

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC TO AID STATE
WITH DEVELOPMENT OF WATERSHED PROJECTS DATABASE**

Winooski, VT – The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) will aid the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in cleaning up our waters by incorporating potential projects into DEC's Watershed Projects Database.

This Database is a key component of the DEC's Tactical Basin Plans that address water quality issues throughout the State. These plans prioritize water quality problems, consider alternatives, and recommend solutions and funding sources. The Database keeps track of potential projects to address these problems as well as track project readiness. For example, some projects are only at the scoping level and would need further definition while others have been fully designed with both construction plans and cost estimates prepared.

The CCRPC will work over the next several months to update status information for various water quality projects included in the DEC database. These projects come from numerous plans such as Phosphorus Control Plans and stream Flow Restoration Plans prepared for municipalities subject to a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit; River Corridor Plans and other studies on stream erosion, and Stormwater Master Plans that identify runoff problem areas. Incorporation into the database or updating the status of these project of will enable DEC basin planners, municipalities, watershed organizations, and others to quickly identify the projects needed to help improve and sustain the quality of our local streams and lakes and prioritize the projects that should be implemented first.

This work by CCRPC is under the State's 604b water quality program and funded by a Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) grant in the amount of \$5,181 to the CCRPC. The DEC is required to pass through to regional planning organizations 40% of its annual federal Clean Water Act Section 604b allocation to conduct a variety of water-related planning activities.

For more information, please contact Dan Albrecht, CCRPC Senior Planner: dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org or (802) 861-0133.

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