



ACRPC Monthly Newsletter June 2025



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New Faces at the ACRPC Office (and in the Field!)

ACRPC is excited to be hosting 4 summer interns this summer! Thank you for supporting their work and if you see them at our office or in the field, feel free to say hello!

Two Transportation Interns will be conducting road erosion inventories, culvert inventories, and conducting traffic counts in towns around the region:

- **Julia Bautista** is a rising senior studying Civil Engineering at UVM from Simsbury, CT who spent last summer working with Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission.
- **Anoushka Pschorr** is a recent graduate of the Community-Centered Design program at UVM and a native of Leicester, VT who spent last summer working with the Burlington Department of Public Works.

Two Natural Resource Interns will be inventorying trails and resources as well as surveying recreational users of the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area in Ripton, Goshen, Salisbury and Leicester:

- **Sam McGarrahan** is a Geography Major at Middlebury College from Saratoga Springs, NY
 - **Liam Reynolds** is a double major in Earth and Climate Sciences and Geography at Middlebury College and originally from Westhampton, MA
-

June Full Regional Planning Commission Meeting

The upcoming ACRPC Full Commission meeting is
Wednesday, June 11
at 7:00pm

Please make sure your municipality has (re)Appointed your RPC Delegates and Alternates for the 2025-2026 term starting July 1st!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Act 181 & Future Land Use Planning

ACRPC staff have met with all municipalities in the region and are wrapping up a draft of the regional Future Land Use map. Throughout the summer ACRPC will continue meeting with communities and doing outreach. We appreciate all of your work to provide feedback and refine the maps to help guide future growth and development in Addison County!

If you have questions about the progress for your municipality, please reach out to the staff member assigned to your community:

[Adam Lougee](#)

Bristol, Goshen, Monkton, Middlebury, Starksboro, Orwell, Ripton

[Katie Raycroft-Meyer](#)

Addison, Bridport, Ferrisburgh, New Haven, Lincoln, Salisbury, Whiting

[Danelle Birong](#)

Cornwall, Panton, Shoreham, Vergennes, Waltham, Weybridge

[Rebecca Elder](#)

Leicester

Visit our Act 181
Website



OTTER CREEK BASIN
clean water service provider

Call for Proposals

ACRPC, as **Clean Water Service Provider** for the Otter Creek Basin, is seeking proposals for projects that will reduce phosphorus pollution throughout the region. Projects can include stream restoration, buffer plantings, forest road remediations, and more.

Proposals are due by **June 20th**, and ACRPC can help with the development of the application.

For more details on the proposal requirements, see the ACRPC announcement:

[ACRPC Grants & RFPs Website](#)

Workshop: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Geothermal (But Were Afraid to Ask)!

This free, public workshop is sponsored by the Middlebury Energy Committee, at which the promise of geothermal, ground-source heat pumps for heating and cooling buildings will be discussed. Geothermal systems offer an efficient, sustainable alternative to fossil fuel powered heating and cooling, and they are gaining momentum in Vermont and beyond! Attendees will hear directly from professionals with experience in the design, engineering, and deployment of these systems in residential, commercial, and public settings.

Event Details:

- **Date**—Friday, June 13, 2025
- **Time**—9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- **Location**—Unity Hall in the Congregational Church, Middlebury.
- **Refreshments**—Bagels and coffee will be served starting at 8:30 am.

The workshop will open with presentations from field experts George Martin, President of LN Consulting, and Steve Smith, Founder of SAS Architects, who will provide insights into geothermal technologies, system design considerations, and real-world applications.

A panel discussion will follow, featuring:

- Kristen Bolton, CEO, Elderly Services
- Chris Huston, Vice President of Preconstruction, ReArch
- Debbie New, Founder, Vermont Community Thermal Networks

The panel will be moderated by Alice White, Professor Emerita of Mechanical Engineering at Boston University. Panelists will discuss their experiences and challenges in implementing geothermal projects, with an emphasis on community-scale solutions and building decarbonization.

We hope you'll join us for this opportunity to learn, connect, and explore the future of geothermal energy in Vermont!

[Link for Event Registration](#)

Proposed Changes to Middlebury/Rutland Bus Route

Tri-Valley Transit (TVT) invites public feedback on proposed changes to the Rutland

Connector service which it operates in collaboration with Marble Valley Regional Transit:

1. TVT proposes to assume responsibility for the midday portion of the shared route beginning in July. Departure from Middlebury will be at 10:00am and departure from Rutland will stay the same at 11:15am. This aligns with rider preferences in a recent on-board survey. It also provides more seamless travel between Burlington and Rutland via Middlebury.
2. Additionally, TVT will discontinue its commuter runs at 5:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m.

