

Vermont NRCS EWP Assistance Request Letter Instructions

1. Address EWP Assistance Request letter to **Travis Thomason, State Conservationist**.
2. **Red** text in letter template denotes data a sponsor must provide which is specific to the request being submitted.
3. Sign the letter.
 - A penned or digital signature is required.
 - A typed signature will not be accepted.
4. Submit signed request letter using one of the following methods:

Email To: Travis.Thomason@usda.gov and copy to Michel.Lapointe@usda.gov

Mail To: Travis Thomason
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
356 Mountain View Drive, Suite 105
Colchester, VT 05446

Fax To: Travis Thomason at (855) 794-3677 and copy to Michel Lapointe at (855) 794-3678

Who can submit an EWP Assistance Request?

Request letters must be submitted by an entity that is a division of government.

- In Vermont this has historically been local municipalities.

When can an EWP Assistance Request be submitted?

NRCS must receive a sponsor's EWP Assistance Request letter within **60 days** of the watershed event which caused the imminent threat to the property.

- Only one request letter needs to be submitted by a municipality for each watershed event.

What does submitting an EWP Assistance Request obligate the Sponsor to?

The Sponsor will need to provide an individual to accompany the NRCS Damage Survey Report (DSR) Team when they conduct damage assessments.

The VT NRCS EWP Fact Sheet list Sponsor obligation if a sponsor moves forward with the EWP process to repair sites determined to be eligible for EWP assistance.

EWP Project Eligibility Criteria

EWP remediation projects must reduce imminent threat to life and property; be economically, environmentally, and socially defensible; and be technically sound.

- Property is defined as any artificial structure permanently affixed to the land such as, but not limited to, houses, buildings, roads, utilities, structures, dams.
 - Standing timber, orchards, growing crops, other agronomic crops are not considered property under the EWP Program.

EWP is a protection program and cannot be used to repair damaged property or replace destroyed property.