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Quarterly Newsletter – Autumn
2019

Northfield Water Street Stormwater Mitigation Construction Project Complete



Northfield Water Street Stormwater Mitigation Project Complete

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC), in partnership with the Town of Northfield, Watershed Consulting Associates (WCA), Aldrich & Elliot (A&E), and G&N Excavation has completed the stormwater mitigation project on Water Street in Northfield, VT.

Through funding provided by the Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program at the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, CVRPC retained WCA and A&E to complete a final design and to oversee construction at the site. G&N Excavation of Fayston was also retained by CVRPC to install new stormwater pipes and catch basins along Union Brook Road and Water Street and to construct an underground infiltration chamber system. The construction began in June and was completed in October of 2019 assisted by the Town of Northfield.

The concept of the project began in 2014 from the Northfield Village Stormwater Master Plan that identified stormwater treatment along the banks of the Dog River. Subsequently, the Town acquired land across the street from the river via the FEMA buyout program where three houses were historically flooded, enabling the treatment of more stormwater within an underground system.

The infiltration system is completely underground and the finished land will now be green space for the Town.

Stormwater from nine acres of impervious surfaces that used to run down Union Brook Road and enter the Dog River from the surrounding neighborhood is now absorbed into this lot resulting in a decrease in sediment and phosphorus loading. This project ties into statewide efforts to reduce phosphorus loading to Lake Champlain, which results in algal blooms unhealthy to both aquatic

species and humans.

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission assists its member municipalities to provide effective local government and work cooperatively to address regional issues. The Commission also works with area non-profits, other regional organizations, State and Federal agencies, and the public to implement projects and programs tailored to Central Vermont and statewide needs.

Welcome to the Team



CVRPC would like to welcome two new team members!

Nick Kramer, from Corinth, joined us as an AmeriCorps VISTA Member in August. Nick is involved in a variety of projects related to poverty alleviation in the area. He supports staff in their areas of focus on issues related to energy use, affordable housing, childcare accessibility, public

transportation and communications infrastructure.

Grace Vinson, from Essex Junction, stepped in as our new Planner in November. Grace assists municipalities in land use planning as well as emergency management. She staffs the Local Emergency Planning Committee #5 and is a Certified Flood Plain Manager (CFM).



We are excited to have them both join our team.



Revitalizing All Marshfield–Plainfield ("RAMP") – Fall 2019 Update

Photo & Article Credit to Vermont Council on Rural Development

Over 120 Marshfield and Plainfield residents came together through the Model Communities program to consider the future of their two towns and how they can collectively rally to maintain the vibrancy of both places while also tackling climate change.

From this process, the residents created "Revitalizing All Marshfield and Plainfield," or RAMP, consisting of four Task Forces that are working to build a farm and food network, strengthen the two village centers, improve and promote different transportation choices, and transform energy usage.

On October 9th, the RAMP Energy Task Force hosted a workshop and launched a campaign to promote modern wood heating. Efficiency Vermont helped to promote the event as part of this fall's "Button Up" campaign. The Task Force even negotiated special discounts from area wood and pellet stove dealers, and these are on top of great incentives already available from Efficiency Vermont, the Clean Energy Development Fund, and Washington Electric Coop. This effort captures the strength of the Model Communities program – bringing motivated local residents together with partners like Efficiency Vermont, Clean Energy Development Fund, and VT Forest, Parks, and Recreation to effectively engage communities about opportunities in the climate economy.

Winter Weather Safety

With winter right around the corner, it is important to prepare for severe weather, such as snow and blizzards, sleet, freezing rain, ice, ice jam flooding, and extended power outages at home and when travelling.



First and foremost, be aware of upcoming storms. Pay attention to the National Weather Service Burlington website (<https://www.weather.gov/btv>) and don't travel unless you need to during a storm. In addition, VT Alert is a free platform operated by the state to alert residents of emergencies. To sign up, visit <https://vem.vermont.gov/vtalert> and follow the links.

Emergency preparedness should start at home. Make sure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly and have working batteries. Gather supplies, such as canned food and bottled water (one gallon per person per day, and more for pets, for at least 3 days), medications, infant and pet supplies (such as special formulas or foods), flashlights and extra batteries, extra cell phone battery, hand crank radio, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, and money. Know where your town shelters are in case you can't stay in your house, and keep your gas tank full (or your battery charged). Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning by using generators properly and only outside, and never heat your home with an oven. It is also important to check on neighbors.

For vehicle and travel safety, it is important to winterize your vehicle by putting snow tires on, and checking fluid levels and lights before the season begins. Make sure to have jumper cables, bottle of windshield wiper fluid, ice scraper, and phone charger in your vehicle. In case your vehicle becomes stuck, it is good to also have flares, blankets, and cat litter or sand to help with tire traction. Roadside safety kits can also be purchased in many retail stores. Never drive through flood water. Six inches of water can cause a vehicle to lose control and possibly stall, and a foot of water can carry most vehicles. If you are travelling, make sure you share plans with friends or family and check in regularly.

For more information and detailed lists for emergency kits, visit <https://www.ready.gov>, and for winter weather, visit <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

Winter Safety Poster

Article Credit to BCRC

Congratulations on 15 Years of Service

CVRPC's Board Chairman Laura Hill-Eubanks recently attended a CVRPC staff meeting to award Dan Currier with a certificate of recognition for 15 years of service.



Laura thanked Dan for his long service and all the great work he has done for the Commission. She often hears from the communities what a pleasure Dan is to work with. She noted that she has worked with many different employees in her career and that he was among the best of them, and she hopes he will continue to work at CVRPC for many more years to come. The staff here at CVRPC is in full agreement with Laura!

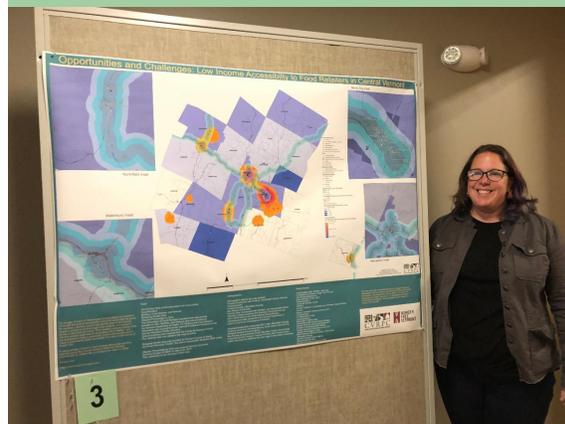
CVRPC Commissioners

Barre City – Janet Shatney
Barre Town – Byron Atwood
Berlin – Robert Wernecke
Cabot – Amy Hornblas
Calais – John Brabant
Duxbury – Alan Quackenbush
East Montpelier – Julie Potter
Fayston – Karl Klein
Marshfield – Robin Schunk
Middlesex – Ron Krauth
Montpelier – Marcella Dent
Moretown – Dara Torre
Northfield – Laura Hill-Eubanks
Orange – Lee Cattaneo
Plainfield – Bram Towbin
Roxbury – Gerry D’Amico
Waitsfield – Don La Haye
Warren – Alison Duckworth
Washington – Peter Carbee
Williamstown – Richard Turner
Woodbury – Michael Gray
Worcester – Bill Arrand



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Grace Vinson
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