of permitted wetland loss.

CY 2017:
2.25 acres of wetland filled
1.44 acres of wetland enhanced

Out of the thirteen counties in Vermont, five had no permitted wetland loss and one received more acres of enhancement than loss (Addison). Chittenden, Essex, Lamoille, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, and Windsor Counties lost wetland in the 2017 time period. Rutland and Windsor lost over half an acre, the majority of total permitted wetland loss in 2017. The impacts were associated with transmission line upgrades.

These numbers do not account for the loss of wetland due to lack of state jurisdiction, or wetland fill violations, or permits which were completed without yet reporting. These numbers also do not account for the passive or voluntary restoration efforts taking place throughout the state which are not associated with a wetlands permit.

County	Square Feet Lost	Square Feet Enhanced
Addison	5142	35719
Chittenden	4666	0
Essex	1936	0
Lamoille	750	0
Orleans	24116	0
Rutland	30161	6200
Washington	2394	0
Windsor	30383	0