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Vermont DEC Wetlands Program

August 20, 2020

Wetlands Communication

<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/wetlands>

Vermont Wetlands Program



October 2019



June 2020

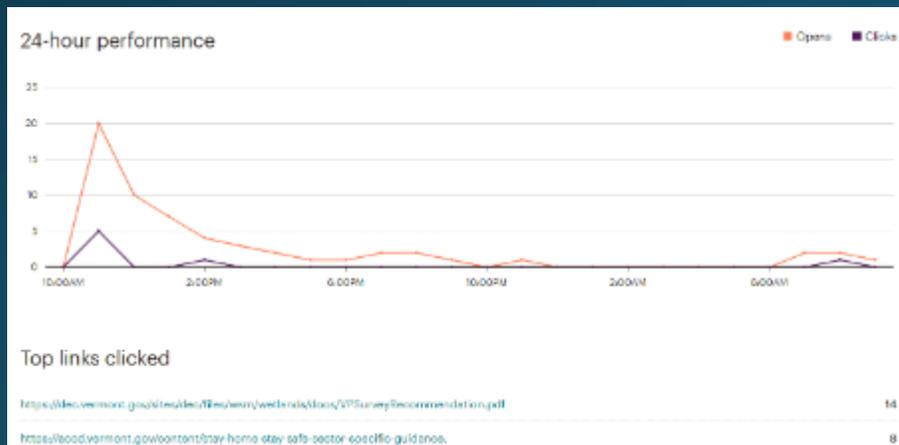
In-State Communication

- Regular (2-5 years) cross-training with: Stormwater, Lakes & Ponds, Rivers, Fish and Wildlife, State Foresters, Septic design permitters, Agriculture, Transportation, basin planners, natural heritage.



Communications with Professionals

- Treat them as partners
- Help them serve their clients better by:
 - Keeping them updated on program changes and pending changes.
 - Reminding them of common errors
 - Setting program expectations
 - Point to resources where they can learn more



Vermont Wetland Program Updates

Covid-19 Business: The Governor has extended the "[Stay Home, Stay Safe](#)" Order until May 15th. Following the Order to prevent the spread and "flatten the curve" of Covid-19, Wetlands Program Staff will not be conducting any fieldwork until the Order is lifted. If you are working on a project that is "critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security" (see [ACCD guidance](#)) we ask that you follow the [Classification Guidance](#) and take ample photographs, ACOE Wetland Determination forms, and notes for the Program to process for regulatory purposes. Please remember to communicate with our staff electronically or via phone to the greatest extent possible since our processing of postal mail may be slowed during this period. You may now submit permit applications, compliance reports and fee payments through our new online form to expedite its receipt and review: https://anonline.vermont.gov/?formtag=WSMD_Intake.

New Allowed Use Guidance Document: We have finalized a [guidance document](#) pertaining to the Vermont Wetland Rules allowed use Sections 6.1-6.5 which applies to silviculture. Among other details, the document explains that the clearing of forest to develop does not qualify for this allowed use. Vermont Wetland Rule guidance and procedure documents may be found listed on our [Vermont Wetland Rule webpage](#).

Vermont Wetland Rule Edits: The Wetlands Program is working with a group of Stakeholders, founded in 2016, to revise the Vermont Wetland Rules. Rule changes, including a public comment process, is expected this fall.

Wetland Consultant Webinar Slides: The [slides](#) from the April 6th webinar have been posted on our [Education, Training and Outreach](#) website. Topics include wetland delineations, classifications, and tips for filling out a permit application. The slides include weblinks where you may learn more about a particular topic of interest.

Vernal Pool Season: While in many areas of Vermont we are still awaiting the start of the growing season, vernal pool amphibian activity has begun in most places. In collaboration with VT Fish and Wildlife (VTFWD), the Program has posted [guidance](#) on conducting surveys and we have also posted VTFWD's [evaluation form](#).

Email List: If your colleague forwarded this message and you'd like to receive them directly, you may subscribe by entering your email address to the "Subscribe to our Program Mailing List" section of our [homepage](#).

Communicating Possible New Regulation to the Public and Landowners

- Purpose
- Process
- Impact
- Key Players

Why Designate as Class I?

- Preserves existing functions
- Stricter permitting standard
- Recognition of a special place



Section 6 of the Vermont Wetland Rules lists all of the activities which are allowed without a wetland permit and are therefore allowed within a Class I wetland.

