



Northwest Regional Planning Commission

155 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT 05478

Phone: 802-524-5958/800-564-5958 Fax: 802-527-2948 www.nrpcvt.com

Shoreline Stabilization Workshops

This June and July NRPC co-sponsored four shoreline stabilization workshops in Grand Isle, Franklin, Chittenden and Addison Counties, in response to Spring 2011's historic flooding, which caused many Lake Champlain property owners to lose much of their shorelines to erosion due to the unusually high waters.

The interactive workshops, attended by over 70 people, brought the public together with experts in erosion, water quality and planning. The focus was to use visual means to help property owners understand what caused the erosion and how they could achieve long-term, sustainable stabilization solutions using fully or partially-vegetated designs. These workshops built on the success of NRPC's 2006 Shoreline Stabilization Handbook and were sponsored by the Agency of Natural Resources (VANR)

Stay tuned for additional news on this topic; one more shoreline stabilization workshop will be taking place this Fall. Further, NRPC has applied for funding from VANR's Ecosystem Restoration Program to provide small technical assistance and construction grants to the Lake Champlain property owners most affected by shoreline erosion in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties, and we are very hopeful that we will be able to offer continued assistance in this area.

For more information, contact: Katelin Brewer-Colie, Regional Planner - kbrewercolie@nrpcvt.com or 802-524-5958.



Energy Fair

October 1st 2011

Northwest Farmers Market,

Taylor Park, St. Albans

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Energy, Environment, Community

- ☛ Weatherization Tips
- ☛ Demos
- ☛ Vendors
- ☛ Farmers' & Craft Market
- ☛ Energy-efficient products for Business, Home & Farm
- ☛ Much More!

Stop by to see us...

To become a vendor call Allison Stori at Northwest Regional Planning Commission at 802-524-5958 or astori@nrpcvt.com

2012 Municipal Park-and-Ride Grant Program

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is soliciting proposals for the creation of small Park-and-Ride Facilities in Vermont communities. Requirements for the proposed facility include that it must:

- ☛ Be on municipal or state owned land;
- ☛ Be near or on a state highway;
- ☛ Be available to commuters on a daily basis year round;
- ☛ Provide parking for a minimum of 10 vehicles; and
- ☛ Be owned and maintained by the local municipality.

Applications and additional information can be found on-line at: <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/parknride/> Applications are due prior to August 19, 2011. A total of \$300,000.00 is available state-wide for this grant program. If your community has questions or would like assistance preparing an application, please contact Bethany Remmers at 802-524-5958 or bethany@nrpcvt.com.



Natural Resource Planning Webinar

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department continues its summer training series for regional planning commission staff and interested town planners on natural resource-related issues. NRPC is hosting these webinars – join us in our conference room at 155 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT on August 17, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. The topic of this webinar is “Subdivision Trends in Vermont.”

Vermont Natural Resources Council recently studied Grand List data from 2003 and 2009 to establish a database of parcels of land in the state, compiled by class size, to quantify the extent of subdivision over the last decade, and the degree to which subdivision is affecting the long-term viability of forestland in Vermont. The study highlights recent changes to parcel size and ownership patterns, implications for land use planning, forest management and conservation, and provides recommendations for future action to track and address subdivision patterns in Vermont. Additionally, eight towns were studied in detail to determine whether certain zoning or subdivision policies promote or discourage viable parcel sizes for resource management. Participants will be able to access an interactive webpage which provides statewide maps and subdivision and land classification trend information for every municipality in Vermont.

If you would like more information on this webinar or have questions, please contact Katelin Brewer-Colie at 802-524-5958 or kbrewercolie@nrpcvt.com.

FY2012 Municipal Planning Grant

For FY2012, the Department of Economic, Housing and Community Development (DEHCD) will grant approximately \$400,000 to municipalities to promote community planning, revitalization and development activities that maintain Vermont's land use goal of compact settlements separated by rural lands.

The Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) program funds a wide range of municipal planning projects as allowed by 24 V.S.A. §4306 (b). This year, projects that promote smart growth will be given priority. These may include bylaw updates, planning for downtown, village center, growth center or neighborhoods and municipal plans and updates that further smart growth as well as economic development planning.

The maximum grant amount is \$15,000 (or \$25,000 for consortia). As initiated last year, applicants are now required to provide a cash match for any grant request over \$8,000 (or \$15,000 for consortia). Projects requesting \$8,000 or less will require no matching funds.

Grant funds are regionally apportioned, based on the percentage of municipalities with confirmed planning processes within each of the 11 Regional Planning Commission (RPC) regions. Eligible municipalities compete within their region for grant funding. Funding decisions are made by the DEHCD Commissioner, based on the competitive criteria listed under Grant Selection Process below. Low scoring applications will not be funded.

If you have any question about this year's MPG application, contact Wendy Tudor at 802-828-5249 or wendy.tudor@state.vt.us. All MPG information, instruction and the link to the online application is available at: <http://www.dhca.state.vt.us/Planning/GMS/OnlineApplication2012.htm>. NRPC staff can assist with the application process; please call the office to request assistance.



Bicycle the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

Join Rail Trail Council members Phyllis Tiffany and Don Mueller in bicycling the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail from The Abbey Restaurant in Sheldon to St. Albans and return on Friday, August 5th. Distance: 22 miles round trip. Duration: approx. 4 hours.

On Saturday, August 6th, the trip will be from The Abbey Restaurant in Sheldon to Richford and back. Distance: 30 miles round trip. Duration: approx. 4.5 hours.

Level of difficulty: easy. Trail surface: crushed stone (not suitable for narrow or racing tires). Bring your own bicycle/helmet, lunch/refreshments. For both outings, meet at The Abbey Restaurant parking area on Route 105 in Sheldon. Leaving promptly at 9 a.m.

Rain dates are Friday, August 19th and Saturday, August 20th.

Organized by the Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council. For more information or to RSVP, contact Cynthia at (802) 933-8851 or cynthiascott@myfairpoint.net.

NRPC AUGUST CALENDAR

August 10th, 5:30pm, Policy/Project Review Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

August 11th, 7:00pm, Transportation Advisory Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

August 18th, 3:00pm, Brownfields Steering Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

August 24th, 7:00pm, NRPC Board Mtg., WIB Training Facility, Precision Lane, Swanton



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