

Addison County
Regional Planning Commission



ACRPC's Monthly Newsletter

January 2024



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ACRPC UPDATE



Addison County Energy Gathering

Join the Addison County Regional Energy Committee for an opportunity to network and collaborate on all things energy and climate.

Agenda: First we will seek feedback on the regional enhanced energy planning process and discuss how it will impact town energy planning. A report on energy programs and funding opportunities will then lead us into an open discussion between attendees on projects and challenges for the remainder. Lunch (3 Squares Cafe) will be served at 11:30. All Addison Co residents are welcome!

Location: Holly Hall, 1 South St, Bristol, VT 05443

Date and time: Sat, Jan 20, 2024 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Organizer: Maddison Shropshire, (802) 388-3141, mshropshire@acrpc.org

[Register to Attend](#)

Improving Water Quality in Addison County

Thanks to some funding granted by VT DEC to support water quality planning activities as identified in section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act, ACRPC has been able to help with identifying water quality improvement projects in our region. This grant has funded ACRPC's work to directly support initiatives in our community that aim to plan, develop, and implement strategic activities to enhance the quality and safety of local surface waters. In working with community partners, and State basin planners, ten different water quality projects have been added to the State Watershed Projects Database (WPD). ACRPC is excited to continue working with members of the community and to continue to support clean water projects in our region!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



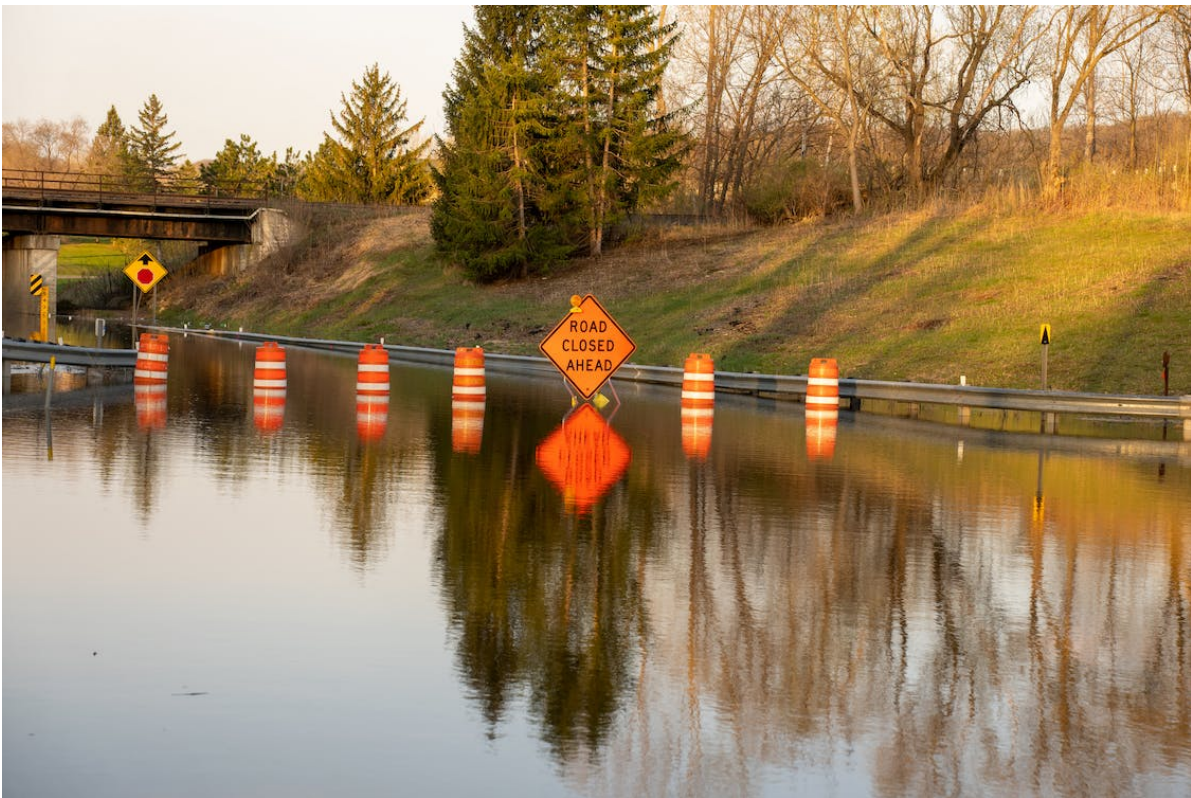
VERMONT ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

JANUARY 30, 2024

2024 Vermont Economic Conference

On **January 30th**, join industry professionals, policymakers, business owners, and community members at the 2024 Vermont Economic Conference hosted by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce at UVM's Davis Center in Burlington. The event will feature a statewide economic outlook, networking, workforce development and diversity strategies. **Registration is required.**

[Register Here](#)



Spring Flood Seminars Available Soon

On **January 24th**, a series of recorded Spring Flood Seminars will be posted on the [Vermont Emergency Management website](#). These videos will inform local officials about how to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of the upcoming spring flood season. Question and answer sessions have been scheduled for February. The sessions provide information on the spring flood outlook and resources available to municipalities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a flood.

