

# Economics of Water Quality



## WHY DO WE CARE?

Water quality is strongly connected to the local economy surrounding Lake Champlain, including recreational, aesthetic, and tourism values. Lake-related tourism in Vermont creates jobs, sustains property values, and supports tax revenue that are critical to the local economy.

Research has shown that if actions are not taken to reduce phosphorus inputs into the lake, water quality will continue to decline.

Investing in water quality improvement projects leads to both ecological and economic benefits.

Economic models predict that, based on current trends, benefits from water quality investments will outweigh the costs.





## WHAT IS BURLINGTON DOING?

- The City of Burlington is working to develop and implement the Integrated Water Quality Plan, learn more here: <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/water/integratedplan>.
- For anyone looking to build new and redevelopment projects in Burlington, the City requires a permitting process with the Water Resources Division to ensure projects properly mitigate and manage stormwater runoff.

## ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO KEEP WATER CLEAN:

- Treat stormwater runoff on your property implementing practices to slow water down, sink it into the ground, and treat it close to the source before it reaches a water body.

Contact us: [blue@uvm.edu](mailto:blue@uvm.edu)

Find out what you can do to be more **BLUE**



The University of Vermont



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**BLUE BTV is a residential green stormwater infrastructure incentive program in Burlington, VT. BLUE BTV educates and collaborates with residents to identify opportunities for stormwater mitigation, affect behavioral changes, and establish stewardship principles to protect our waters from cyanobacteria blooms.**