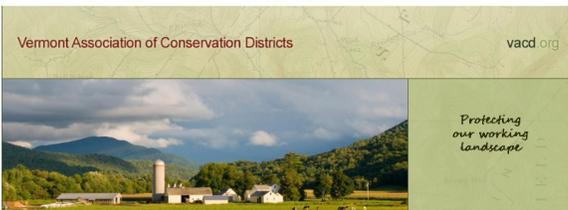




Overview

The Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) in partnership with the 14 Natural Resource Conservation Districts, UVM Extension and NRCS will assist small farm operators in the development of nutrient management plans (NMPs). The purpose of this program is to improve water quality by reducing phosphorus and other nutrient loading from small livestock farm operations in the Lake Champlain Basin and beyond. The program will be supported through an agreement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), as well as through partner contributions provided by VACD, UVM Extension and Conservation Districts. The primary deliverable of this program is 60 nutrient management plans certified to NRCS standards per year. The Long Island Sound (LIS) RCPP program will extend this NMP Farmer Planning Program Statewide.



For Additional Information Please Contact:
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Target Clients: Small Livestock Farms in the State of Vermont

Project Summary: Nutrient Management Planning Training Program for Farmers and Conservation Practice Implementation Follow-up. 60 Farms a Year.

Project Duration: 5 Years -- through April 2020

Project Location: Lake Champlain Basin; CT River Basin

Project Goals:

- 1) Help farms reduce Phosphorus and Nutrient runoff from their farms.
- 2) Assist farms in meeting requirements for Farmstead implementation through EQIP with NRCS.
- 3) Assist producers in getting ahead of VT's proposed WQ regulations requiring SFOs to develop a NMP.
- 4) Provide follow-up assistance after NMP Course.

VACD RCPP NMP Program Workflow

	1. Education and Outreach—Farmer Recruitment	
	Activity: - Phone calls and other outreach to prospective farmers - Farm visits for AAP education, to explain NMP program, and to sign producer up for NMP Program (CAP or CTA)	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCD • VACD • UVM Extension
	2. Field Office Map & Document Preparation for Planning Meeting	
	Activity: - Prepare initial planning visit document package including maps and relevant forms.	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VACD • NRCD
	3. Conservation Planning Meeting/Farm Visit	
	Activity: - Conduct Conservation Planning Interview with Farmer and identify all cropland and pasture fields.	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCD • VACD
	4. On Farm Field Work: Soil and Manure Sampling	
	Activity: - Soil sample all crop and pasture fields which receive mechanical applications of nutrients. - Sample all WSFs	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCD • VACD
	5. On Farm Field Work: Resource Assessment and Slopes	
	Activity: - Conduct and record Resource Assessments of all cropland and pastureland fields, including information for RUSLE2	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VACD • NRCD
	6. LTP Lite Preparation	
	Activity: - Prepare LTP Lite Binder with the 7 components necessary to take UVM's Digging –In Nutrient Management Planning Course	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VACD • NRCD
	7 & 8. Nutrient Management Planning Class & NMP Certification	
	Activity: - UVM Extension will lead their Digging-In Nutrient Management Planning Course for Farmers across the State. - VACD and NRCD Staff will Assist Farmers at the class. NRCS Staff are invited to attend.	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UVM Extension • NRCD • VACD
	9. Implementation Follow-Up Visits	
	Activity: - Participant farmers will be offered follow-up support after completing the NMP course.	Partners Involved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRCD • VACD • UVM Extension