



December 2019

ACRPC *update*

This Month's Calendar

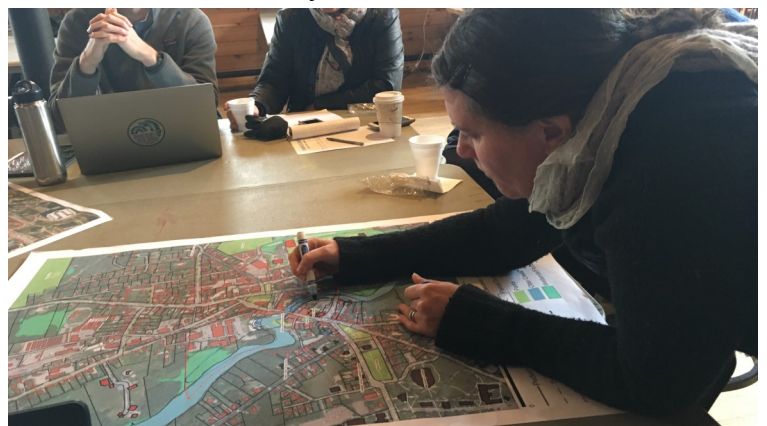
Date	Time	Event
Wed. 4	4:30pm	LEPC Tier II data presentation
Wed. 4	6:30pm	Regional Planning Executive Board Meeting
Wed. 11	7:00pm	Regional Planning Full Commission Meeting
		(ACSWMD and TAC meetings cancelled this month)

Meetings held at ACRPC, 14 Seminary St, Middlebury, and are open to the public.

Digital calendar located at
<http://acrpc.org/calendar/>

Middlebury Envisions Downtown!

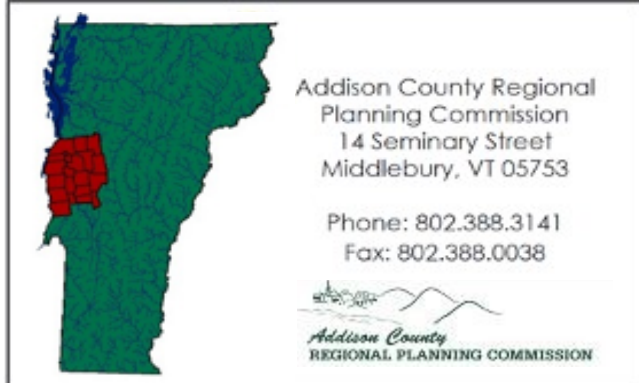
The Town of Middlebury held productive a 5-day "Planapalooza" to develop its downtown master plan with a series of events in November. Middlebury officials and consultants with Town Planning & Urban Design Collaborative LLC got input from numerous community members at different venues.



A draft of the plan is expected to be ready by next April and by next summer the final plan will provide town residents and businesses more clarity on development scenarios for the downtown. Funding for the master planning came in part from Vermont's Better Connections Grant Program and the state's Clean Water Initiative Fund.

If you want to help shape the village for the next two decades, there's still time to be part of the downtown master planning process! Comments should be emailed to Middlebury Director of Planning & Zoning Jennifer Murray at jmurray@townofmiddlebury.org or hold your own visioning session for downtown:

[http://www.townofmiddlebury.org/departments/planning_zoning_office/Downtown%20Master%20Plan/Middlebury On The Table%2010-17-19.pdf](http://www.townofmiddlebury.org/departments/planning_zoning_office/Downtown%20Master%20Plan/Middlebury%20On%20The%20Table%2010-17-19.pdf)



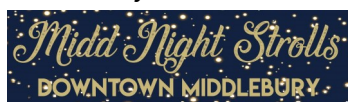
This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.

Events and Announcements

Downtown Holiday Events

Midd Night Stroll in Middlebury

Thursdays, Dec. 5 & 12, 5-8 pm, Downtown.



A chance to get holiday shopping done and support local businesses. Hot Cocoa Hut 5-8 p.m., stores open, various promotions/pop-ups/tastings, artisan market at Bundle. Neighbors Together giveaway. Choose a chip from a grab bag and receive a discount ranging from 5 to 30 percent off for that evening's purchase.

