ACRPC to Host Workshop on Planning to Protect Vermont's Drinking Water Sources

Along with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Vermont Rural Water Association will be hosting workshops on drinking water planning on April 28th in Middlebury and April 29th in Morrisville.

Who should attend these workshops? Regional and town planners, GIS planners, and municipal officials

Why attend one of these workshops? Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss drinking water topics that are relevant to their communities and to ask questions from the experts on groundwater issues.

Discussion topics will include:
- Lessons from a Vermont town that exceeded its available water and related planning issues (including a moratorium on development)
- New mapping tools for future town supplies and projected water shortages including additional data on the Vermont Natural Resources Atlas
- Aquifer recharge and protection of public and private water supplies through municipal options in planning and zoning
- Local hazard mitigation planning and water supply contamination

Please register with Liz at lroyer@vtruralwater.org by April 15th to attend one of the free workshops:
- Thursday, April 28th, 9:00AM – Noon, Addison County RPC, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
- Friday, April 29th, 9:00AM – Noon, Lamoille County Planning Commission, 52 Portland Street, 2nd Floor, Morristown, VT

About the Vermont Rural Water Association: The Vermont Rural Water Association (VRWA) is a nonprofit trade association of water and wastewater systems throughout the state. Since 1982, VRWA has provided training, onsite technical assistance, and source water protection planning. VRWA’s mission is to promote public health and a clean environment by supporting public drinking water and wastewater systems.
Seeking: Interested Candidates for Regional Walk/Bike Council

Local Motion and Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) are teaming up to facilitate the creation of an Addison County regional walk/bike council.

In response to citizen interest, the goal of a regional walk/bike council is to expand regional opportunities and capacity for safe walking and biking in Addison County. The walk/bike council will create a formal platform for connection between Addison County citizens, experts, towns, and local and state decision makers regarding walk/bike safety, infrastructure, education and advocacy.

We are seeking a representative from Bristol, Vergennes, Middlebury and ideally representatives from the NE, NW and Central districts of Addison County as well as experts in the field of transportation, health, universal access and youth. Interested candidates will be vetted through a town/RPC-led nomination process in the coming months.

An interest meeting will be held at ACRPC on Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00pm. Pizza will be served.

Please direct questions and to Claire Tebbs, ACRPC: ctebbs@acrpc.org or call: 802.388.3141. ACRPC Offices are located at 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, VT.

Vermont Futures Project Forum - Addison County ~ April 21st ~

The Vermont Futures Project is convening a statewide discussion series regarding the future of Vermont with a goal of enhancing and sustaining a robust and growing economy.

To help build this vision, the Vermont Futures Project is holding forums led by the Vermont Futures Project research team of Jeff Lewis and Jennifer Stromsten who will discuss key economic indicators on the recently launched economic dashboard found at www.VTFuturesProject.org. They will explore Vermont’s unique challenge in balancing our commitment to environmental responsibility, fairness to our people, and growth of opportunity.

The Vermont Futures Project was launched by the Vermont Chamber Foundation to build a shared vision for the economy in collaboration with partner organizations, academic institutions and thought leaders. They are setting a course toward a vibrant economic future through research, policy development and long-term strategies in order to realize that vision. The Vermont Futures Project is committed to addressing the challenges facing Vermont in workforce, demographics, productivity, industrial mix, and infrastructure.

Please attend this upcoming forum and join the conversation. Let’s create a shared vision for a robust economic future!

Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 10:30 am - 12:30 p.m.
Kirk Alumni Center, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT.

Register here: http://addisoncountyedc.org/register/856

Vermont Futures Project: A data-driven initiative to secure Vermont’s economic future and to provide opportunity for Vermonters. For more info, go to www.VTFuturesProject.org.

71st Annual Town Officers Education Conferences

The annual Town Officers’ Education Conferences, which provide training for more than 300 municipal officials and citizen volunteers, are scheduled for three Vermont locations in April 2016.

