

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Water Quality Division
Web site: www.vtwaterquality.org

October 17, 2011

Solicitation for Water Quality Data & Information

regarding DEC's preparation of the

2012 Vermont Water Quality Assessment Report and Various Listings of Waters

In accordance with the Federal Clean Water Act, the State of Vermont is required to report on the quality of its surface waters every two years using all readily available and reliable data and information. Reporting is done under Sections 305b, 303d and 314 of the Act. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) uses data and information generated from various monitoring activities and programs for these purposes. DEC is also able to consider using data and information collected by others. For further information about how DEC assesses surface waters and lists particular waters, refer to the Assessment and Listing Methodology on the Water Quality Division's web site: http://www.vtwaterquality.org/mapp/docs/mp_assessmethod.pdf.

By this notice, the Water Quality Division of DEC is soliciting data and information related to rivers and streams, lakes and ponds, and wetlands within Vermont and along its borders for the purpose of improving our data and information base about the condition of individual Vermont waters. For the 2012 report and associated lists of waters, the Water Quality Division will accept and consider all data and other information submitted by the close of business on **Wednesday, November 16th, 2011**. Any data and/or information received by the Division after this date will not be considered for 2012 reporting purposes. Late submittals will be considered as part of the next reporting process which will not occur until the fall of the year 2013.

If there is a particular waterbody or sampling location believed to be either impaired or altered, please provide details including the appropriate data and a brief discussion documenting the perceived problem. Similarly, DEC also seeks information indicating that a current impairment may no longer exist on a specific surface water. Any submissions to DEC for 2012 should be accompanied by a statement of data quality assurance, including collection and analytical methods, location, dates and times of sample collection, observations about the environment that would help explain the measurement (discharges, land use, rainfall, etc.) and any other information that will allow the Water Quality Division to assess the quality, precision and reliability of the information being provided. In order for chemical, physical and/or biological monitoring data to be used in support of listing a waterbody as "impaired" (i.e. not meeting one or more criteria of the Vermont Water Quality Standards), data must be of known and documented quality.

Data and information submissions can be made to Cathy Kashanski of the Water Quality Division. Cathy can be contacted by dialing 802-338-4843, by email at Cathy.Kashanski@state.vt.us or by mail at: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Water Quality Division, Building 10 North, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0408.