

Agricultural Clean Water Initiative Program (AgCWIP)



The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets offers the Agricultural Clean Water Initiative Program (AgCWIP) grant funding opportunity to businesses, organizations, and individuals who work with farms to support the improvement of water quality across the state of Vermont.

The AgCWIP program supports activities in four main categories:

- Organizational Capacity Development
- Education and Outreach
- Technical Assistance
- Conservation Practice Surveys

AgCWIP also supports a variety of other innovative approaches to conservation including mapping and analytical projects, research, and sampling efforts.

Project Examples:

The AgCWIP program directly supports individuals and organizations who are providing services such as, but are not limited to;

- Supporting farms with grant applications and reporting;
- Project management for farms (case managers, coordination, project oversight);
- Nutrient Management Planning;
- Project identification;
- Consultation and design;
- Precision agriculture;
- Equipment rental programs;
- Sampling services (water, soil, manure);
- Conservation practice surveys;
- Workshops;
- Educational materials;
- Farmer participation stipends and more.

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants include Vermont businesses such as farm operations or agricultural associations, local government entities, public or private schools or other educational institutions, and non-profit organizations working with Vermont farms. State and federal agencies can collaborate with these groups but cannot be the primary applicant.

Funding Opportunities:

AgCWIP funding is made available through Request for Proposals released annually by the Agency, typically around November-December of each year. Each grant runs between one to two years, with opportunities to renew a grant or pursue a different grant category. Notifications of new funding opportunities are made on the [Agency's website](#), [weekly newsletter](#), partner email list servs, Agency social medias and press releases, and via the [VT Secretary of State Business Registry](#) bid site.



Proposals should include information about the experience and qualifications of the project team, the geographic area targeted, a scope of work including a work plan, and a budget. More information will be included in each Request for Proposals.

Proposals are ranked competitively each year and awarded based on project scope and alignment with AgCWIP goals. Funding for the AgCWIP grants is contingent upon available funding through the Clean Water Budget.

Grantee Requirements:

Recipients are required to meet with an Agency Grant Manager quarterly to review accomplishments and progress towards meeting outcomes and outputs, developing a timeline that meets the grantees' scope of work. Deliverables and associated costs will be documented through semi-annual invoicing. A final narrative report documenting the outcomes and outputs achieved and total project expenditure shall be submitted no later than 30 days after the grant end date.

More information about AgCWIP can be found online at agriculture.vermont.gov/agricultural-clean-water-initiative-program or by contacting the Water Quality Division at (802) 828-2431.