Chocolate Walk in Bristol

Friday, Dec. 6, 5:30-9:30 p.m., Downtown.

Spend the evening browsing stores, nibbling a delicious chocolate treat (or two), and doing your holiday shopping. The Candy Cane Hunt will be from 6:00-6:30pm on the town green by Veterans memorial. Free and open to all ages.



Ho, Ho, Ho Holiday Stroll in Vergennes

Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Downtown. Stores open late for your holiday shopping.

Magic on Main in Vergennes

Thursday, Dec. 12, 5-8 p.m., Downtown.

Save the date, call your friends and join in the fun. Lots of specials, surprises and a magical opportunity to win a the grand prize.

Eat, Drink and Be Merry in Bristol

Friday, Dec. 13, 5:30-9:30 p.m., Downtown.

Visit unique locations on Main Street for a terrific selection of local, well-known musical acts, with accompanying food and drink.

Lincoln Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) Draft posted for Comment

Posted at <http://acrpc.org/communities/lincoln/>

Please contact Andrew L'Roe at alroe@acrpc.org with comments

Legislative Briefing

Tuesday, December 10th, 10:00am-12:00pm

Midd. Regional EMS, 55 Collins Dr, Middlebury

A review of the last legislative session, and a look forward to what's to come in 2020. Our guests will be Vermont Chamber President Betsy Bishop and Government Affairs Director Charles Martin. Legislators are invited and you will have plenty of opportunity to ask questions during the update.

<https://www.addisoncounty.com/events/details/legislative-briefing-5921>

Contact Rob Carter at rob@addisoncounty.com

Middlebury Community Values Mapping Results

Tuesday, December 10th, 5:30-6:30pm

Large conference room at the Middlebury Town Offices

In Spring 2019 the Middlebury Conservation Commission, aided by Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's Community Wildlife Program, conducted a series of "Community Values Mapping" events. These events asked members of the community two questions:

- What places in Middlebury do you love?
- What do you value about these places?

Dozens of residents responded and the results have been compiled into maps revealing what residents love most about our town.

Please attend to see the results!

Grants and Funding

St. Stephen's Peasant Market Outreach Grant

Grants up to \$2,000 are available for programs that help Vermont residents, particularly those in Addison County. Priority will be given to programs that serve youth and their families, including those which address basic needs such as food, housing and healthcare. They are especially interested in proposals that offer volunteer opportunities for hands-on service by their parishioners.

Contact Lonnie Fisher at Fishmidd@gmail.com

2020 Water Quality Partnership Project Development Block Grant

Proposals Due: January 9, 2020, 4:00 pm

<http://www.vermontbidsystem.com/BidPreview.aspx?BidID=40014>

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is requesting proposals for project development by partners that will support the expansion of water quality improvement projects and meeting upcoming obligations of Act 76. These funds shall be used for getting landowners, municipalities and other partners "on board" with projects to improve water quality. Qualified applicants may apply to expand the capacity of smaller geographically based organizations to engage in the tactical basin planning process, by assisting in the development of the basin plan projects including participation in the prioritization process. Up to \$260,000 (minimum grant size of \$20,000) is available for this block grant to support project development of any sector (excluding projects for compliance with the 3-acre stormwater permit). The recipient will have up to 2 years from the date of the grant agreement execution to complete and close the grant.

For information, contact Shalini Suryanarayana, 802-461-6175, shalini.suryanarayana@vermont.gov

2019 Northeast Heritage Economy Program grant

Application deadline: December 20, 2019

<https://ptvermont.org/help/grants/northeast-heritage-economy-program/>

The Preservation Trust of Vermont has roughly \$230,000 available for sub-grants to eligible projects within two tiers of funding. The first tier, or highest priority projects, will be Community Supported Enterprises. The second tier of funding will be for preservation projects with strong economic development potential.

2020 Vermont Watershed Grants Program

Application deadline February 7, 2020

<https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/cwi/grants/co-opportunities>

(Please note that the application process has changed from past years.)

