

# Municipal Roads Program (MRGP)

## February 2025 Newsletter



Here are some important updates on the Vermont Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) schedule and permit requirements, training opportunities, and resources available to municipalities in 2025.

### Program Updates

Chad McGann is the new Municipal Roads Program Coordinator replacing Evelyn Boardman. Contact: ([chad.mcgann@vermont.gov](mailto:chad.mcgann@vermont.gov)); 802-636-7239.

The Municipal Roads Program is continuing support for the Road Erosion Inventory (REI) Reassessments for the second permit cycle. The need for the Reassessment comes from the change in [segment scoring](#), which is more reflective of road drainage conditions, bringing more towns into compliance with the permit's implementation requirements. Please don't hesitate to reach out with REI questions, MRGP reminders, and overall technical assistance.

2023 and 2024 saw record rainfall and widespread road damage for many municipalities across the state. The Municipal Roads Program prioritizes the improvement of drainage structures on high slope roads to prevent erosion and washouts:

- All roads below 8% slope can have grass ditches, so long as there are turnouts and cross culverts present to convey water out of ditches.
- For stone ditches filled in with sediment, remove some stone and debris to establish conveyance, hydroseed the ditch to stabilize, and place removed stone at the base to form a rock apron.



MRGP Coordinator, Chad McGann

### Administrative Reminders

- ✓ Check for overdue fees and annual reports on the [Administrative Compliance Status Dashboard](#).
- ✓ Check MRGP implementation compliance status using the [MRGP Implementation Table Portal](#) Progress Report. Municipalities are required to upgrade 7.5% of non-compliant hydrologically-connected road segments to MRGP standards annually.
- ✓ Report upgrades using the MRGP Survey 123 [mobile application](#) or the MRGP web-based [Reporter Tool](#).
- ✓ Field workers should delete and re-download [offline areas](#) and [survey forms](#) if survey is not working properly. The maps include segment and outlet status layers that are updated weekly.
- ✓ Stabilize bare or unvegetated areas. The MRGP requires stabilization of bare or unvegetated areas following construction and soil disturbance on hydrologically-connected road segments. These areas shall be revegetated with seed and mulch, hydroseeded, or stone lined within 5 days of disturbance of soils or, if precipitation is forecast, sooner.

## Due Dates and Requirements for 2025

Due Date	Requirement	Fee
<b>April 1, 2025</b>	<b>Annual Fee</b>	\$500, \$1350, or \$1800 - Prorated based on population and road miles
	<b>Annual Report Form</b>	-
	<b>2024 MRGP Implementation Reporting:</b> Report upgrades to 7.5% of non-compliant segments, including 20% of Very High Priority Segments	-

### MRGP Annual Fees – Due April 1, 2025

MRGP municipalities are required to pay an annual fee (\$500 or \$1,350 or \$1,800 prorated fee based on population and road miles) before April 1, 2024. Towns will be sent a reminder email from DEC with additional information in early spring 2024. Find your municipality's fee on the list of [prorated MRGP annual fees](#).

### MRGP Annual Reports – Due April 1, 2025

MRGP municipalities are required to submit a completed and signed one-page Annual Report form each year. The updated form can be found on the MRGP website, or [here](#).

### 2024 MRGP Implementation Reporting – Due April 1, 2025

Upgrade 20% of Very High Priority segments as part of the 7.5% upgrades each year. These numbers 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 mobile application](#) or the MRGP web-based [Reporter Tool](#) for desktop.



Duhamel Rd, Morristown

### Road Erosion Inventory (REI) Reassessment – Due by October 31, 2027

The REI Reassessments of hydrologically-connected road segments is due before October 31, 2027. Annual implementation requirements are based on the baseline REI until towns fully complete the new REI reassessments and submit the [REI Amendment Form](#) on [ANROnline](#) with the \$240 processing fee. Once complete, new implementation requirements will be based on the new assessment numbers. Towns are encouraged to document damaged caused by severe storms using the "Storm Damage" function of the REI, so that the segment status can be updated and considered for improvement through grant funding.