Marble Valley Regional Transit does not plan to make any changes to its Rutland Connector commuter schedules or weekend services.

To participate in the TVT feedback process, join the Zoom meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81771197721>

Feedback will also be welcome through June 19 by calling (802) 388-2287 or emailing info@trivalleytransit.org.

Visit the TriValley Transit
Website

Updated Flood Maps and Flood Hazard Zoning Bylaws

On April 8 the USGS and FEMA held a WorkMap presentation for the release of new Special Flood Hazard Areas (1% annual flood areas, aka 100-yr floodplain). These areas will replace the maps completed in the ~1980s vintage Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which form the basis of the Flood Hazard Areas in your town zoning bylaws and often show up in your municipal plan and land use areas.

The USGS presentation is available for viewing here:

<https://floodready.vermont.gov/news/april-8th-fema-workmap-meeting>

When the new maps go into effect, FEMA requires that town bylaws meet current standards for participation in the NFIP. If your bylaws are not sufficient, residents will no longer be able to purchase nor renew flood insurance through the NFIP. **Now is the time to check and update your bylaws!**

More information can be found on the ARPC website:

Flood Mapping Website

Local Hazard Mitigation Plans

ACRPC is finalizing several Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs) for Addison County municipalities

Several municipalities are finishing plan drafts to submit to FEMA this month and request

public feedback:

- **Town of Cornwall**
- **Town of Salisbury**
- **Town of Bridport**

Those draft plans, and other recent plans from Addison County are posted on the ACRPC website:

[LHMP Website](#)



If you have comments or questions, please reach out to Andrew L'Roe, alroe@acrpc.org

Local Emergency Management Plans

Local Emergency Management Plans (LEMPs) are important resources for responding to a disaster and keeping contact information and resource lists updated and at hand. Having a current plan is also required for municipalities to receive federal preparedness funds and increased state reimbursement through the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund. .

Annual LEMP adoption will be due for update and Select Board signature after Town Meeting Day and before JUNE 1st. Many 2025 LEMPs have been submitted, but are still in the process of being approved.

This year, VEM Regional Coordinator Harry Schoppmann is reaching out to municipal officials about updating and adopting LEMPs. If you have questions, please reach out to Harry at (Harry.Schoppmann@vermont.gov)

GRANT & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

2025 Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program

VTrans has released a call for proposals for grants to fund bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Program goal is to provide safe and convenient facilities for those Vermonters who desire alternative transportation opportunities. Funding is available for large and small scale construction and for scoping studies.

Applications are due July 11th

[Bicycle & Pedestrian Grant Information](#)



Vermont Council on Rural Development

Village Trust Initiative (VTI), second application round

Your village is an essential part of both your community, Vermont's identity, and its future. The Village Trust Initiative is a new program offering expertise and funding to help 20 small towns create or bolster a local community trust organization and take on a transformational revitalization project in the village. These projects could be the revitalization of a general store, the creation of a community center, improvement of accessibility of an old town hall, or renovation of a large historic home into village-scale housing. There are many possibilities, so bring your creativity and vision to the table!

The Village Trust Initiative is offered by the Preservation Trust of Vermont (PTV) in partnership with the **Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD)** and the **Vermont Community Foundation (VCF)**. They'll be holding a Zoom webinar on June 9th at noon with information about the program and application process

Applications for the 2025 Village Trust Initiative Community Cohort will open July 7th and are due September 5th at 5pm, 2025. To learn more and apply, visit: ptvermont.org/village-trust-initiative or contact Kaziah Haviland at kaziah@vtrural.org.

[Village Trust Initiative Website](#)

Transportation Planning Grants

ACRPC will be soliciting applications for Transportation Planning Grants in July from the communities we serve.

If you think your community has a project that might fit, please reach out to Mike Winslow (mwinslow@acrpc.org; 802-578-9999) to discuss

Opportunities



**Build a Better Project
Training Series**



**Addison County
Town Clerks & Offices**

Would your office benefit from

Dates and topics:

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – Framing Your Case through Storytelling

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 – Developing Project Schedules

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 – Building a Budget

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 – Recovering from Setbacks

[VLCT info & registration](#)

having access to a large-format scanner to digitize new land use maps and other large items for your municipality?

The ACRPC is considering ways we might provide **shared resources and shared costs.**

If you are interested potential use of a scanner and/or can think of other shared resources that would support your municipal office, we want to hear from you!

Please email Rebecca at relder@acrpc.org with your interest and ideas.

Want to get in touch or ask us a question?

[Send Us A Message](#)

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