



Town of Shelburne, Vermont

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Press Release for Immediate Release

June 22, 2020

Town of Shelburne Awarded Ecosystem Restoration Grant to Construct a Gravel Wetland to Treat Stormwater to Shelburne Bay

Shelburne (VT) – The Town of Shelburne has been awarded a Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC), Ecosystem Restoration Program Grant (\$680,000) to construct a gravel wetland stormwater treatment system to treat runoff from a 120 acre sub-watershed of Shelburne Bay.

The gravel wetland - located along a small, unnamed tributary of Lake Champlain on the border of Shelburne and South Burlington - will hold approximately 2.4 acre feet of water and will reduce the peak flow from the watershed by more than 90%. Pollutant loading from the upstream watershed to the gravel wetland was estimated to contribute about 40,000 lbs. of sediment and 50 lbs. of phosphorus annually. It is estimated that another 150 lbs. of phosphorus is released annually due to erosion of the downstream channel. This project will significantly reduce erosion downstream of the constructed wetland. Construction is anticipated to begin in July 2020.

This project further highlights the continued benefits of the innovative, award-winning, inter-municipal stormwater management partnership between the Town of Shelburne and the City of South Burlington.

Ecosystem Restoration Grants are made available to Vermont municipalities, local or regional governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and citizens groups as part of the Ecosystem Restoration Program's ongoing efforts to reduce surface water pollution from phosphorus and sediment. Funded projects typically involve efforts to improve stream stability, protect against flood hazards, improve in-stream and riparian habitat, lessen the effects of stormwater runoff, protect and restore riparian wetlands, re-establish lake shoreline native vegetation, and enhance the environmental and economic sustainability of agricultural lands.

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