

Organizing Village Wastewater Solutions

A Workbook for
Community Leaders



Use this workbook to help organize a village wastewater committee and for determining how to approach wastewater solutions for your village.

August 2, 2018



Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

Getting Organized

| ✓ | DO YOU HAVE: |
|---|---|
| | A diverse and committed wastewater committee? |
| | A committee formally created or endorsed by the Selectboard? |
| | A committee that includes a member of the selectboard, planning commission or other town official or staff? |
| | A town plan that addresses wastewater needs in the village? |
| | A town plan approved by the regional planning commission and a confirmed planning process? |
| | A town planning fund that will allow you to match state grant funds? |
| | A vision for what you want your village to be? |
| | Village Center designation from the state? |
| | A survey of village residents, businesses and property owners to understand their water/ wastewater needs and concerns? |
| | A statement articulating why you need wastewater solutions? |

Getting Organized

An effective wastewater committee includes people with diverse skills and traits:

- organized
- enthusiastic
- has a stake in finding solutions
- has time
- persuasive
- well-connected
- provokes and questions
- has relevant knowledge
- has an official role in the town
- Other characteristics you need: _____

Wastewater Advisory Committee for Warren Village

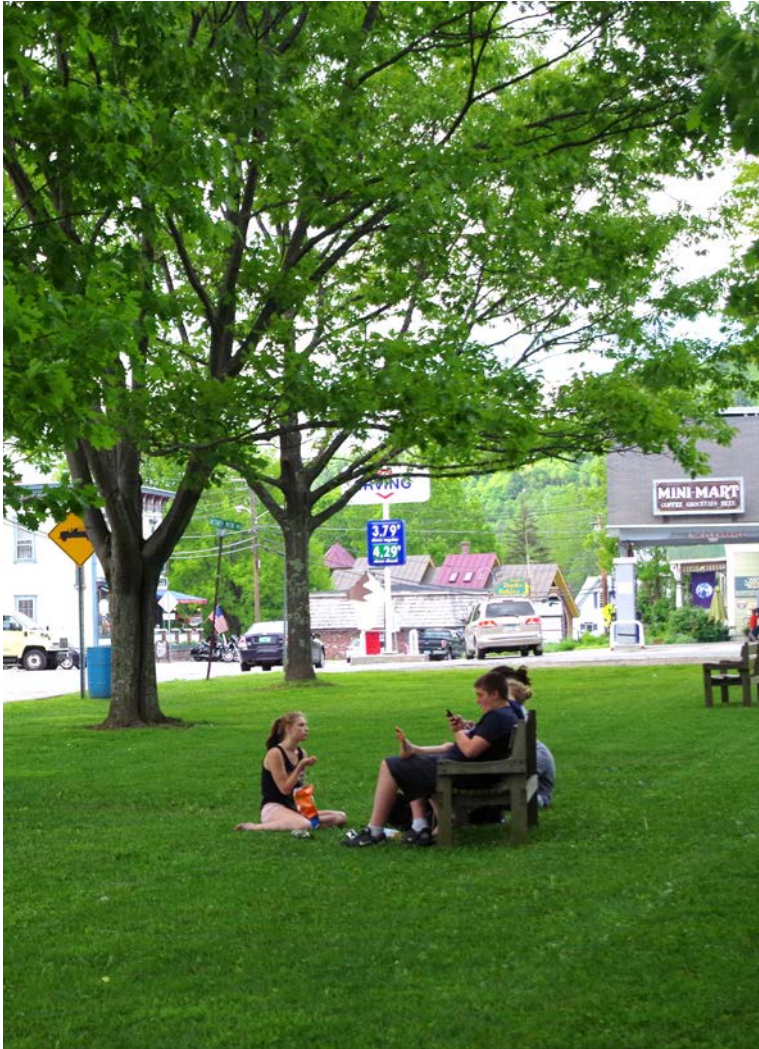
– a.k.a. the “sewer rats,” achieved successful wastewater solutions through community involvement.