SECTION 6: ALLOWED USES
The following uses shall be allowed in a Class I or Class II wetland and in its buffer zone without a permit, provided that the configuration of the wetland's outlet or the flow of water into or out of the wetland is not altered and that no draining, dredging, filling, or grading occurs except as may be provided for in subsections 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04, 6.07, 6.08, 6.12, 6.13, 6.14, 6.15, 6.16, and 6.22 below. Designation of allowed uses in these rules shall not provide relief from liability for violations that commenced prior to the effective date of such allowed use.

6.1 Silvicultural activities which:

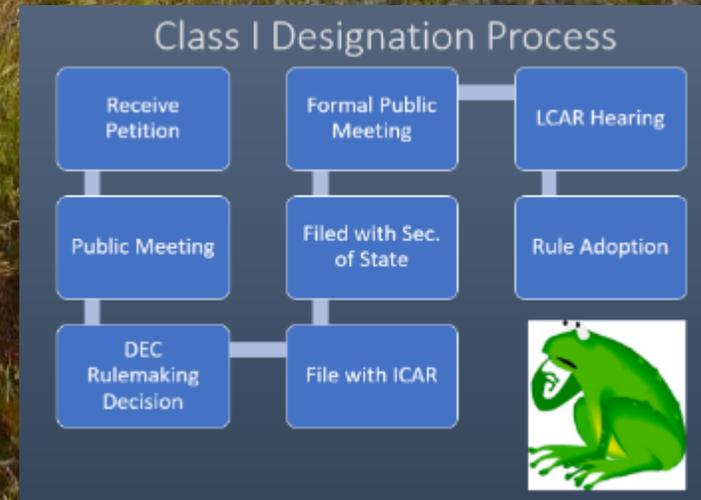
- Comply with Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont adopted pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 1259;
- Comply with silvicultural standards for deer wintering yards, established jointly by the Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Forests, Parks and Recreation, when occurring in significant wetlands or adjacent buffer zones containing deer wintering yards mapped by the Fish and Wildlife Department; and
- Restrict equipment maintenance and the storing or changing of oil, grease, or other petroleum products to log landings; and
- Restrict log landings to uplands or buffer zones except that landings not requiring the placement of fill may be located within the wetland when the ground is frozen.

6.2 The restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or upgrading of existing roads used solely for silvicultural purposes provided that such roads are not increased in width by more than 20%.

MONDAY EDITION
ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
Vol. 31 No. 9 Middlebury, Vermont • Monday, September 11, 2006

Survey: Residents not happy with MAUSD
Poor communication still a concern
By CHRISTOPHER ROSS
BRISTOL — After weeks of interviewing and surveying community members this spring, then analyzing the 249 responses they got, the Mount Abraham Unified School District has released a summary of its findings. The results are not so great. (See Mt. Abe, Page 14)

Will change to wetlands class hurt farm conservation?
By ABAGAEIL GILES
CORNWALL — Farmers and other landowners who are worried that an effort to reclassify the Otter Creek Wetland Complex as a Class I wetland would affect their current eligibility for federal conservation funds needs't worry, according to representatives of the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. (See Wetlands, Page 38)



Communication with Technology

-simplicity is key

2 mariners cove, shelburne, vt	Submit	Clear
Status:	13/13 queries completed... DONE!	
Matching Address:	2 MARINERS CV. SHELBURNE, 05482	
Grand List Owner:	SCHWIMM, ANNE M & JULIE	
SPAN:	582-183-10538	
District Wetland Ecologist:	Tina Heath, Phone: 8024906202	
Link to Wetland Map		
Wetland Screening Result: Wetland Permit on the Property ✓		
Issued permit on property. ✓		
Project on Property with Class I/II Designation ✓		
Project Location with Class III Designation – pre 2010 ✓		
Wetland Project within (500ft.) ✓		
Vermont Significant Inventory Map (within 300ft) ✓		

Wetlands Inventory Map
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Layers

WetlandsTheme

Filter Layers... Filter

- VT List of Priority Lakes and Ponds
 - Wetland Restoration Potential (Lake Champlain 2017)
 - Wetlands - VSWI
 - Class 1 Wetland
 - Class 2 Wetland
 - Buffer
 - Wetlands - VSWI Advisory Layer
 - DFIRM Floodways
 - Special Flood Hazard Areas (All)

Available Counties

- AE (1-percent annual chance floodplains with elevations)
- A (1-percent annual chance floodplains without elevations)
- AO (1-percent annual chance zone of shallow flooding 1-3 feet)
- 0.2-percent annual chance flood hazard zone

Quick Tools...

bing

BING Bas... 0 0.15 0.3km

Wetland Function Visible from Space

