



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

Inside This Issue



Vermont Disaster Assistance/Hazard Mitigation Guide 1



Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail Photo Contest 1



Environmental Protection Process 2



Mitigation Grant Workshops 2



Energy Efficiency & Weatherization Programs 3



List of Commissioners 3



NRPC Staff 3



TMDL Small Group Meetings 4



NRPC Calendar 4

Vermont Disaster Assistance/Hazard Mitigation Guide

Public Assistance: FEMA reimbursement for eligible damage to public infrastructure sustained during Tropical Storm Irene:

- ☛ Request for Public Assistance (RPA) forms due to FEMA on October 17, 2011.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) (<http://vem.vermont.gov/programs/mitigation>): A program providing grants to state and local governments for long-term hazard mitigation measures (typically less than \$250,000). HMGP grants are available statewide (administered through VEM) and eligible projects do not need to be related to recent storm damage.

FEMA Declaration #	Short Name	Letters of Intent Due to VEM	Application Deadline
DR-1995/4001	Spring 2011 Floods	11/04/11	03/16/2012*
DR-4022	Tropical Storm Irene	12/30/11	01/20/2012*

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) & Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) (<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pdm/index.shtm>): Nationally-competitive mitigation grant programs, typically considered for larger projects.

FEMA Declaration #	Application Deadline
DR-1995/4001	11/04/2011

*If you are going to apply for the HMGP you may want to attend one of the Mitigation Grant Workshops. For more information on these workshops look on page 2 of this newsletter.

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail Photo Contest

The deadline for submissions to the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail 2011 photo contest is 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 28. See website www.mvrailtrail.com for details or call 933-8851. Please send submissions to Rail Trail Photo Contest, 155 Lake St., St. Albans, VT 05478.



Environmental Protection Process

Notice of Public Hearings

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and Vermont Natural Resources Board are exploring ways to improve Vermont's environmental protection processes (Act 250, ANR/DEC) in order to make recommendations to the Legislature in January 2012. A crucial part of this inquiry is listening to Vermonters, and the Board and Agency will therefore be holding public hearings around the state in order to hear comments and suggestions.

Five hearings will be held in October from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the following days and places:

October 6	St. Albans	Town Hall Board Room	579 Lake Road
October 11	Williston	Williston Central School Auditorium	195 Central School Drive
October 18	St. Johnsbury	Catamount Arts Building Cabaret Room (downstairs)	115 Eastern Avenue
October 20	Rutland	Asa Bloomer Building 2 nd Floor Conference Room	88 Merchants Row
October 27	Brattleboro	Brattleboro Union High School Multipurpose Room	131 Fairground Road

The goal of these meetings is to hear your comments on the following:

- ☛ How can each permit process best assure predictability and timely response?
- ☛ Should the process be the same for a routine (e.g. wastewater or stormwater) environmental permit as it is for a more complex permit (such as an Act 250 permit for a large project)?
- ☛ How can each permit process best assure transparency and citizen input?
- ☛ What permit processes can be consolidated?
- ☛ How can duplication in the permit process be avoided?
- ☛ How can expenses of the permit process be lowered?
- ☛ Are there other aspects of the environmental protection process that we should discuss?



Written comments may also be submitted through our webpage: <http://www.nrb.state.vt.us/news.htm>.

Please let us know if you have any questions. You can reach the Board at 802-828-3309 or Ron.Shems@state.vt.us, and the Agency at 802-241-3600 or Deb.Markowitz@state.vt.us.

Mitigation Grant Workshops

For the municipal officials whom intend to submit a grant application, Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) is conducting comprehensive Mitigation Grant Workshops on the following dates:

Tuesday, October 4: Morrisville Town Offices
 43 Portland Street
 Morrisville
 Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October. 5: Rutland RPC
 67 Merchants Row- Opera House
 Rutland
 Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

A FEMA representative will also be in attendance to help answer any questions after the presentation. The workshop will cover the FEMA funded mitigation grant programs, with an emphasis on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). All towns which intend to submit an HMGP application are encouraged to attend this important workshop.

Energy Efficiency & Weatherization Programs

Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Home Energy Efficiency

Learn how your home can be more energy efficient. Save on your home energy costs. Take advantage of financial incentives to weatherize your home – opportunity to qualify for energy efficiency incentives and rebates through DIY Pilot Program.

Weatherization Skillshop

Date: October 22, Saturday

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Northwest Technical Center, St. Albans

Cost: \$150 - includes training safety gear, a \$150 energy audit certificate from Efficiency Vermont, a foam gun and a copy of the Homeowner's Handbook to Energy Efficiency

Register at www.weatherizationskillshop.com or call toll free 888-514-2151.

Or contact Marilyn Savoy at Northwest Technical Center (802) 5276513 or msavoy@fcsvt.org.

This program is designed to assist individuals with basic handyperson skills get access to the tools and technology they need to undertake do it yourself home energy efficiency improvements. Learn building science basics, evaluate your home's needs, choose the right materials and tools for your project, and use materials properly and safely. See how-to demonstrations; participate in hands-on skill building to make money saving home improvements.

The weatherization skillshop (tools and materials provided) covers the following topics:

Attic Air-Sealing and Insulation – Techniques for sealing air leaks and insulating. Tools: caulk guns, foam guns, shears, measuring tape, knife, insulation machine.

