

ACRPC

update March 2018

2018 VTrans Better Roads Grant Awards Announced

Addison County towns received nearly \$125,000 in funding through the FY19 VTrans Better Roads Grant Program. The Better Roads Program provides technical support and grant funding to municipalities to promote the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money while protecting and enhancing water quality around the State.

Addison, Ferrisburgh, New Haven, and Waltham all received "Category A" grants to complete a road

erosion inventory, prioritize identified projects and develop a budget plan to implement the projects over a period of time, all requirements of the new Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP). To date a total of 15 out of 21 towns within ACRPC's planning region have received grants to complete these tasks that are required of all Vermont towns.

Other grant awards this year include:

- Lincoln - \$20,000 for slope stabilization, culvert upgrade(s), and stone-lined ditching
- New Haven - \$20,000 for grass and stone-lined ditching
- Orwell - \$20,000 for culvert upgrade(s) and stone-lined ditching
- Ripton - \$16,500 for stone-lined ditching
- Waltham - \$17,800 for stone-line ditching

The Better Roads Grant Program represents a great funding opportunity to complete water-quality related construction projects that will eventually be required under the MRGP. ACRPC strongly encourages all of our towns to consider applying for funding during the next grant cycle in Fall 2018. A 20% local match is required for all grants.

For more information about the Better Roads Program, visit here: <http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/better-roads>.

For more information about the Municipal Roads General Permit, including requirements and *the July 31st, 2018 application deadline*, visit here: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/municipal-roads-pr>

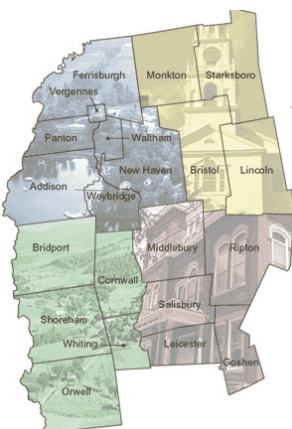
This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.

Commission Calendar

March 2018

14	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
15	7:00pm	ACSWMD Meeting
21	6:30pm	TAC Meeting
28	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting

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



Addison County Regional Planning Commission
14 Seminary Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

Phone: 802.388.3141
Fax: 802.388.0038

Funding Opportunities & Events

Ecosystem Restoration Grant Review ~ Deadline April 23rd ~

The Clean Water Initiative Program is accepting Ecosystem Restoration Grant applications on a rolling basis. Applications received by Monday, April 23rd at 4:30 pm will be included in the next review. Minor changes to eligibility and application scoring criteria in the application manual will be made by March 31st. Please visit the Clean Water Initiative Program Grants webpage for more details and application materials here: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/cwi/grants>. For questions, contact Allison Compagna at allison.compagna@vermont.gov.

2018 Town Officers Education Conference

You are invited to the 73rd Town Officers Education Conferences! Whether you are new or a veteran to local government, the conferences offer a selection of 20 different workshops that allow you to tailor your experience to your interests, as well as provide an opportunity to connect with municipal leaders and government organizations from across the state. Enjoy a riveting keynote panel presentation from Jim Condos, Secretary of State; John Quinn, Secretary of VT Agency of Digital Services and Chief Information Officer; Michael Schirling, Secretary of Agency of Commerce and Community Development as they address how technology, efficiency, and collaboration can improve municipal practice.

Registration is quickly filling up, don't miss this opportunity to register at the \$65 early-bird price! Price will increase to \$85 on March 16th.

Enjoy a light breakfast, hot lunch and afternoon snacks in comfort at one of our two offered locations. Download a complete list of workshops offered here: https://www.regonline.com/custImages/400000/406081/TOEC_2018_Agenda.pdf.

Not sure if you can afford to go?

Check out partial scholarships (up to half an attendee's fee, typically) to local officials who would otherwise be unable to attend. Sponsored by the Vermont Institute of Government. Priority will go to those from small towns (populations 1,000 and under) who have exhausted all other potential sources of funds. The number of scholarships available are limited. If interested, please contact Virginia Jaquish at Virginia.Jaquish@uvm.edu or 802-751-8307 as soon as possible.

TOEC 2018 Dates and Locations:

- April 3 – Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee
- April 10 – Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier

Register today:

<https://www.regonline.com/registration/2018toec>

2018 Vermont Coverts: Woodlands for Wildlife Cooperator Training (free)

Do you love woodlands? Enjoy seeing birds and other wildlife and want to learn how a healthy forest can enhance wildlife habitat, provide recreational and timber benefits? Are you interested in reaching out to others in your community? If you answered yes to any of these, then sign up for the Coverts 3-day Cooperator Training and join Coverts peer-to-peer network. The program will allow you to connect with resource professionals and others concerned about their woodlands, just like you. The training program is offered in the spring and fall. The spring dates are May 11-13 and will take place at the Common Ground Center in Starksboro, VT. The fall dates are September 7-9 and will be held at Kehoe Conservation Camp in Hydeville, VT. Space is limited so register now! To learn more, see a sample agenda or download an application visit www.vtcoverts.org. You can also contact Lisa Sausville at 802-877-2777 or lisa@vtcoverts.org.

Funding Opportunities & Events

Downtown Transportation Fund & Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment Grants

The Department of Housing and Community Development is pleased to announce the availability of approximately \$335,000 in Downtown Transportation Fund Grants (DTF) to support revitalization efforts in Designated Downtowns and approximately \$20,000 in Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment funding to support DC fast charge and Level 2 charging stations on publicly owned property in both Designated Downtowns and Designated Village Centers.

