

July 2021

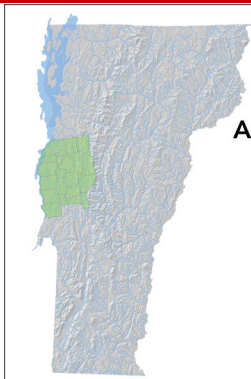
# ACRPC *update*

## This Month's Calendar

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

Date	Time	Event
July		
Wed. 14	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting (Zoom)
Thurs. 15	6:30pm	Vergennes Sidewalk Review (V. City Hall)
Tues. 20	7:00pm	Bristol Public Review Hearing (B. Town Office)
Wed. 28	6:30pm	ACRPC Executive Board
August		
Wed. 18	6:30pm	TAC meeting
Wed. 25	6:30pm	ACRPC Executive Board

All meetings are offered in hybrid form and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted the physical location for all meetings is the ACRPC Office at  
14 Seminary St, Middlebury, VT



### Addison County Regional Planning Commission

14 Seminary Street  
Middlebury, VT 05753

Phone: 802.388.3141  
[www.acrpc.org](http://www.acrpc.org)



*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 ADA accessible.*



## Municipalities Have Until July 15 to Request American Rescue Plan Funding

The State of Vermont has set **July 15** as the deadline for accepting Local Recovery Funds from the American Recovery Plan Act ("ARPA") to cities and towns.

This is money allocated to each municipality to be spent by 2024 on:

1. Pandemic Response;
2. Workforce/Personnel;
3. Lost Revenue; or
4. Water, Sewer, Broadband Infrastructure.

Want to check whether your municipality has taken the steps to accept funds? Check the Certification Dashboard: <https://tinyurl.com/ybyhesav>

For more information and an upcoming dashboard for municipalities to communicate about projects, see the ACRPC webpage here: <https://acrpc.org/ARPA/>

For more information or questions, please contact ACRPC Planner, Andrew L'Roe at [alroe@acrpc.org](mailto:alroe@acrpc.org)

# Announcements

## Local Motion E-Bike Lending Library Coming to Middlebury

E-bikes are a transportation option that are becoming more familiar and necessary, and the goal of this program is to introduce Vermonters to how they can be incorporated into everyday life and replace car trips. From commuting to work to picking up groceries and carrying kids to school, e-bikes provide an extra boost of power that makes miles feel shorter and cargo feel lighter.

There are two options: a cargo bike with a rear rack and optional kids seat, great for families with little kids or folks hoping to run errands by bike. There is also a standard commuter-style bike, perfect for employees at the college, Porter Hospital or others looking to try out commuting by bike. Both have an electric assist that helps riders get around with less effort and scale hills that previously seemed impossible.

To reserve an e-bike, go to

[https://www.localmotion.org/middlebury\\_ebike\\_satellite](https://www.localmotion.org/middlebury_ebike_satellite)

And if you like it, Green Mountain Power is offering customers \$200 rebate on an e-bike! Contact Erik Remsen with any questions at [erik.remsen@gmail.com](mailto:erik.remsen@gmail.com) or call 802-349-9063

## VLCT State League Town Hall <https://www.vlct.org/event/state-league-town-hall-real-webinar>

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
VLCT Members will be able to have a deeper discussion and reflect as it relates to normalizing, organizing, and operationalizing racial equity within Vermont's cities, towns, and villages. This is the **third in a 3-part training** that provides members with the basics of NLC's Race, Equity, and Leadership (R.E.A.L.) training program aimed at eliminating racial disparities, healing racial divisions and building more equitable communities

## Notice Of Public Hearing: Review of Bristol Municipal Development Plan including its Enhanced Energy Plan & Consultation regarding Bristol's Planning Process

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's (ACRPC) Local Government Committee and Energy Committee along with the Bristol Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing in a hybrid model on July 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Guests may join in person at the Bristol Town offices or remotely via Zoom. To join the hearing via Zoom use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83299786183?pwd=RjNkUVFueUxXcGdtM05GaVQyTEFtZz09>

**Meeting ID: 832 9978 6183**

**Passcode: 618777**

ACRPC will also conduct a municipal consultation on Bristol's Planning activities with Bristol pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4350.