Watershed program grants are available to municipalities, local and regional government agencies, sporting clubs, non-profit organizations, and water-related citizen groups. The range of past projects is just as diverse and has included invasive species education, shoreline vegetation restoration and the removal of old dams and replacement of culverts to improve fish movement.

For 2019, \$85,000 is available to fund three categories of projects. The three categories and the maximum amount for each project type are: education and outreach (\$5,000), planning, assessment, inventory, monitoring (\$3,500) and on-the-ground implementation (\$10,000).

The Watershed Grants application guide and application forms are available on the website.

Information requests to Chris Powers at (802) 485-7566. and completed applications should be emailed to chris.powers@vermont.gov with "2020 Watershed Grant Application" in the subject line.

Grants and Funding

SFY2021 Better Roads Grant Program

Deadline extended to Friday, December 13, 2019

The rain event that occurred from October 31 to November 1 caused widespread damage across the northern part of the state. Many municipalities are busy making repairs to municipal roads to ensure they are prepared for winter weather. The application deadline has therefore been extended to provide additional time for affected communities.

For questions, please contact Joel Perrigo, VTrans Municipal Assistance Bureau, at 802-595-4933 or Joel.perrigo@vermont.gov.

For the most up-to-date information or to download a copy of the application, please visit <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads>

2020 Wood Innovations Program

Request for Proposals

Submission deadline: January 15, 2020

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/naspf/programs/wood-education-and-resource-center/2020-wood-innovations-program-request-proposals>

The U.S. Forest Service requests proposals to substantially expand and accelerate wood energy and wood products markets throughout the United States to support forest management needs on National Forest System and other forest lands.

This Request for Proposals focuses on the following priorities to:

- Reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest health on National Forests and other forest lands.
- Reduce costs of forest management
- Promote economic and environmental health of communities.

The intent of the Wood Innovations Funding Opportunity is to stimulate, expand, and support wood products markets and wood energy markets.

2020 Downtown Transportation Fund Grants

Due March 9, 2020

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/downtown-transportation-fund>

The Downtown Transportation Fund supports revitalization efforts in designated downtowns each year to stimulate public investment and create a sense of identity and pride in Downtowns across Vermont. Any municipality with a Designated Downtown may apply for funding. The maximum grant amount is \$100,000 with an additional \$100,000 available for eligible storm water projects. Grant funds may not exceed 50% of the overall project and a 50% match is required. Projects that have been identified, described, and well supported through a downtown area master planning process such as Better Connections or other planning process focused on the downtown, will receive additional bonus points.

Additional Clean Water Initiative Funding

This year DTF projects may apply for up to \$100,000 of “add on” clean water funding for eligible storm water implementation projects. A 50% match is required for these funds. Examples of eligible projects can be found on the Department of Environmental Conservation Green Stormwater Infrastructure webpage (<https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/green-infrastructure/gsi>). The Clean Water Initiative will provide additional funds for DTF projects to implement stormwater management practices that help control flooding, reduce erosion, and improve water quality. The project must primarily mitigate nutrient or sediment pollution. Priority consideration will be given to projects that incorporate storm water features.

For questions or assistance, please contact Gary Holloway at 802-522-2444 or gary.holloway@vermont.gov

Tools and Trainings

Succession planning for your Woodland

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 5:30-7 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m.

Community Room, Ilsley Library, Middlebury
You are invited to a forum to meet one-on-one with land managers, conservation, financial and estate planning professionals to answer questions about your woodlands, your specific situation at no charge to you. Have you planned what will happen to your woodland in the future? Do you have questions for a lawyer? Wondering what it would mean to conserve your land with a land trust? Have questions about Current Use? These and other questions can be addressed as you rotate between the experts. The program, designed for landowners with 30 or more acres, is run through two sessions –Space is limited. Space is limited.

Questions and Register with Lisa Sausville at 802-877-2777 or lisa@vtcoverts.org

ICS 100 - Introduction to Incident Command

December 9, 2019

8:30 am -4:30 pm

Williston Fire Department

This course provides training on and resources for personnel who require a basic understanding of the Incident Command System (ICS). This course introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This course is for entry-level first responders (firefighters, police officers, emergency medical services providers, public works, public health personnel, others) and other personnel that require introductory ICS. You can register for this course via the VT Learning Management System at <http://vem.vermont.gov/training/trainingprogram/lms>

Grant Writing 101

Tuesday, December 17th, 8:00-9:30am

Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St, Middlebury
No Cost for Chamber Members & Non-Profits.

