



# Vermont Green Schools Initiative

## Prioritizing Co-Benefits

Across the Lake Champlain and Lake Memphremagog watersheds, public schools are planning green stormwater infrastructure upgrades to comply with the three-acre general stormwater permit. This presents the opportunity to make our landscapes work harder for us, not only protecting water quality, but supporting the health and well-being of school communities across Vermont.



The Trust for Public Land prepared the [Vermont Green Schools Initiative Map](#) to help schools identify high priority green infrastructure co-benefits to elevate through the design process. This [brief video](#) explains how to use that map view your school's data on rates of mental health, physical activity, heat burden, and access to public land for recreation. Use the table below to determine which issues may currently pose the greatest burden to your students and staff, then explore the links in the 'Solution' column below to get design ideas to help combat each challenge.

Where does my school fall compared to my neighboring schools?

Solution

	<i>Significantly Better Than Average</i>	<i>Better Than Average</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Slightly Worse Than Average</i>	<i>Significantly Worse Than Average</i>	
<b>Mental Health</b>	<9	9 - 12	12 - 16	16 - 18	>18	<a href="#">Strengthen Mental Health</a>
<b>Physical Activity</b>	<10	10 - 11	11 - 13	13 - 14	>14	<a href="#">Encourage Active Living</a>
<b>Nearby Access to Public Land</b>	Yes	Yes	Restricted Access	No	No	
<b>Heat Burden</b>	<2	2 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 12	>12	<a href="#">Create Comfortable Spaces</a>