The conferences, now in their 71st year, are organized by University of Vermont Extension in partnership with several participating organizations. They are
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designed to help town clerks, planners, listers, select board members and other officials do their jobs more effectively by providing updates on tax laws and regulations, municipal recordkeeping and effective strategies for handling planning, zoning and other town issues.

This year’s keynote panel is “Understanding the ‘Value’ of Your Town.” Along with traditional economic value of town property and buildings, Vermonters are seeking to better understand the value that citizen participation in governance, environmental quality and healthy lifestyles contribute to overall quality of the places they call home. Our panelists from the University of Vermont and state government will share their unique perspectives on the economic, natural and social values found in our communities. Browse this year’s workshop descriptions here: [http://www.uvm.edu/extension/community/toec/workshop_description_list2016.pdf](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/community/toec/workshop_description_list2016.pdf).

Conference Dates
- April 13th - Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee, VT
- April 20th - Stoweflake Mountain Resort, Stowe, VT
- April 27th - Killington Grand Resort Hotel, Killington, VT

For more information, contact Stephanie Albaugh at 802-656-0873 or stephanie.albaugh@uvm.edu.

To learn more or register, visit: [www.uvm.edu/extension/toec](http://www.uvm.edu/extension/toec)

Save the Date! Vermont Community Development Association - 2016 Spring Conference

The Vermont Community Development Association is pleased to announce their Spring Meeting on May 17, 2016, at the new State complex in downtown Waterbury. This year’s theme is, “The Entrepreneurial Pipeline: The Role of Makerspaces, Co-working Spaces and Incubators.” Topics to be covered include:

- How conditions for organic growth and evolution are created
- What drives the demand
- Is the need being met?

Come hear how flexible workplaces are supporting Vermont’s startup economy.

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
New State Office Complex, Waterbury, VT
This will be a limited ticket event so don’t delay in registering. Contact Theresa Bachand at VLCT for more information at (802) 229-9111, tbachand@vlct.org

Commemorative Tree Planting Grants

The Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program is celebrating 25 years as a program! To help us commemorate this important milestone, we are asking our partners at the local level to join us in the celebration by doing our favorite thing: planting trees. Through this one time opportunity, we are offering $25,000 in grants - up to $1,000 a piece - for 2016. Next year, we plan to bring back our traditional grant program, Communities Caring for Canopy.

Be part the celebration and let’s continue to make Vermont a shade better together.

Proposals are due April 16th, 2016

General Grant Information
- Projects must include planting a tree and take place in Vermont.
- Grants are up to $1,000.
- Each applicant may only apply for one grant
- Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.
- Projects should begin on or after June 1st and must be completed by December 31st, 2016.
- To help us share all the good work and extend the celebrations across Vermont, grantees will be required to capture the tree planting event with photos that we will share through various media outlets.
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**Grant Documents**
- Grant Overview: See our overview document to help answer questions you may have about the grant program and filling out the application.
- Grant Applications: Grant applications are available in MS Word with fillable forms. If you need another format, let us know.

**Supporting Your Grant Application**
- Grant Application Questions: Danielle Fitzko, Program Coordinator, 802.598.9992
- Project Development Questions: Elise Schadler, Community Outreach Specialist, 802.881.1256
- Grant Submission Questions: Wendy Richardson, Administrative Assistant, 802.828.1531
- More information can be found our website.

**Computer Basics Workshops**

This workshop will provide the basic operation of a computer. Joe believes in learning through discussion rather than structured book learning. He will make sure the subjects are relevant to the people in attendance.