Some non-profits have grant writers on staff. Many in Addison County do not. This workshop is designed for “small shops,” the ones where you may be asked to write a grant the same day you’re on office kitchen cleaning duty. Participants will learn how to:

- Find the right grant opportunities
- Write a winning application
- Prepare a budget funders will understand
- Think like a reviewer

Organizations interested in learning more about UWAC’s Community Impact Funding grants are invited to stay from 9:30-10:00

Email Rob Carter at rob@addisoncounty.org to RSVP and find more information at <https://www.addisoncounty.com/events/details/legislative-briefing-5921>

Hazardous Materials Tier II training

January 29th, Brattleboro

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a free half-day compliance assistance workshop on the various planning and reporting requirements on businesses and organizations that store and/or use certain chemicals, substances, and materials. The workshop is designed for environmental compliance managers and owners and will cover the redesigned Tier2 Submit 2019 software, threshold determinations, exemptions, and other commonly asked questions. For calendar year 2019, the reporting deadline for companies and towns with hazardous materials is March 1, 2020.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vt-epcra-tier-ii-training-in-brattleboro-tickets-82221561905?>

Tools and Trainings

Conserving Vermont's Amphibians class

Lectures- February 4, 11, 18, and 25th, 7-9pm in Bristol, Vermont.

Field trips- April 4th, May 16th, and June 13th throughout west-central Vermont.

This non-graded, non-credit class with Vermont Family Forests and Hogback Community College (HCC) taught by Jim Andrews, herpetology professor and the curator of The Vermont Herp Atlas, is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about frogs and salamanders.

The course will cover identification, natural history, survey techniques, conservation, and management of Vermont's frogs and salamanders. This course is designed for naturalists of all levels, life-long learners, and adult professionals working in land management and conservation. The field trips will be off trail but only moderately challenging.

Find more information and register here: <http://familyforests.org/conserving-vermonts-amphibians/>

Webinar - Model Town Meeting Articles and Warnings

<https://www.vlct.org/event/webinar-model-town-meeting-articles-and-warnings-0>

Wednesday, Jan 8 (2020) 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Town Meeting Day in Vermont is Tuesday, March 5, 2019. The proper wording of town meeting articles and warnings is important for many reasons, including compliance with Vermont law, parliamentary procedure, and to make sure voters understand the questions asked and possible outcomes. During this session, Municipal Assistance Center attorney Carl Andeer will review our model warnings and articles and respond to questions.

Caring for Natural Resources

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources is offering a workshop series about caring for natural resources

Part 1: Vermont's Ecology and Environment

This first course provides the scientific concepts behind the natural resources planning issues Vermont communities often face. Participants will be introduced to a full suite of natural resources—forests, wildlife, floodplains, climate change, and much more—through a framework designed to facilitate prioritization and improve understanding of how Vermont's various natural resources work together. Presentations are interspersed with interactive hands-on activities.

Dates: 2-part series, on Dec 5 & 12 (2019)

Time: 6:30-8:30pm each day

Location: Richmond Town Hall

Cost: Suggested donation of \$25 to benefit the Association of Vermont Conservation

Part 2: Taking Action in Your Community

This sequel to *Vermont's Ecology and Environment* helps participants choose locally appropriate land use planning strategies for conserving natural resources. It uses case studies and exercises to show how taking action can work in real life. The overall goal is to build understanding of what you can do, how to work with different people in your community, how to choose methods to protect natural resources, and how to make results happen!

Dates: 2-part series, on Jan 28 & Feb 4 (2020)

Time: 6:30-8:30pm each day

Location: Richmond Town Hall

Cost: Suggested donation of \$25 to benefit the Association of Vermont Conservation

To register, contact Monica Przyperhart at Monica.Przyperhart@vermont.gov