## Resources in 2025

- **In-Person Road Roundtable Forums (April and June 2025):** DEC and the [VTrans Local Roads Program](#) will be offering a series of Road Round Table Forums in 2025; stay tuned for details about a forum in your region. The priority of these forums is related to the Road Erosion Inventories and documentation of upgrades, town clerks and administrators are encouraged to attend. However, there will be time to discuss MRGP, so please bring your feedback and any questions.
- **Online training resources:** [MRGP 101](#)
- **In-Person Road Erosion Inventory (REI) Trainings:** For in person trainings or support, please contact Chad.

## Financial Assistance Available

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

The Municipal Grants-in-Aid program made awards to towns in 2024, for funding under SFY25. It is anticipated that VTrans will again send letters to towns announcing the next round of GIA funding in early 2025 for implementation of projects under SFY26, with awards for implementation in the 2025-2026 field season. Towns receive grant funding to implement road best management practices that help them bring connected roads up to MRGP standards. For more information visit the [Municipal Grant-in-Aid website](#) or contact Ross Gouin at [ross.gouin@vermont.gov](mailto:ross.gouin@vermont.gov).

### VTrans Better Roads Grants (Applications Due Fall, 2025):

VTrans Better Roads Grant funding can be used to 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](#) or contact Dan Judkins at [dan.judkins@vermont.gov](mailto:dan.judkins@vermont.gov)



Jacksonville Stage Road, Halifax

# Spotlight: Change in Survey 123, Coming April 1st

The Road Erosion Inventory Survey 123 questions for Open Drainage Roads are being streamlined to make assessments faster. Coming April 1st, the survey will be changed to only ask if there is erosion depending on if the corresponding practice type is failing. This aims at using erosion as an indicator to measure the success of each of the four Open Drainage road elements to handle stormwater: crown, berm, drainage, turnout.

## Preview of updates made:

Municipal Roads General Permit	Municipal Roads General Permit
<p><b>Open Drainage Roads</b></p> <p><b>Roadway crown/travel lane</b></p> <p>A-1: Is 90% of the segment insloped, out-sloped or properly crowned (<math>\geq 2\%</math> crown slope)? *</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><b>Grader berm/windrow</b></p> <p>B-1: Is 90% of the segment (both sides of the road) without grader berm/windrow? *</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p> <p>B-2: Erosion type present *</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gully (12"+)</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Rill (Between 1" and 12")</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Sheet Flow (1" or less) or None</p> <p><b>Road drainage</b></p> <p>C-1: Is 90% of the segment (both sides of road) allowed to shed water in a distributed manner to a vegetated/forested area or ditch stabilized with vegetation or stone?</p> <p>Answer *</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Road drainage</b></p> <p>C-1: Is 90% of the segment (both sides of road) allowed to shed water in a distributed manner to a vegetated/forested area or ditch stabilized with vegetation or stone?</p> <p>Answer *</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p> <p><b>Turnouts/conveyance areas</b></p> <p>D-1: Do drainage ditch outlets and conveyance areas shed water in a distributed manner? *</p> <p><input type="radio"/> All practices in place</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Practice absent in one or more areas</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> No turnouts present</p> <p><b>Culverts</b></p> <p>Are there existing or needed driveway, drainage or intermittent stream culverts along the road segment? *</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p>
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By answering that the road element is 'good', the erosion question will not appear. -->

Instead, the erosion question will appear when the road element is failing, with erosion likely present. -->

**For more information MRGP, head to our MRGP website or reach out to one of us:**

### Chad McGann

Municipal Roads Program Coordinator- REI support, project help, landowner concerns, feasibility exemptions, implementation questions, or all other things MRGP  
(802) 636-7239 or [chad.mcgann@vermont.gov](mailto:chad.mcgann@vermont.gov)

### Ryan Knox

Agency of Digital Services- questions about the MRGP Survey 123 app, Collector map layer, the ANR Natural Resources Atlas Municipal Road Theme, and MRGP Reporter web-based tool  
[ryan.knox@vermont.gov](mailto:ryan.knox@vermont.gov)