

# VEC Leads Vermont's Green Economy

## URBAN SOILS STUDY FACT SHEET

**OBJECTIVE:** The Vermont Environmental Consortium (VEC) is working in conjunction with staff from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC) Waste Management & Prevention Division to perform a study to establish 'background' concentrations for PAHs and arsenic in soil found in typical urban centers of Vermont.

**WHAT:** The overall project is projected to cost about \$95,000. The VEC is seeking financial support to provide the additional \$65,000 needed to supplement the VTDEC contribution. We believe that we have a unique opportunity to solve this vexing redevelopment issue and are seeking the development community's support to accomplish it.



**WHY:** Redevelopment of properties with tremendous potential in urban areas across Vermont is being hindered by the enforcement of procedural guidelines for managing urban soils/fill impacted by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and low-concentration metals, particularly the metal arsenic. Potential projects are being shelved after perspective developers learn of the often significant cost associated with managing the risk potentially associated with urban soils. Our desire is to develop more pragmatic, cost effective alternatives that are equally protective of the environment yet less cumbersome on development.

**WHERE:** The VTDEC is willing to fund the cost of laboratory analysis of up to 220 samples within the state of Vermont for this study which will include 150 urban sites, 50 rural sites, and 20 QA/QC.

**WHO:** We are asking developers, municipalities, local and regional planning and development offices who are all impacted by this issue, to contribute until the \$65,000 deficit is secured to complete the study. Every contribution gets us closer to the goal of streamlining "urban" soil management in Vermont.

**WHEN:** Your contribution is needed as soon as possible to begin work. We would like to see the study available to guide development in Vermont by the end of 2015.

**HOW?:** Please visit <http://vectogether.org/projects/urban-soils-study/> for more information on how to contribute online to this important study within Vermont or contact one of Urban Soils contacts on page 2 of this fact sheet.

**Vermont Environmental Consortium [www.vectogether.org](http://www.vectogether.org), [info@vectogether.org](mailto:info@vectogether.org)  
802-747-7900, PO Box 6004, Rutland, VT 05702.**

*Promoting economic growth and sound environmental stewardship through an alliance of businesses, educational institutions, public agencies, and non-profit organizations.*

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