Copies of the Bristol Municipal Development Plan, including its Enhanced Energy Plan, can be found on the Bristol website: <http://bristolvt.org/documents-and-forms/>

## Vergennes Sidewalk Alternatives Review Thursday July 15 at 6:30pm

The City of Vergennes is constructing a new sidewalk from the west side of MacDonough Drive to the existing pedestrian path just east of the bridge. A public meeting to review the preliminary design alternatives is scheduled for July 15. Anyone interested in reviewing the preliminary design is invited to join that meeting in-person at the City Hall conference room or via Zoom at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81071237114?pwd=K3ZzMVFWbUhlc05dnFicHlVSEg0UT09>

**Meeting ID: 810 7123 7114**

**Passcode: 799812**

# Grants & Funding

## FY2022 Municipal Planning Grant

**Applications due Monday, November 1st, at 6pm**

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/municipal-planning-grant>

The Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) Program funds a wide range of municipal planning projects as allowed by Title 24 of Vermont Statutes Annotated (V.S.A.) Section 4306 (b) and (c). Projects that promote Vermont's historic pattern of compact settlements surrounded by working farms, forest, and open space are given priority. Each municipality may submit one application per year. The maximum grant amount is \$22,000 for individual municipalities and \$35,000 for group (consortium) applications. All applications are required to provide a minimum cash match of 10%.

### **Special FY2022 Funding for Bylaw Modernization**

Local and statewide leaders increasingly recognize the need to grow housing opportunity, and Act 74 of 2021 makes \$650,000 available for bylaw modernization. This one-time State funding will be available to support municipal bylaw modernization amendments in FY22 to expand opportunities for housing, confront the State's housing crisis, and ready communities for housing investment. Program details for this special funding are in development and will be announced as soon as possible.

If you are interested in developing a proposal and applying, please contact ACRPC Community Planner, Katie Raycroft-Meyer at 802-388-3141 or [kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org](mailto:kraycroftmeyer@acrpc.org)

---

## **Grant Deadline Reminders**

(more information in previous newsletters, <https://acrpc.org/newsletters/>)

### **Building Communities Grants Program**

<http://www.bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants>

**Applications Due:** July 31, 2021

---

### **Spark Connecting Community Grant-Round 2**

<https://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/spark-connecting-community/>

Applications will be accepted until August 9, 2021

---

### **USDA Grants to Help Rural Businesses Create and Market Products**

<https://www.vlct.org/news/grants-help-rural-businesses-create-and-market-products>

Applications for grants must be submitted through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by **September 27, 2021**

---

### **VT COVID-19 Response Grants to Support Summer Activities for Youth and Adults**

<https://vermontcf.org/our-impact/impact-stories/vt-covid-19-response-summer-activities/>

# Grants & Funding

## Climate Catalysts Innovation Grants

<https://forms.gle/ghoDJpMxDkdEXDVs8>

**Deadline to apply is July 22**

Grants range from \$500 - \$4,000 (4 - 10 awards) Funds can be awarded to a municipality, school, non-profit organization or business. The objective of the fund administered by the Vermont Council on Rural Development, is to support innovative local projects for which a small grant could have a meaningful impact. VCRD is also open to working with potential grantees that lack the organizational infrastructure to accept funds directly. Depending on the applicant pool and size of the eventual awards, a second round may be initiated later in the summer or fall.

**For questions, contact Jon Copans at [jon@vtrural.org](mailto:jon@vtrural.org) or call him at (802) 272-0162**

## Municipal park-and-ride program

<http://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/parkandrides>

**Submit applications by August 5, 2021**

The Vermont Agency of Transportation is soliciting proposals for the improvements of small Park-and-Ride Facilities. Vermont Legislature has provided funding to support the encouragement of local communities to develop small municipally owned and maintained Park-and-Ride Facilities.

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) will not be eligible in this year's program. The grant funding is available for engineering and construction activities only. In order to maximize available funding, awarded grants will require a local share of 20%.

**For questions, contact Tina Bohl at [Tina.Bohl@vermont.gov](mailto:Tina.Bohl@vermont.gov) or 802-793-1743**

## 2021 Design and Implementation Block Grant

**Full Project Applications Due: September 3, 2021**

The Watersheds United Vermont (WUV) Clean Water Projects Design and Implementation Block Grant (DIBG) funded by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Clean Water Initiative Program. Funding under the DIBG must be used to support the design or implementation of projects that reduce sediment and nutrient pollution from runoff and soil erosion that discharge into the State's rivers, streams, lakes, ponds and wetlands. All projects are to be completed before October 1, 2023. WUV has approximately \$1,270,000 to allocate to projects over three categories:

- Stormwater,
- Stormwater-3-Acre General Permit under op. stormwater general permit 3-9050, and
- Natural Resources: Lake Shoreland, Rivers - Stream/Floodplain restoration, Forestry.

Informational webinar Tuesday, July 13, 2-3pm

**For more, contact Christian Pelletier, 860-428-6900 or [christian@whiteriverpartnership.org](mailto:christian@whiteriverpartnership.org)**

## BJA Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative for Law Enforcement Agencies grant

<https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2021-120001>

**Grant application deadline: July 20, 2021**

Does your agency need a better way to conduct crime analysis and support accountability processes or improve communication and collaboration with the communities you serve? provides funding of up to \$150,000 to law enforcement agencies engaging in strategies to identify and reduce violent crime problems occurring in rural jurisdictions.