- Created by selectboard
- Included several village residents, a selectboard member and town staff
- Included some members who were wary of the project
- Door to door surveys to learn about wastewater needs and issues
- Kept survey and property information confidential
- Informed townspeople of the importance of wastewater treatment and the proposed solutions
- Held neighborhood pot lucks and other outreach to discuss results of studies



Wastewater management in Warren Village now includes a large shared system at the elementary school, two smaller shared systems, and some individual systems.

























What are Your Community Goals?















Rochester invested in a soil-based wastewater system that supports business and homes in the village center


- Revitalize village businesses
- Redevelop and reuse existing buildings
- Improve housing options
- Enable new development on vacant sites
- Retain value of existing homes and businesses
- Protect existing drinking water supplies
- Eliminate wastewater releases into river/lake/groundwater
- Work together to solve wastewater problems
- Other:

Village Uses Now and in Future

| Use | Existing | Hope to have | Wastewater Needs |
|----------------------|----------|--------------|--|
| Single family homes | | |  |
| Multifamily homes | | |   |
| Senior housing | | |   |
| General store | | |  |
| Cafe | | |    |
| Bakery | | |    |
| School lunch | | |    |
| Restaurant | | |    |
| Pub & brewery | | |    |
| Health care facility | | |  |
| Hotel/motel | | |  |
| Offices/bank | | |  |

Village Uses (continued)

| Use | Existing | Hope to have | Wastewater Needs |
|----------------------|----------|--------------|---|
| Town hall | | |  |
| Library | | |  |
| Community center | | |   |
| Gas station | | |  |
| Retail | | |  |
| Light industrial | | |   |
| Food processing | | |    |
| Public toilet/shower | | |  |
| Other Uses: | | | |

 = Volume of wastewater likely to be generated by the use and needing treatment

Vermont Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules – detail on the volume anticipated for permitting various uses. See tables on pages 66-72:

<http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/dec-wastewater-system-and-potable-water-supply-rules-2007-09-29.pdf>

Vision for the Future



Waitsfield addressed village economic recovery and flood resilience in this community-driven master plan while implementing their wastewater solutions.

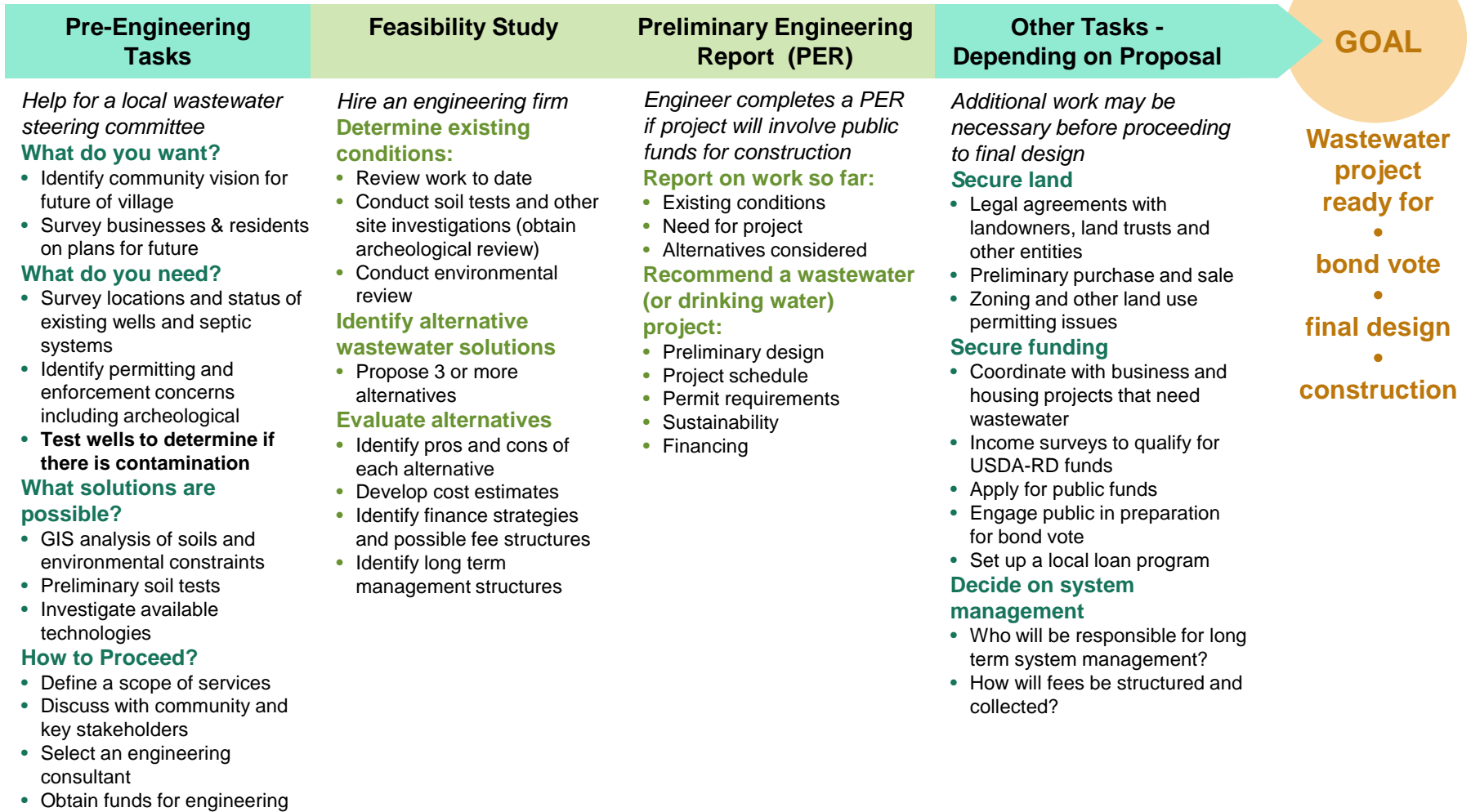
Stimulate a community conversation:

