

Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF)

For more information and live links direct your browser to:

tinyurl.com/eraf2014

ERAF provides State funding to match Federal Public Assistance after federally-declared disasters. Eligible public costs are reimbursed by federal taxpayers at 75%. For disasters after October 23, 2014, the State of Vermont will contribute an additional 7.5% toward the costs. For communities that take specific steps to reduce flood damage the State will contribute 12.5% or 17.5% of the total cost.

What is needed?

12.5% - eligible communities have adopted four mitigation measures:

1. National Flood Insurance Program (participate or have applied);
2. Town Road and Bridge Standards (annually certify adopted standards that meet or exceed the standards in the current: 2014-2016 *VTrans Orange Book: Handbook for Local Officials*);
3. Local Emergency Operations Plan
(Adopt annually after town meeting and submit before May 1);
4. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
(The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan requirement can be satisfied if the draft plan has been submitted to FEMA Region 1 for review).

17.5% - eligible communities also:

5. Protect River Corridors from new encroachment; or, protect their flood hazard areas from new encroachments and participate in the FEMA Community Rating System.

After a declared disaster the damage to public infrastructure including roads and culverts may approach a million dollars. Here is how the cost of damage will be carried by federal, state, and municipal taxpayers:

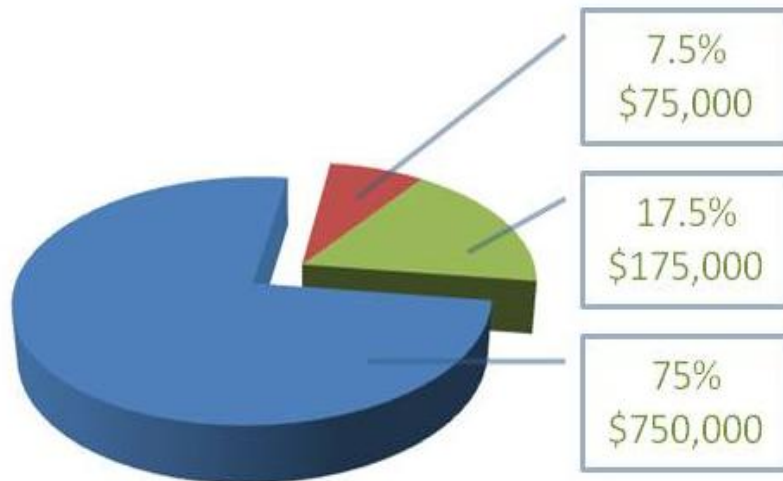
	7.5% ERAF Rate	12.5% ERAF Rate	17.5% ERAF Rate
Federal Share	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
State Share	\$75,000	\$125,000	\$175,000
Municipal Share	\$175,000	\$125,000	\$75,000
100% of \$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

What does my community need to do?

Visit tinyurl.com/eraf2014 to find out what your community has already done.

How do we update our bylaws to protect River Corridors and participate in the National Flood Insurance Program?

Contact the [VT DEC Floodplain Manager](#) for your [region](#) and your planner at the [Regional Commission](#).



How do we update and certify our Town Road and Bridge standards?

The current [2014 - 2016 VTrans Orange Book](#) is online. The Select Board adopts and certifies the standards. Contact [VTrans District Staff](#) or your planner at the [Regional Commission](#) for help and more information.

How do we adopt an approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan?

Support for your Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is available through the [Regional Commission](#) and other consulting planners.

How do we update our Local Emergency Operations Plan?

The Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) needs to be updated after Town Meeting and submitted before May 1. Contact your [Regional Commission](#) for help and more information.

Who administers ERAF?

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) manages Public Assistance funds and tracks the eligibility of individual municipalities for State matching funds.

Who can I call or e-mail directly for help and more information?

Milly Archer, VLCT Municipal Assistance Center, (802) 229-9111, marcher@vlct.org

For more information read:

[Flood Damage Mitigation Incentives for Municipalities under the New ERAF Rule](#), A summary of ERAF from the November, 2012, *VLCT News*. www.vlct.org