The Downtown Transportation Fund is a financing tool which assists municipalities in paying for transportation-related capital improvements within or serving a Designated Downtown. Past projects include streetscape improvements, bicycle & pedestrian amenities, utility relocation, street lighting, way-finding signage and other transportation related projects.

Grant applications for both Downtown Transportation Grants and Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment grants are due March 19, 2018.

See the 2018 Downtown Transportation Fund Grant Program Description for eligibility, funding and application requirements. Any municipality with a Designated Downtown may apply for funding and must be submitted by the municipality. The maximum grant amount is \$100,000 in any fiscal year. Grant funds may not exceed 50% of the overall project and a 50% match is required. Projects must demonstrate the ability to start the project within 18 months and be completed within 30 months.

See the attached 2018 Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment Grant Guidance Document for eligibility, funding and application requirements. Any municipality with a Designated Downtown or Designated Village Center may apply for funding and must be submitted by the municipality. The maximum grant amount is \$20,885. Grant funds may not exceed 75% of the overall project and a 25% match is required.

Please contact Gary Holloway, the Downtown Program Coordinator, if you have questions or need assistance with the Downtown Transportation Fund or Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment grant application. He can be reached at 802-828-3220 or gary.holloway@vermont.gov.

2018 Addison County Legislative Breakfast Schedule

- Mar. 12th – Fire House, Orwell
- Mar. 19th – Platt Memorial Library (279 Main St.), Shoreham
- Mar. 26th – American Legion, Middlebury ~ Governor's Breakfast
- Apr. 2nd – Congregational Church (Maple St.), Salisbury
- Apr. 9th – Ag Lunch, Grange Hall, Bridport
- Apr. 16th – Congregational Church, Weybridge
- Apr. 23rd – Congregational Church, New Haven
- Apr. 30th – Town Hall, Whiting
- June 4th – Grange hall, Bridport

All breakfasts begin at 7:00am, with program running from 7:30 - 8:45am. Luncheons begin at 12:00pm and end at 1:45pm.

Purchase of breakfast not required to attend but helps our hosts to defray the cost of opening their hall. Sponsored by Bridport Grange #303 and Addison County Farm Bureau; Supported by Addison County Chamber of Commerce and ACRPC.

Leftovers...

2018 Tiny Grant Program

The Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC) is seeking applications for its 2018 Tiny Grant program. The objective of the grants is to provide seed money and/or matching funds for specific conservation projects at the local level.

“Throughout the years, AVCC’s Tiny Grant Program has supported small projects that have had big impacts for local communities,” said Nancy Jones, AVCC Board Secretary. “Conservation commissions and other volunteer groups spend countless hours working to safeguard our natural resources each year and we’re thrilled to be able to support these efforts each year through the Tiny Grants Program.”

Last year, AVCC awarded grants to groups in Bethel, Bolton, Burke, Johnson, Putney, and Warren. Projects included developing a forest management plan, constructing bat houses, a community climate change presentation, printing trail maps, and marking wildlife corridors.

Individual grants are available in the range of \$250-\$600. Applications are due April 13, 2018 and awards will be announced May 4, 2018. Projects must be completed and a final report submitted by May 4, 2019. Extensions may be considered.

Conservation Commissions and groups working to become conservation commissions are eligible. Groups must also be members of the Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions. To become an AVCC member, read more and apply online at <http://vtconservation.com/join-us/>. For more information about the grants and an application visit <http://vtconservation.com/tiny-grants/> or email vtconservation@gmail.com.

Save the Date!

2018 Vermont Walk/Bike Summit

In partnership with Vermont Agency of Transportation, and a number of other participating organizations

and sponsors, the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee and Southern Windsor Regional Planning Commissions will host the 2018 statewide Vermont Walk/Bike Summit on May 4th in White River Junction.

The Vermont Walk/Bike Summit is an excellent opportunity to connect with community members, employers, planners and researchers from throughout the state for in-depth sharing on current efforts, new ideas, and networking to advance more livable communities.

This year’s Summit will include interactive mobile workshops, peer exchanges, a highly-acclaimed keynote, and a variety of dynamic presentations and topics including advocacy and education, public safety, economic development, and the built environment. For further information about the event visit here: <https://vtwalkbikesummit.com/>.

2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP), along with our co-host, Vermont State Parks, is pleased to announce the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference that will be held in Burlington, Vermont, on April 23 through 26, 2018. This four day event brings together 250+ Outdoor Recreation Professionals for: Learning, Networking, Celebrating and Mentoring. This year’s conference theme, “Building Resilient Communities, Environments, and Economies” focuses on demonstrating the tangible ways that connecting people with the outdoors improves public health, reinvigorates local economies, and instills a life-long commitment to the environment.

The best way to stay informed is to visit the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference website, where you can also sign up for the mailing list: <https://www.2018norc.org/>. You can also connect via Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1481366641928732/>. AICP Credits will be offered.

SAVE THE DATE!

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018



Vermont Law School, South Royalton



Please join us for the full-day conference and help influence the next 50 years of Act 250, Vermont's signature land development regulation.

Online information and registration coming soon

Sponsored by the VT Planners Association, VT Law School, VT Natural Resources Council, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, VTDigger, (and more coming) in cooperation with the VT Natural Resources Board and the VT Commission on Act 250: The Next 50 Years