**Learning Objectives**
- Getting Around the Desktop
- Personalizing Your PC
- Find Your Files
- Learn how the Internet works
- Learn how to buy the right computer for your needs

**Class Running Time**
8:00 - 8:30 am: Registration
8:30 am: Workshop Begins
12:00 - 12:30 pm: Lunch (provided by VLR)
2:00 pm: Workshop Ends

**Locations**
- Tuesday - April 12, 2016, Bennington VTrans Garage
- Tuesday - April 19, 2016, Derby VTrans Garage
- Tuesday - April 26, 2016, Colchester VTrans Garage
- Tuesday - May 3, 2016, Mendon VTrans Garage

Register online at: www.localroads.vermont.gov
Mail to: Vermont Local Roads Program VTrans Training Center 1716 US Route 302
Berlin, VT 05633. Questions please call: 802-828-3537 or 802-828-3768

**Important Town Highway and Road-Related Grant Deadlines Looming!**

**Better Roads (formerly Better Back Roads)**

For the 19th year in a row VTrans has announced funding to support projects on municipal roads that improve water quality and result in maintenance cost savings. The Vermont Better Roads Program’s goal is to promote the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money while protecting and enhancing Vermont’s lakes and streams. Funds, subject to availability, will be distributed as grants to municipalities to address town erosion problems.

**Town Highway Structures & Class 2 Roadway**

State grants for bridges, culverts (36 inch diameter or larger), and retaining walls that are part of the municipalities’ highway (Class 1, 2, or 3) infrastructure (Structures Program), as well as for the preservation of any Class 2 highways for resurfacing or reconstruction (Class 2 Roadway Program) are made by the Secretary of Transportation from annual appropriations for that purpose. State grant amounts are limited to $175,000 for any one project. A local match is required for all projects, varying between 10 - 30% depending upon the program and other factors.

The application may be downloaded here: http://vtransengineering.vermont.gov/bureaus/mab/better-backroads. Paper copies of the applications will be mailed to all towns. Please contact Alan May, Better Roads Coordinator at (802) 828-4585 or alan.may@vermont.
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gov if you have any questions.

Please see the Vermont “Orange Book” for more information: http://vtransoperations.vermont.gov/sites/aot_operations/files/The%20Orange%20Book-online%20version%202014-2016%2004May15%20REV2.pdf

GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR BOTH PROGRAMS ARE DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 5:00PM

FREE webinars at CCRPC and VTrans!

Jon Kaplan VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager for Municipal Assistance Bureau has announced an upcoming FREE webinar series on bike and pedestrian topics. VTrans and the CCRPC will host the following webinar series presented by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP, http://www.apbp.org/).

People can participate for free at the CCRPC office. If Montpelier is more convenient for you, VTrans is also hosting the webinar series in Room 413 of the Davis building at the National Life building.

The next webinar is “Understanding the Funding Process” on Wednesday, March 16 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm.

The webinar series runs through December 2016, with webinars taking place the third Wednesday of each month (except December) from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Upcoming webinars include:
• Apr 20: Shared and Separated Off-street Paths
• May 18: Aspects of Equity

SBA Deadline for Economic Injury Disaster Loans for Private NonProfit Organizations in Vermont is April 29

The U.S. Small Business Administration is reminding Private NonProfit (PNP) organizations in Vermont of the April 29 deadline to submit Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications for damages caused by the severe storm and flooding on June 9, 2015.

PNPs that provide non-critical services located in the following counties are eligible to apply: Addison and Chittenden in Vermont. Examples of eligible non-critical PNP organizations include, but are not limited to, food kitchens, homeless shelters, museums, libraries, community centers, schools and colleges.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure website at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is April 29, 2016.

For more information about the SBA Disaster Loan Program, visit our website at www.sba.gov/disaster.

2016 Addison County Legislative Breakfast Schedule

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Town</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>American Legion</td>
<td>Middlebury</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
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<td>King Street, Vergennes</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Grange Hall</td>
<td>Bridport</td>
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- All events are sponsored by Bridport Grange #303 and Addison County Farm Bureau, with support from Addison County Chamber of Commerce and Addison County RPC
- All breakfasts start at 7:00am, with programs running 7:30 - 8:45am
- Luncheons begin at 12:00pm and end at 1:45pm.
- Purchase of breakfast is not required to attend, but helps defray costs incurred by event hosts