IMPROVING FOREST WATER QUALITY IN THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN

State of Vermont Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Availability of Financial Assistance

The State of Vermont received funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) through the new *Regional Conservation Partnership Program*.

The $16 million grant will help agricultural producers and private forest landowners in the Lake Champlain Basin invest in conservation practices to protect and improve water quality.

FORESTRY CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Forest conservation practices for forest landowners funded through RCPP include-—

- Controlling soil erosion on logging trails
- Improving stream crossings
- Restoring forest riparian buffers along streams
- Stabilizing erosion-prone soils.

Applications are accepted at any time.

Contact your local NRCS Field Office for more information.

Submitting an application will provide you with assistance and information, but there is no commitment for practice installation until a contract is signed.

Contact the USDA Service Center nearest you. Contact information can be found at:

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/vt/contact/local/

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Getting Assistance for the RCPP Application Process

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation has two foresters available to assist landowners with the application process and evaluating conservation practice opportunities.

For land located in the northern portion of the Lake Champlain Basin contact:

- **Emily Potter,** (802) 622-4230, Emily.Potter@vermont.gov

For land located in the southern portion of the Lake Champlain Basin contact:

- **Hannah Dallas,** (802) 622-4167, Hannah.Dallas@vermont.gov

For More Information on RCPP Forestry Conservation Practices

- **Dave Wilcox** – Watershed Forester, (802) 793-0265, david.wilcox@vermont.gov or visit http://fpr.vermont.gov/

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