

Clean Sweep

This project will develop consensus-based recommendations for pollutant load reductions for street sweeping BMPs. Our goal is to ensure that the credit received under regulatory permits issued by the NPDES Stormwater Permit Program is commensurate with the latest science. The team will develop a technical memorandum and other outreach products to share these recommendations with communities, regulators, consultants, and others in the Piscataqua Region Watershed in fall 2022.



Why this project

Urban stormwater is one of the fastest growing sources of pollution in communities nationwide. In New Hampshire, local governments have raised concerns about meeting pollutant reduction goals for total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS). Street sweeping and seasonal leaf collection are nonstructural best management practices (BMPs) that historically have received inconsistent pollutant removal credit under regulatory permits. However, recent science and data indicate these BMPs may be much more effective at removing pollutants than previously expected, especially at certain times of the year.

[This project will provide regulators and communities with science-based recommendations to quantify the water quality benefits of these BMPs.](#)

Our approach

We will use the expert panel process FAST, an iterative, weight-of-evidence approach to synthesizing expert opinion and reaching general agreement around science based recommendations for resource management. This process was refined in the Credit for Going Green project, which developed pollutant reduction performance curves for restored or constructed buffers, so that they could receive pollutant removal credits under New Hampshire's regulatory permits. This process will be supported by an advisory committee, composed of municipal representatives, regulators, and consultants, as well as an expert panel of scientists in the fields of hydrology, fate and transport of urban pollutants, and engineering.

Project partners

University of New
Hampshire Stormwater
Center (UNHSC)

Piscataqua Region
Estuaries
Partnership (PREP)
Roca Communications

Advisors

New Hampshire
Department of
Environmental Services

United States
Environmental
Protection Agency
Region 1

City of Dover
(and municipalities
to be determined)

Consultant Engineers



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