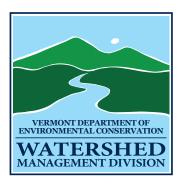
Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP) What's New (and Due) for 2021

Here are some upcoming important Vermont Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) related schedules and permit requirements, training opportunities, and resources available to towns in 2021.



Due Dates and Requirements for 2021

Due Date	Requirement	Fee
June 1	Annual Fee	\$500, \$1350, or \$1800 - prorated based on pop. & road miles

June 1, 2021 - MRGP Annual Fee Due

Towns are required to pay an annual fee (\$500, \$1,350 or \$1,800 based on population and road miles) before June 1, 2021. Towns will be sent a reminder email from DEC with additional information in early spring 2021. Find your town's fee on the <u>list of prorated MRGP annual fees</u>.

MRGP Implementation Requirements- 2021 and 2022 field seasons

The MRGP requires towns to upgrade 15% of non-compliant hydrologically-connected road segments to MRGP standards by December 31, 2022. What does this mean?

Example:

- Your completed initial inventory indicates that 100 road segments (1 road segment= 328 feet) scored "Does Not Meet" or "Partially Meets" standards.
- 15% of 100 segments or 15 segments (just under 1 mile of road) are required to be brought up to the MRGP standards by December 31, 2022.

This number will vary according to your REI results. Please keep track of where road segments have been upgraded and make those updates through the DEC Survey 123 app. If you need help, attend a Virtual Road Roundtable training or check out the MRGP website.

Annual Reports - Not due in 2021

Because towns just submitted REIs in December 2020, 2021 is an "off-year" and annual reports will not be required. This requirement will be due again on April 1, 2022. More information will be forthcoming in early 2022. Heads-up.

Road Erosion Inventory (REI) - December 31, 2020- (*Past Due*)

Towns were required to complete and submit REIs using DEC's template before December 31, 2020. If your town has not yet submitted this requirement, please do so as soon as possible. REIs are conducted to determine which road segments meet or do not meet MRGP standards. The REIs serve as a basis to determine which roads will be required to be upgraded to meet MRGP standards.

Upcoming Trainings - Spring 2021

Virtual Road Roundtable Forums- DEC and the VTrans Local Roads programs will be offering a series of virtual Road Round Table Forums starting in February 2021. This is our fifth year of Round Table Forums providing town officials, road foremen, and road crew members a crash course and discussion of MRGP standards, timelines, road practice installation, and grant funding. Over 400 people have attended these trainings over the last 4 years.

The primary focus of this year's trainings will be how to access, interpret, update, and use REI data to help identify, prioritize, and implement upgrades to roads in meeting MRGP requirements.

This year's Virtual Road Roundtable Forum Topics will include:

- How to download and use DEC's MRGP REI applications such as Collector and Survey 123.
- How to re-assess road segments after segments have been upgraded to MRGP standards.
- How to view, interpret, and use your town's REI data in the MRGP database portal.
- How to use mapping tools to assist in implementation of road practices.



Virtual Roundtables are currently scheduled for the following dates and times:

- February 24, 2021 from 9:00-10:30
- April 28, 2021 from 9:00-10:30
- July 14, 2021 from 4:00-5:30

Check the VTrans Local Roads Program website for specific dates and registration information.

MRGP Implementation Table Database Portal- (A new look)

DEC and the Agency of Digital Services have upgraded the MRGP "Portal." The new design gives both baseline REI data, as well as up to date data for each town. Check out the <u>new portal online!</u>

Municipality	Baseline	Baseline	Current	Current	Outlet	All
	Summary	Inventory	Inventory	Summary	Inventory	Assessments
Montpelier	Baseline Summary	Baseline Inventory	Current Inventory	<u>Current</u> <u>Summary</u>	Outlet Inventory	All Assessments

Future REI requirements and schedules (To be determined)

Dates and requirements for the next round of MRGP REIs have not yet been determined. Please hold off on conducting any new rounds of inventories until DEC provides additional guidance. That said, any towns that have not fully completed their initial REIs should do so as soon as possible. It is DEC's recommendation for towns, and those organizations assisting towns, that the focus should be on the MRGP implementation requirements for the 2021 and 2022 calendar years. DEC will provide additional information on future REI requirements in 2022.

Financial Assistance Available

Municipal Grants-in-Aid (GIA) for road upgrades to MRGP standards:

The Municipal Grants-in-Aid program has transitioned from DEC to VTrans. The Municipal Grants-in-Aid program made offers to towns in the fall of 2020 for implementation projects in the 2021 field season. It is anticipated that VTrans will again send letters to towns announcing the next round of GIA funding in the fall of 2021 for implementation of projects for the 2022 field season. Towns receive grant funding to help them bring their connected roads up to MRGP standards. Please contact Joel Perrigo at VTrans for more information

regarding the GIA program: Joel.perrigo@vermont.gov

Grants-Aid-Small Equipment Grant:

DEC will continue to administer the GIA Small Equipment Grant. Each year, towns in different parts of the state will be given the opportunity to access funding to purchase equipment that can assist the municipality in implementing required MRGP practices. Equipment includes: hydro-seeders, hay bale shredders, plate compactors, road shoulder discs, and roller compactors. Please contact Helen Carr from DEC for more information: Helen.carr@vermont.gov



VTrans Better Roads Grant funding can be used to develop MRGP Road Erosion Inventories (Category A), as well as implement road best management practices (Category B) that will assist municipalities in meeting MRGP implementation requirements. For more information visit the Better Roads Grant Program





For more information about the MRGP, visit:

https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-program

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