

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
MS4 SUBCOMMITTEE
 OF CLEAN WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE – **DRAFT** MINUTES

DATE: **Wednesday, May 3, 2022**
 SCHEDULED TIME: 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 PLACE: ONLINE via Zoom
 DOCUMENTS: Minutes, documents discussed, and presentations accessible at:
<http://www.ccrpcvt.org/meetings/clean-water-advisory-committee/>

Committee Members in Attendance (all attending online unless otherwise noted)		
Burlington:	Burlington Airport: Catie Calabrese, EIV Technical Services	Williston: Christine Dougherty
Colchester: Karen Adams	Milton: Dave Allerton	Winooski: Ryan Lambert
Essex: Annie Costandi, co-chair	Shelburne: Chris Robinson	VAOT:
Essex Junction: Chelsea Mandigo, co-chair	South Burlington: Dave Wheeler	Univ. of VT: Lani Ravin
DEC:		
Other Attendees: Pluck: Dave Barron, WNRCD: Remy Crettol and Adelaide Dumm		
CCRPC Staff: Dan Albrecht, Sai Sarepalli, Regina Mahony		

1. Call to Order, Changes to the Agenda and Public Comments on Items not on the agenda:

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m. No changes to the agenda nor public comments were made. Dave Barron would like to talk about the stream monitoring sites and how these are presented on the website because these have changed over time.

2. Review and action on draft minutes

After a brief recap by Albrecht of the draft minutes for March 2, 2022, *Adams made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Wheeler. The motion was approved unanimously.*

3. Stream Team programming update

- WNRCD Hired a new Conservation member – Adelaide Dumm.
- Did the first water quality monitoring at the 12 sites last week. Second sample will be next week.
- Launch of Adopt-a-Drain in five member towns. Tabled at the premiere of the film, No Other Lake; and HULA Earth Day event. Got 12 people signed up at HULA. There was interest at both events from residents in towns where the program isn't available. A press release was sent out as well, and it was picked up by VT Digger. Tree sale was held last Saturday and they handed out Adopt-a-Drain flyer.
- A rain barrel workshop will happen in June.
- Outreach activities – continue events in Williston, South Burlington, Winooski and Shelburne. Hoping to do two rain barrel workshops and stream clean-up days. These dates will be shared as they are planned.
- Continued promotion of the Adopt-a-Drain program. David Barron asked if we have data on what we should expect for the Adopt-a-Drain program. This tip has been on the website for about a week. They've had 12 click-throughs, but they can't tell who has signed up for that. Dave Barron suggested that since they have \$600 reserved in the ad buy budget that it could be targeted for this.
- Chelsea suggested that Green Up Day is also a great day to get the word out about Adopt-a-Drain and the Stream Team. There was a discussion about the rack cards and the stickers. There are still enough of these, but they need to get distributed.
- Adelaide Dumm introduced herself and provided a quick update on what she's been working on. Adelaide suggested that she can meet with individual town members.
- To finish the Adopt-a-Drain conversation, Chelsea stated that there can be a larger discussion at another time, but asked WNRCD to email the small flyer that they used so towns can use it on Green Up Day.

- 1 • David Wheeler – suggested that if folks are hearing from residents in municipalities that don't have the
2 Adopt-a-Drain program there are lots they can still do: clean out drains even without the program,
3 proper lawn maintenance, stream-team stuff, etc.
- 4 • Christine Dougherty shared a Adopt-a-Catch Basin program from ESRI as a cheaper alternative to
5 working with a third party for Adopt-a-Drain: [Introduction to Adopt-A-Catch Basin—ArcGIS Solutions](#)
6 [| Documentation.](#)
7

8 **4. Rethink Runoff campaign advertising update**

9 Due to the winter ad buy (\$1,000) which focused on reducing pet waste and reducing salt use, 652 click-
10 thrus to our website were generate. Spring ads are out now. Shift ads to summer recreation water use. Do have
11 a small amount set aside if they want to do Adopt-a-Drain ads on google. Can talk about that separately.

12 Want to start the process of looking at the stream monitoring sites and how these are presented on the
13 website because these have changed over time. Over the years they've been including the stream data at a
14 micro-level on the website. It was originally set up for citizen scientists. There are 20 to 30 views per year
15 versus 1,000s of views on the "what can you do" pages. The landing page is here:

16 <https://rethinkrunoff.org/explore-the-lake-champlain-basin/stream-monitoring/>

17 There was a discussion about how there isn't really a story about the data, or reasons why there are spikes
18 sometimes. There was a suggestion to do a better story map with a science based explanation; can lean into
19 ESRI and use some of their platforms. Others remarked that the data is easy to see and is accessible. However,
20 there isn't any scientific methodology or explanation of how this data is used and how it can be helpful for
21 operations. Dave Wheeler added that they track salt use in South Burlington and they could look to see if there
22 is a correlation with this data. Some of that information could be added. Chelsea Mandigo clarified that the
23 data is scientifically valid as they are part of the LaRosa monitoring and sampling protocol. The website could
24 benefit from publishing some of that methodology. Karen Adams stated that Colchester tests their beaches for
25 e.coli for swimming, they've developed the system to quickly and easily answer that question: is it safe to
26 swim or not? What is the why/purpose of providing this data? Karen suggested that you either portray as more
27 informational or have more of the why; what we'll do differently from an operations perspective, what you can
28 do differently, etc. Dave Barron added that he started thinking about this from an educational/awareness
29 perspective. In his experience the general public may be interested in where these monitored streams are rather
30 than a real deep dive on the data.

31 David Barron will think more on this from a technical perspective about what can be done, but it would be
32 helpful to have a sub-committee think about and decide the most ideal purpose of this page. Chelsea suggested
33 that members can email Annie and Chelsea with their ideas, and they can summarize these ideas and let David
34 Barron know. In the meantime, David Barron will look at what's possible from a technical perspective.

35 Dave Wheeler looked at salt data to see how this correlates with the chloride uptick in 2017. There was a
36 higher amount of salt use in 2016 and 2017. Not all MS4s need to report on salt use. Only those municipalities
37 under a chloride response plan (Colchester is among them) need to report on salt use, but not until next year.
38

39 **5. Staff and member updates as needed**

40 Dave Wheeler is doing a presentation on stormwater utilities and found interesting quotes from Governor
41 Dean on impaired streams.
42

43 **7. Items for June 7th meeting agenda**

44 Update on Adopt-a-Drain program; website; FY23 budget (Dan noted that there is a decent amount of funds
45 left for WNRCD; and it will include \$15,000 for the next 5-year survey).
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47 **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:11 p.m.
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Respectfully submitted, Regina Mahony