



# Rural Development

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## VT/NH Water and Environmental Program Update

In FY 2015, RD's Water Environmental Program invested \$15.5 million in 14 Vermont communities and \$12.1 million in 5 New Hampshire communities. FY 2016 WEP applications are being accepted now.

Although we have not yet received our allocation information for FY 2016, it's likely we will have funding similar to FY 2015. In addition to our regular allocation, we anticipate there will be an additional allocation for the REAP Zone (NEK in VT). Both New York and North Dakota have active REAP Zones and can access this funding. *We anticipate approximately \$5 million to be available on a first come, first serve basis. Early applications increase the likelihood of grant funding.*

### FY 2015 Investments

	<u>Loan</u>	<u>Grant</u>
Vermont	\$9,309,000	\$4,522,800
New Hampshire	\$7,232,000	\$4,915,300
VT REAP Zone Grant		\$1,682,000

### Current Interest Rates

Our interest rates dropped on October 1. Rates are effective through December 31, 2015.

<b>Market</b> Rate (MHI at or above statewide MHI)	<b>3.250%</b>
<b>Intermediate</b> Rate (MHI below statewide MHI)	<b>2.625%</b>
<b>Poverty</b> Rate (MHI below 80% of statewide MHI and project corrects a health standard)	<b>2.000 %</b>

### Application Deadlines

Complete applications received by **January 29, 2016** will compete for the **state office allocation**. Be part of a **local pool** and increase your funding opportunities. For the **national reserve pool**, complete applications are due by **April 15, 2016**.

### Program Information

VT: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/vt>

NH: <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program/nh>

## More News

- **RD Apply!** Applicants can now apply for WEP funding online. Of course, we continue to accept traditional application formats. Go to <http://ppd.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rd-apply> to get started.
- Looking for financing to meet **Vermont's Universal Recycling Law (Act 148)? Want to get ahead of the curve in New Hampshire?** Use WEP to finance the planning and construction of **Compost and Solid Waste Management facilities**. Contact your local area office for more information.
- **Planning Grants are an excellent way help communities prepare for their water, waste water, storm water or solid waste facility project.** Access grants up to \$30,000. These grants are available for low income communities (income below 80% of the statewide MHI). If the community has a population of 2,500 or less, no match is required. If the population is between 2,500 and 10,000, a 25% match is required.
  - Design Assistance** - Preliminary design & engineering analysis necessary for an application.
  - Feasibility Study** - Documentation associated with an objective analysis of project-related technical engineering or environmental impact analyses required to support applications for funding water or waste disposal projects through USDA, Rural Utilities Service or other agencies.
  - Technical Assistance** - Supervision, oversight, or training by an organization for the development of an application for financial assistance

## Local Area Office Contacts

<b>Brattleboro:</b>	Andrea Ansevin-Allen 802-257-7878 x113 <a href="mailto:andrea.ansevinallen@vt.usda.gov">andrea.ansevinallen@vt.usda.gov</a>	Windsor, Windham, Bennington and Rutland Counties
<b>Montpelier:</b>	James Plouffe 802-828-6004 <a href="mailto:james.plouffe@vt.usda.gov">james.plouffe@vt.usda.gov</a>	Addison, Franklin, Orange, Washington, Chittenden, Lamoille and Grand Isle Counties
<b>St. Johnsbury:</b>	Misty Sinsigalli 802-748-8746 x122 <a href="mailto:misty.sinsigalli@vt.usda.gov">misty.sinsigalli@vt.usda.gov</a>	Caledonia, Orleans and Essex Counties
<b>Concord:</b>	Mark Koprowski 603-223-6057 <a href="mailto:mark.koprowski@nh.usda.gov">mark.koprowski@nh.usda.gov</a>	Communities located west of I-93
<b>Conway:</b>	Anne Getchell 603-447-3318 x202 <a href="mailto:anne.getchell@nh.usda.gov">anne.getchell@nh.usda.gov</a>	Communities located east of I-93

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