There will be NO LIVE DELIVERY of these partner seminars this year. Please save the date for your regional virtual event, all to be held live through Microsoft Teams.

- **February 6th, 12-1pm:** Northwest. Franklin, Grand Isle, Chittenden & **Addison** counties.
- **February 7th, 12-1pm:** South. Bennington, Windham, Windsor, Orange, and Rutland counties.

GRANT & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community

Better Places Grants

Is your community thinking about expanding parks and green spaces, enhancing a lively main street, initiating public art projects, or establishing community gardens? If yes, consider applying for a Better Places Grant, supported by the VT Department of Housing & Community Development, VT Department of Health, and VT Community Foundation. This statewide grant program welcomes project submissions on a **rolling basis**.

[Learn More](#)

1772 Foundation Historic Preservation Matching Grants

The 1772 Foundation announces [2024 Vermont Historic Preservation Matching Grants](#) for Private Non-Profit Organizations in cooperation with the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Grants in the form of 1:1 matching grants of up to \$10,000 will be made available for historic preservation projects in Vermont.

Letters of Inquiry will be accepted until **January 11, 2024**. Invited applications will be due **February 29, 2024**.

[Learn More](#)

Energy

Climate Economy Resilient Communities Program

VCRD's Resilient Communities Program supports three to five communities each year working on local climate action solutions that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lower energy use, increase climate resilience, and/or strengthen the local climate economy. Services are adaptable based on the community's needs and can include support with community engagement processes, strategic planning, technical assistance, and/or project implementation. Community leaders and volunteers submit a simple online application that will be reviewed on a rolling basis until **January 12th, 2024**.

[Learn More](#)

Emergency Management

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program is an annual FEMA funding program for hazard mitigation. BRIC will support states, local communities, and territories, as they undertake hazard mitigation projects to reduce the risk from natural hazards.

Due: Jan 12, 2024

[Learn More](#)

Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF)

This is a voluntary program that will prioritize projects in communities and/or for homeowners with greatest economic need and projects that mitigate repetitive loss among low-income and marginalized portions of the population. **Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis.** Priority will be given to buyout projects following the July 2023 flooding in Vermont.

[Learn More](#)

Transportation

Better Connections Program

The Better Connections program provides technical assistance and funds to local communities to help them achieve their goals and plan for growth. The program funds planning efforts to increase multi-modal transportation options and to improve land use, water quality, public health, and economic vitality in Vermont communities. The interagency program provides targeted municipal assistance to:

- Help communities identify and prioritize their goals and projects;
- Develop an action-oriented plan to achieve the goals and move projects directly to implementation; and
- Link the communities to a growing network of public and philanthropic partners to help them implement their priority projects.

Pre-applications Due: Jan 30, 2024

Applications Due: Feb 17, 2024

[Learn More](#)

Natural Resources

The Nature Conservancy's Resilient and Connected Appalachians Grant Program

The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Resilient and Connected Appalachians Grant Program (RCA) offers funding opportunities for non-profit organizations, municipalities, and other partners to engage in conservation efforts in the Appalachians—a center of climate resilience and a critical migration corridor for wildlife. The RCA offers grants of up to **\$50,000** to support projects that result in the permanent protection of Resilient and Connected lands in focal landscapes.

The Nature Conservancy invites applications for projects that result in fee or easement acquisitions of Resilient and Connected lands within focal landscapes. If the project is outside of these eligible areas, but has outstanding conservation, climate adaptation and/or community benefits please contact CCCFund@tnc.org to discuss.

Due: February 24, 2024

[Learn More](#)

Electrify Your Fleet Program

The VTrans has launched their Electrify Your Fleet program, offering organizations the opportunity to apply for up to twenty \$2,500 incentives. The Electrify Your Fleet program aims to transition from fossil-fueled transportation, addressing carbon emissions and promoting cleaner options. Priority is given to historically underserved communities. Eligible vehicles include electric, hybrid, bicycles, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. Participants must hold the vehicles for 24 months and demonstrate emission reduction. Learn more here and apply here!

Due: Jun 2024

[Learn More](#)

VT Fish & Wildlife Watershed Grant

The 2024 Vermont Watershed Grants Program is now accepting applications for projects that protect, restore and enhance the state's lakes, streams, rivers, and ponds, including Vermonters' ability to understand and enjoy these treasures.

Program grants are available to municipalities, local and regional government agencies, sporting clubs, non-profit organizations, and water-related citizen groups. Projects that seek to directly protect or restore fish and aquatic wildlife habitat are strongly encouraged. Examples of past funded projects include streamside vegetation restoration, the removal of old dams and replacement of culverts to improve fish passage.

For 2024, \$70,000 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, and monitoring (\$3,500)
- On-the-ground implementation (\$10,000).

Due: February 7, 2024

[Learn More](#)

Want to get in touch or
ask us a question?

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