

Vermont Organics Recycling Summit

August 2020

Organics – Filter Media/Planting Soil Mix
Production, Construction Procurement, Availability, and
Specification Refinement – Next steps



Post-Construction Stormwater Runoff Management

Filter/Planting Media incorporating compost

Stormwater Treatment

- Bioretention Filtering Media/Planting Soil Mix
- Gravel Wetland Surface Soil (“wetland muck”)



What is the role of *compost* in each of these scenarios?

- Necessity for treatment?
- Plant establishment; aesthetics?



Bioretention systems, Raingardens, and Gravel Wetland Design

How can compost play a role
in the goal of stormwater
filtering?

We need a designed system
that does not become an
overall source of phosphorus.



...stormwater outflow P
concentrations should never
exceed stormwater inflow P
concentrations.



Considerations for Adjustment

Bioretention / Raingarden / Bioswales

- Establish *compost* only P limit with specified testing method.
- Establish *whole soil mix* P limit with specified testing method.
- Provide further options for not limited use of compost but P, and to allow for side-dressing of plants and limit use to within upper 12 inches of bed, aimed at plant establishment.
- Establish soil media specification that considers a range, rather than a maximum only; varied by priority parameters and secondary parameters; and allow for field adjustment.

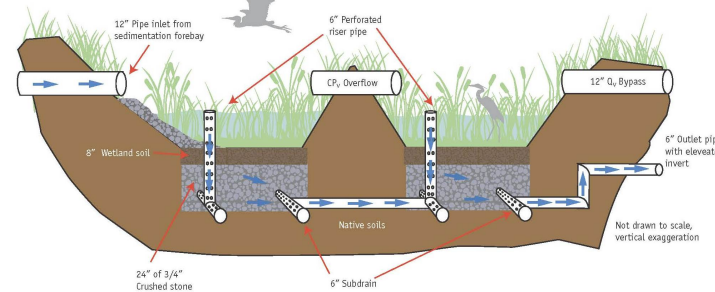




Considerations for Adjustment

Gravel Wetland

- Require there be a surface wetland soil, VT stormwater manual currently not explicit, however implied for functionality.
- Establish soil specification and related design elements.
- Establish P limits, and protocols for testing consistent with bioretention.
- Allow for side-dressing for plant establishment.
- Allow for in-the-field adjustment/range for certain parameters.





Timeline and steps for regulatory change to ensure design and implementation is not delayed:

-
- Timeline? ASAP
 - Establish VT DEC interim requirements through Procedure
 - Update Vermont Stormwater Management Manual, Design Guidance
 - Establish local stormwater design requirements
 - Stakeholder involvement for input on formalized update, in consideration of experience with interim period and research
 - Update Vermont Stormwater Management Manual, through State of Vermont, Rulemaking

Kevin Burke

VT DEC

Stormwater Program

802-490-6168

Kevin.burke@Vermont.gov