- Determine Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
- Inventory and map what exists: businesses, homes, gathering places, vacant parcels & structures, building constraints, problem sites, etc.
- Map any future plans for the village: sidewalks, parks, public buildings, anticipated development, etc.
- Meet with property owners to determine their needs and aspirations
- Hold one or more public design and visioning workshops to generate concrete ideas for village improvements

Will you **MAINTAIN, EVOLVE** or **TRANSFORM** your village?

Path to Wastewater Solutions for Villages

TYPICAL ENGINEERING STUDIES

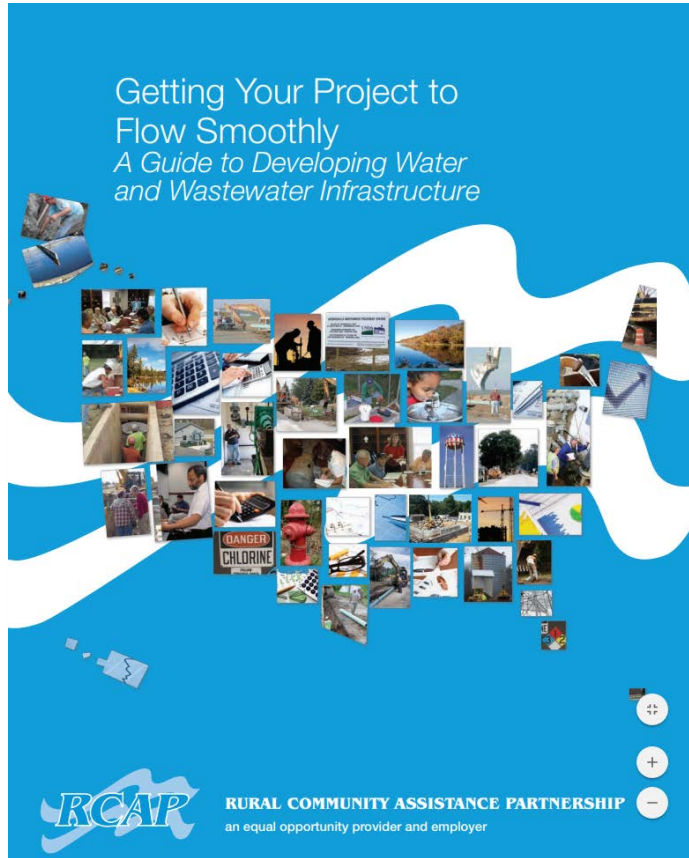


PROJECT COORDINATOR

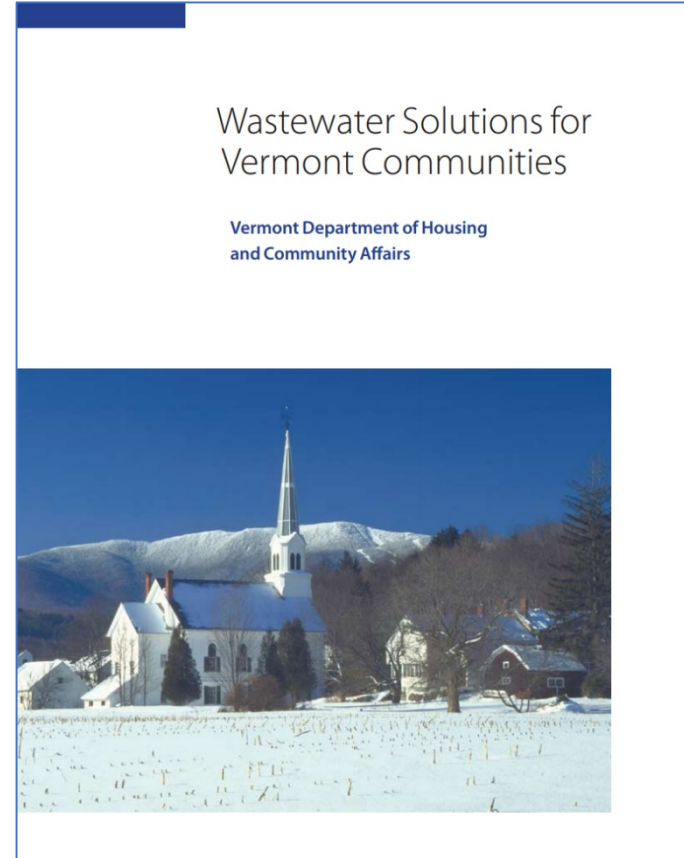
Work normally funded by DEC and USDA

Work requiring other funds

Where to Find Help



<https://rcap.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/RCAP-Getting-Your-Project-to-Flow-Smoothly.pdf>



<http://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/C/D/CPR/DHCD-Planning-WW-Treatment-Options-Guidance.pdf>

Guidebooks for Getting Started

Where to Find Help

| PROGRAM | ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE | CONTACT |
|--|--|---|
| Vermont Pollution Control Planning Advance | Planning advances for unsewered villages, up to \$25,000 | Lynnette Claudon Lynnette.Claudon@Vermont.gov 802-490-6226 |
| Vermont Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) | Planning, design, and construction loans for clean water projects, currently no funding cap. | Tom Brown Thomas.Brown@vermont.gov 802-622-4205 |
| Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) | Planning, design, and construction loans for drinking water projects, currently no funding cap. | Ashley Lucht Ashley.Lucht@vermont.gov 802-585-4904 |
| USDA-RD | Construction loans and grants for clean water and drinking water projects & more. | Jon Muise jon.muise@vt.usda.gov |
| Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) | State grants up to \$22,000 fund a wide range of community planning needs. | Faith Ingulsrud Faith.Ingulsrud@vermont.gov 802-839-0964 |
| Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) | Federal grants for Planning and implementing projects that benefit people of low and moderate incomes. | Nate Cleveland nathan.cleveland@vermont.gov 802-828-2998 |
| RCAP Solutions | Assistance with planning, finance, project development, administration, operation and maintenance. Free for eligible communities. | Mark Johnson mjohnson@rcapsolutions.org 802-505-1037 |
| Windham Regional Commission | Community organization support, education & outreach, proposal development, plan elements, and project administration. | Emily Davis edavis@windhamregional.org 802-257-4547 x116 |
| Vermont DEC Environmental Assistance Office | Information resources and non-regulatory environmental compliance assistance to municipalities and businesses | Ed Antczak Ed.Antczak@Vermont.gov |
| Village Center Designation | State designation supports the historic center and targets training and financial incentives to bring additional public and private investment to the village. | Richard Amore Richard.Amore@Vermont.gov |