

Western Massachusetts Regional Unpaved Roads Project

Sandisfield Select Board Meeting - March 18, 2025



BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Western Mass Regional Unpaved Roads Project

FY25 PROJECT GOALS

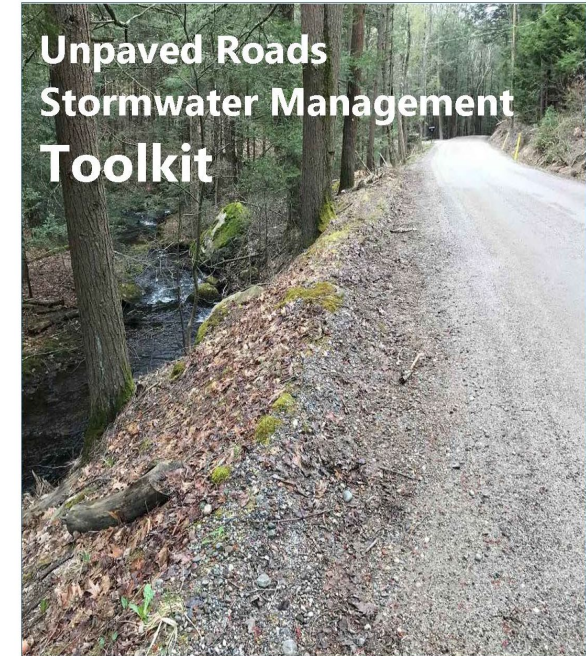
Update the Unpaved Roads Stormwater Management Toolkit to include climate resilience

Complete the GIS Vulnerability Assessment of Unpaved Roads for every town in Berkshire County.

Test the Toolkit out in the partner towns: Lanesborough, Goshen, Blandford and Shutesbury

Complete a survey of the Highway Superintendents to better understand current issues

Develop Bundled Notices of Intent for Roadside Maintenance to aid the implementation of stormwater improvements for Partner Towns



September 2024



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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Berkshire County On-line Interactive map to report Public Dirt Road Problems:

<https://tinyurl.com/Dirt-Road-Problems>

- The goal is to engage the community in this conversation.
- Information gathered will be shared with the towns and with legislators.
- Community information can be key with supporting grant proposals.



Bundled NOTICE OF INTENT

Routine Maintenance & Repairs

EXAMPLES OF COVERED PROJECTS

- Mowing of roadside edges
- Gravel road grading and repairs,
- Replacement of in-kind stormwater culverts
- Street sweeping
- Catch basin cleaning
- Roadside ditch maintenance
- Planting of native species
- Stormwater improvements to existing drainage on unpaved roads

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS - NOT COVERED

- New rock aprons/splash pads/plunge pools
- New roads or increasing the road width
- Planting of non-native vegetation
- Road-stream crossing replacement
- Bridge deck replacement or widening of bridges
- New installations
- Herbicide treatment

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PHASE 2 CAPACITY BUILDING

BUILD MUNICIPAL CAPACITY by training DPW staff in recommended BMPs for Unpaved Roads and the use of the Unpaved Roads Stormwater Toolkit

- Review and update GIS Vulnerability Assessment Map of Unpaved Roads
- Identify top 3 – 5 priority road segments
- Complete a field assessment with the DPW of the top priority road segments
- For 1 – 3 top priority segments, identify BMPs that can improve the climate resilience of the road.
- DPW staff receive opportunities for additional unpaved road training including visiting demonstration implementation projects.
- Where appropriate, develop a Bundled Notice of Intent for Roadside Maintenance and Repairs.

Questions

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