



State of Vermont
Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

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Agency of Natural Resources

November 14, 2023

Attention: VOREC Community Grant Program Prospective Applicants

Re: Notification of change to landowner permission requirements for Flood Recovery Track

Dear prospective applicant,

Projects under the Flood Recovery track of the VOREC Community Grant Program will now require landowner permission for a 5-year term for trail rehabilitation/repair projects, including major reconstruction projects. The new 2023 VCGP Flood Recovery Private Landowner Permission Form is located on the VOREC Community Grant Program website and attached to this email. This change and the new form apply **only** to Flood Recovery track grant projects with major or minor trail repair and reconstruction components, including rebuilding trails, and adding water diversion or erosion control structures like waterbars and stone steps. Requirements remain unchanged for permanent buildings and infrastructure, such as engineered bridges and bathroom facilities. We will continue to require a minimum of a 25-year easement for all VOREC Community Grant Program tracks that repair or replace permanent infrastructure, including the Flood Recovery track. Signed landowner permission is only required if the grantee is not the owner of the parcel(s) on which the construction will occur.

If you are applying for a Flood Recovery grant, please upload the 2023 VCGP Flood Recovery Private Landowner Permission Form in the online application under "Landowner Permission Form" in the "Required for Construction" section. If you already have the 2023 FPR Grant Programs Private Landowner Permission Form signed by the landowner for a flood recovery track grant, you can use that form. You do not need to return to the landowner to get a new form signed. *Please note that **all** Flood Recovery grants are considered construction projects and applicants should reply yes to the question "Does your project include the construction or renovation/rehabilitation/repair of buildings, trails or other infrastructure?" in the Work Plan section of the application.*

Implementation and Outdoor Equity track projects with construction components should use the 2023 FPR Grant Programs Private Landowner Permission Form, which is posted in the application under "Document Downloads" and requires a 5-year term for maintenance projects and a 10-year term for major reconstruction projects, as is standard across Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation Outdoor Recreation Grants. If landowner permission is needed for Project Development projects, the 2023 FPR Grant Programs Private Landowner Permission Form can be uploaded in SECTION 6: Supplemental Information.

If you have any questions about this change, please reach out to FPR by emailing anr.fprrecreationgrants@vermont.gov or calling Claire Polfus, Recreation Program Manager, at 802-505-5372.

Sincerely,

Claire Polfus, Recreation Program Manager
Lauren Pyle, Outdoor Recreation Grants Manager