# Tools & Training

## Municipal Tree Law Resources

<https://www.vlct.org/municipal-assistance/municipal-topics/tree-law>

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns' **Municipal Assistance Center** and the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program have developed resources to assist municipal officials in navigating their legal roles and responsibilities related to trees and roadside vegetation in light of the 2020 amended Vermont tree warden statutes. Tree wardens, town highway staff, local committees, and governance boards will find the following reference materials extremely valuable as they navigate expanded responsibilities related to tree and urban forest planning and management. The new **Tree Law webpage** includes a **Tree Law FAQ** and a recorded **Tree Law Overview & Shade Tree Preservation Plan webinar**.

## Northeastern Forest Health Atlas

<https://www.uvm.edu/femc/forest-health-atlas>

The Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative (FEMC), has created the Northeastern Forest Health Atlas to catalogue the health of New England forests. The Atlas catalogues 190 damage agents for over 101 years for forests in Vermont and six other states. The purpose of the Atlas is to “improve access to standardized data related to forest disturbance across both space and time for forest managers and researchers.” Through the Atlas, the user can glean a detailed picture of how many acres of Vermont forest have suffered from discoloration due to birch leaf fungus over the past hundred years, or how many southern Vermont forests have been affected by tent caterpillar in the last fifty years.

## Lobes, Teeth, and Needles:

### Identify Vermont Trees in Summer

<https://vlt.org/event/summer-tree-id>

July 26, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join for a fun, info-packed hour to learn tips on identifying Vermont's common conifers and the hardwoods that often grow with them. They'll also tell you about favorite places to visit to see the trees and practice your new-found skills.

## NPS Working Woodlands Workshops

<https://www.nps.gov/mabi/learn/nature/working-woodlands-workshops.htm>

- *Women on the Land*

July 14, Noon-1pm

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/3neqfCW>

A special presentation by author Olivia Lukacic about some of the unique perspectives and challenges women have when it comes to stewarding their land, highlighting the stories of women throughout the United States. She will also discuss the various ways you can steward your land, such as passive stewardship, and provide advice for women who own property and want to be better stewards.

- *Vermont's First Tree Farm*

August 9, Noon-1pm

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/3neqfCW>

learn what a tree farm is, what features make a forest a “Forest of Recognized Importance”, and hear from Christina the unique and special history of the forest at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and how it has evolved over time to present day!

For more information, contact Joey Sullivan at [joseph\\_sullivan@partner.nps.gov](mailto:joseph_sullivan@partner.nps.gov)

## Virtual Webinar: A Business Case for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



JULY 21 | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm | Zoom



<https://www.addisoncounty.com/events/details/a-business-case-for-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-6018>

# Community

## Front Porch Forum Volunteers To Distribute Childcare Survey

The Early Care and Learning Partnership (ECLP) is looking for volunteers who are members of Front Porch Forum in the towns of Vergennes, Lincoln, Starksboro, Monkton, Addison, Panton, Waltham, Orwell, Whiting, and Shoreham to post links to surveys regarding childcare. Sign-up here:

<https://tinyurl.com/8mbk3ef4>

They hope to collect survey responses from as many parents and childcare providers as possible in order to gauge the childcare needs of all members of Addison County. Thank you!

**Monkton's Ecological Landscape  
Community Presentation with Eric Sorenson  
Wednesday, July 21, 6:00pm in the MCS gym**  
Eric Sorenson is the Community Ecologist at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department where he is responsible for describing and classifying Vermont's natural communities. Recently he has focused on how to conserve the incredible biological diversity of our state through the Vermont Conservation Design. Join us for a presentation about Monkton natural communities and find out why this community ecologist finds the area so unique and special.

## Seeking Water Quality Partners!

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission is seeking community partners interested in water quality to help add viable projects to the Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan.

ACRPC is the Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP) for the Otter Creek Basin and will be responsible for developing water quality projects with the goal of reducing phosphorus entering Lake Champlain. Examples of relevant projects include stream buffer planting, raingardens, private road improvements, and other stormwater management efforts. We need the help of local, knowledgeable people and organizations to identify areas that may be causing water quality issues in their communities and to champion project grant applications to remediate the problems. Once projects are identified and approved, the CWSP will have the ability to fund implementation.

For information contact ACRPC's Maddi Shropshire, at [mshropshire@acrpc.org](mailto:mshropshire@acrpc.org)



**More than 81%  
of Addison County's residents  
have been Vaccinated!**

<https://acrpc.org/covid-19/>

See webpage above for Addison County-specific information about COVID-19 or contact Andrew L'Roe at [alroe@acrpc.org](mailto:alroe@acrpc.org)

**YOU CAN  
MOVE THE NEEDLE**

