

# Vermont Watershed Grant Program 2018 Annual Report



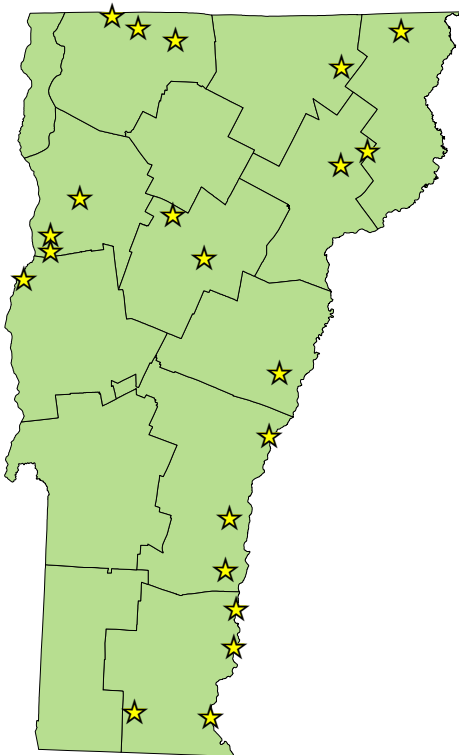
**Vermont Agency of Natural Resources  
Fish & Wildlife Department  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**



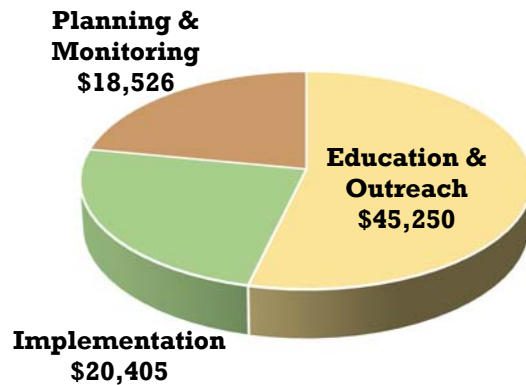
The Vermont Watershed Grants Program is funded by the sale of Vermont Conservation License plates. The intent of the program is to support projects throughout the state that protect or restore fish and wildlife habitat and/or water quality in our lakes, ponds, rivers and streams. Projects that seek to enhance recreational enjoyment of water resources or educate the public on their value are also eligible for funding.

In 2018, 21 projects totaling \$84,181 were selected for funding. Ten grants were awarded to projects in the education & outreach category, six in the planning, monitoring & assessment category, and five in the implementation category.

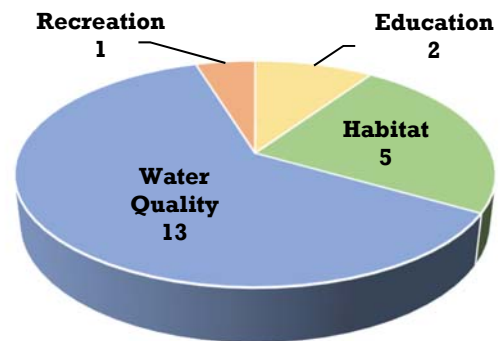
### Project Locations



### Category



### Focus



Protecting and restoring fish and wildlife habitat and water quality undoubtedly go hand in hand. Of the 21 projects funded this year, 5 were focused on habitat conservation and restoration, 13 on water quality monitoring, education or improvements, 2 on broader level education, and 1 on improving recreational opportunity. Projects ranged from monitoring vernal pools to creating educational brochures on dam removal. The geographic extent of the 2018 projects was broad, covering many regions of the state.



## Notable Accomplishments

- ❖ **9** Outreach events held utilizing grant-funded stream table
- ❖ **2** Educational brochures produced
- ❖ **84** Wood turtles observed



Log-based check dams help to minimize erosion and sediment transport in drainage gullies and improve water quality.

- ❖ **1200+** attendees educated at the Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival
- ❖ **1** Concept design for a public greenspace along the Passumpsic River



Monitoring wood turtles in the wild is an important step in conserving this species of greatest conservation need.

- ❖ **3** Projects with willing landowners identified for stormwater reduction.
- ❖ **704** gallons of sewage composted along the spine of the Green Mountains
- ❖ **5** Log check dams installed to restore eroding gullies and improve water quality



A boat launch greeter program on Echo Lake is an important tool for minimizing the spread of aquatic invasive species.





## 2018 Watershed Grants Program – Funded Project List

Grantee	Title	Category	Focus	Amount
Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society	Herrick's Cove Wildlife Festival	Education	Education	\$4,100
Black River Action Team	River Dipper: Water Quality Monitoring Program	Education	Water Quality	\$1,650
Connecticut River Conservancy	Planning for Stormwater Reduction in Deerfield Watershed	Planning	Water Quality	\$3,500
Franklin Watershed Committee	Effective communication materials for Pike River watershed water quality documents	Education	Water Quality	\$3,500
Friends of Northern Lake Champlain	Two-Tiered Ditch P-Loss Monitoring at Bouchard Farm	Implementation	Water Quality	\$5,000
Green Mountain Club	Southern Backcountry Caretaker Program	Implementation	Water Quality	\$5,000
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum	Watershed Science Apprenticeship Skill-Build Program	Education	Water Quality	\$5,000
Lewis Creek Association	Stormwater Mitigation and Flood Resilience for Thorp Brook and the Big Oak Lane Neighborhood	Implementation	Water Quality	\$10,000
Missisquoi River Basin Association	Cultivating Watershed Stewards in the Missisquoi Basin	Education	Water Quality	\$2,440
Ottawaquechee NRC	Mill Brook Water Quality Analysis	Planning	Water Quality	\$965
The Orienne Society	Halting and reversing Wood Turtle population decline in Vermont	Planning	Habitat	\$3,500
Town of Charleston	Echo Lake Ecosystem School Education and Milfoil Prevention Project	Education	Habitat	\$2,000
Town of Charlotte	Ahead of the Storm	Implementation	Water Quality	\$5,000
Town of Lyndon	Conversion of former Lyndon Town Garage site to public greenspace	Planning	Recreation	\$2,500
Trout Unlimited	Little Averill Pond Culvert Replacement	Implementation	Habitat	\$3,500
Vermont Center for Ecosystem Studies	Vermont Vernal Pool Monitoring Program	Planning	Habitat	\$10,000
Vermont Natural Resources Council	Outreach Efforts for Dam Removal in the Lake Champlain Basin	Education	Water Quality	\$3,500
Westminster Conservation Commission	Identifying Vulnerable Wetlands and Upland Forests	Planning	Habitat	\$3,000
White River NRC	E.coli Education and Outreach	Education	Water Quality	\$3,500
Windham County NRC	Deerfield and Saxtons: Cross-Watershed Stream Table Outreach	Education	Education	\$1,526
Winooski NRC	Boosting the technical capacity of Conservation Commissions to engage in water quality protection and river corridor planning	Education	Water Quality	\$5,000



For more information on the Vermont Watershed Grants Program, or to learn how to apply for the next round of funding please visit <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants/watershed-grants> or contact Chris Powers at 802-485-7566 or [chris.powers@vermont.gov](mailto:chris.powers@vermont.gov) .