- ☛ Materials – caulk, single-part spray foam, attic hatches, flashing, cellulose insulation and other insulation techniques.

Windows and Doors - Techniques for finding air leaks and sealing drafts.

- ☛ Tools - caulking guns, screw drivers, hack saw, measuring tape, knife
- ☛ Materials – caulk, weather stripping, door sweeps. Sash locks, window sealing kit

Basement Air-Sealing and Insulation – Techniques for finding air leaks and moisture issues in basements, insulating sills and sealing ducts.

- ☛ Tools – caulking guns, screw drivers, hack saw, measuring tape, knife
- ☛ Materials – caulk, single-part spray foam, rigid foam insulation and other insulation techniques

Participants will:

- ☛ Receive a professional home energy audit
- ☛ Participate in home weatherization skills training
- ☛ Work with support of certified energy auditor to perform the work
- ☛ Be eligible to receive up to \$2,500 in incentives from Efficiency Vermont upon successful completion (\$1000 guaranteed for achieving minimum performance levels). These incentives are in addition to up to \$1500 federal tax credit.

Northwest Regional Board of Commissioners

Alburgh Town:	Terry Tatro Barbara Baker
Alburgh Village:	Andrea Beaderstadt One Vacant Seat
Bakersfield:	Nancy Hunt Dennis DeBevec
Berkshire:	Claude Charron Richard Ross
Enosburg Falls:	Richard Roberge Michael Manahan
Enosburgh:	Ronald Duso Lloyd Touchette
Fairfax:	Randy Devine Colleen Steen
Fairfield:	Marilyn Savoy Jason Booth
Fletcher:	Bruce Douglas One Vacant Seat
Franklin:	Doug Clark Clark Hubbard
Georgia:	Jerry Baitz Kirk Waite
Grand Isle:	David Gelinias David Borthwick-Leslie
Highgate:	Pete Paquette Tom Racine
Isle La Motte:	Sylvia Jensen Paul Hinman
Montgomery:	Barry Kade Darlene Marier
North Hero:	One Vacant Seat One Vacant Seat
Richford:	Melissa Wells Harold Foote
St Albans City:	Jeff Young Lazarus Scangas
St Albans Town:	John Gray Paul Larner
Sheldon:	Patrick Howrigan Greg Stebbins
South Hero:	Michael Quernsey Bob Buermann
Swanton Town:	Harold Garrett Robert Manning
Swanton Village:	Christopher Leach Neal Speer

NRPC Staff

Executive Director
Catherine Dimitruk

Assistant Director
Bethany Remmers

Office Administrator
Amy Adams

Senior Planner
Greta Brunswick

Regional Planner
Katelin Brewer-Colie

Emergency Planner
Allison Stori

GIS Technician
Emily Hubbard

TDML Small Group Meetings

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC) are jointly holding a series of six meetings to discuss progress on the Lake Champlain Phosphorus cleanup plan, technically referred to as the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The first round of meetings will be from October 4-6, 2011. A second series of meetings, focusing on the southern half of the watershed and the role of statewide conservation organizations, is scheduled for November 14-18, 2011.

These meetings are the next step in gathering stakeholder input on practices, policies, and funding commitments necessary to achieve phosphorus pollution load reductions required by the TMDL. The meetings will also explore additional actions that should be taken if certain nonpoint source actions are not implemented according to the established timeline. Participants will also hear from a technical team tasked with updating and analyzing watershed and lake modeling data. These meetings will build on progress described in the Revised Implementation Plan for the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL, dated January 15, 2010.

Meetings are open to the public, and space may be limited, so please RSVP to ensure that space is arranged accordingly. To RSVP for a particular meeting of interest, please contact by e-mail: Michaela Stickney, VTDEC Lake Champlain Basin Coordinator, michaela.stickney@state.vt.us.

1. Tuesday October 4, 10am – 12pm

Agricultural Sector

Winooski NRCD

617 Comstock Rd, Suite 1, Berlin, VT
(802) 828-4493 Ext. 113

2. Tuesday October 4, 3-5pm

Northern Municipality Sector

Northwest RPC

155 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT
(802) 524-5958

3. Wednesday October 5, 11:30am-1:30pm

Business Sector

Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of
Commerce & Greater Burlington Industrial
Corporation

60 Main Street, #100, Burlington, VT
(802) 863-3489

4. Wednesday October 5, 5:30-7:30pm

Nonprofit/Mid-lake Watershed Group Sector

ECHO/Leahy Center

1 College St., Burlington, VT
(802) 864-1848

5. Thursday October 6, 10am-12pm

Northern Lake Committee Sector

Lake Champlain Basin Program
54 West Shore Rd., Grand Isle, VT
(802) 372-3213

6. Thursday October 6, 2-4pm

Stormwater/Urban Sector

Lake Champlain Committee
208 Flynn Avenue, Building 3,
Studio 3F, Burlington, VT
(802) 658-1414

NRPC OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct. 12th, 5:30pm, Policy/Project Review Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

Oct. 13th, 7:00pm, Transportation Advisory Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

Oct. 20th, 3:00pm, Brownfields Steering Committee Mtg., NRPC Conference Room

Oct. 26th, 7:00pm, NRPC Board Mtg., WIB Training Facility, Precision Lane, Swanton



155 Lake Street
Saint Albans, VT 05478