

Vermont Stormwater Management Manual Update



Services / Expertise

Stormwater and Sewer Utility Management
VTDEC Stormwater Policy
Guidance and Policy Development

Markets

State Government – Water Quality

Project Location

Montpelier, Vermont

Date Completed

2012-2017

Project Owner

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources,
Department of Environmental Conservation,
Stormwater Program

Project ID#

2012-094, 2013-060



Stone reviewed manuals and regulations from over a dozen states, focusing on locales with similar climates and issues.

VERMONT'S first Stormwater Management Manual (VSMM) was published in April of 2002, substantial advances in the range of stormwater treatment practices and site design approaches have been made nationally. In 2012, the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Stormwater Program staff worked with Stone Environmental to identify state-of-the-art stormwater management approaches and specific practices including low impact development (LID) techniques, green infrastructure approaches, and emerging stormwater management concepts such as "runoff reduction" that the Program could consider as part of planned revisions to the VSMM. Other key topics included site characterization standards and guidelines; alternatives to the channel protection volume (CPv) standard; integrating LID concepts into the VSMM; and requirements for, and implementation of, maintenance plans in other jurisdictions.

Stone's work and recommendations became one of the foundation documents for all parties engaged in the VSMM revision, which Stone led as part of a multi-disciplinary consulting team. In 2013 and 2014, the Stone team helped DEC convene and mediate a series of workshops designed to gather stakeholder input. Participants received briefing materials in preparation for each workshop, and summaries were distributed after each workshop. After the conclusion of the stakeholder process, the Stone team assisted the Stormwater Program in preparing a draft revised VSMM, which was delivered in March 2015.

The manual was adopted by rule and became effective on July 1, 2017, and is available at dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/stormwater/docs/Permitinformation/2017_VSMM_Rule_and_Design_Guidance_04172017.pdf.