



Weekly News Roundup April 27, 2020 - May 4, 2020

Visit our Website

Upcoming Events

Planning & Zoning Roundtable

May 6, 2020 - 9:00 am

CVRPC is holding a Planning and Zoning Roundtable to hear from the Department of Environmental Conservation Permit Specialist Pete Kopsco about State-level permitting, and situations when projects should be elevated to the State Permit Specialist. CVRPC will also provide an update on COVID-19 considerations for zoning permits, public hearings, and coordinating applicant assistance.

As always, there will be plenty of time for questions for our presenter, Pete Kopsco, and CVRPC staff, as well as general discussion as a group.

Please RSVP to maia@cvregion.com and send questions you'd like to see addressed so we know who to expect, and how to best utilize our time together. The meeting log-in information can be found [here](#).

Save the Date(s) - Town Leadership and Management Roundtable

CVRPC will be holding a Town Leadership and Management Roundtable for Selectboards, Town Managers and Town Administrators related to COVID-19 and looking to the future. Two sessions (same agenda) will be held to accommodate evening and daytime availability. **Wednesday 5/6 – 6:00 to 8:00 pm and Friday 5/8 – 2:00 to 4:00 pm**. An agenda will be available soon. Contact Nancy Chartrand, chartrand@cvregion.com, if you'd like to recommend specific topics for discussion.

2020 VT Walk/Bike Summit Postponed to October 16

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the VT Walk/Bike Summit is postponed until October 16, 2020. The [event website](#) will be updated when more details are available.

Community News

Hunger Free Vermont Opportunities

Hunger Free Vermont is looking to fill two positions: a Food Security Specialist, and an AmeriCorps position. Both would be helping out with the Hunger Councils - more details on their website: <https://www.hungerfreevt.org/employment>

Bridge Deck Replacements & Exit Work - I-89 in Berlin

On Monday, 5/4 the contractor will be on the interstate installing construction signs. Motorists can expect traffic to be reduced to one lane on both Northbound and Southbound lanes of travel during sign installation. After signs have been installed, the crew will begin work on Crosstown Road to finish installing protective measures on the underside of the Northbound bridge (Bridge 37N). Intermittent alternating one-way traffic patterns will be in effect.

A second crew will begin shoulder work at the Exit 7 Southbound on/off ramps. Motorists can expect flaggers onsite to help with the flow of traffic and to help keep traffic at appropriate speeds within active construction activities. Short periods of stoppages will occur in order for the contractor to move equipment and materials in and out of construction zone.

In order to safely complete work on the interstate, traffic will be reduced to one lane of travel in both Northbound and Southbound lanes of travel. Lane closures will be a daily occurrence, and will be removed at the end of each work day.

Efficiency Vermont Utility Savings Tips

Efficiency Vermont can provide guidance over the phone on how you can reduce your energy use and cost at home. While most of us are staying home, our energy use may creep up – which mean's additional utility costs. Call them to discuss with us how you can reduce your home energy use with tips and actionable items you can take right now. 888-921-5990 or visit www.encyvermont.com

Electric usage chart - <https://www.encyvermont.com/tips-tools/tools/electric-usage-chart>

How to lower home energy use - <https://www.encyvermont.com/tips-tools/guides/how-to-lower-your-monthly-electricity-costs>

Renter's guide - <https://www.encyvermont.com/tips-tools/guides/the-renters-guide-to-energy-savings>

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Updates from Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program

- **Updated EAB Infestation Map:** New detections of EAB in Plainfield, VT have expanded the current infested area in Central VT. Two new detections in Sullivan County New Hampshire have also created infested areas that extend into VT.
- **EAB Budgets:** Has your community passed a budget to manage EAB? Let FPR know with this [short survey](#).
- **EAB Awareness Week:** Officially moved to Sept. 12-19, 2020, but your community may select another date. Check out the toolkit for resources to share within your communities.
- **Purple Trap Monitoring:** FPR is currently determining the best strategy for deploying purple traps for monitoring EAB this season and will share plans as soon as they are determined.
- **EAB Trailhead Signs:** Up to 3 laminated signs are available for communities to post at trailheads or public places. Email Ginger at Ginger.Nickerson@uvm.edu to request. First come, first served.

COVID 19 Updates

Health Department & CDC Links

News is changing frequently. For the most up to date information regarding COVID19, please link to the [Vermont Health Department](#) or the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#).

News from CVRPC

[CVRPC Municipal Updates](#) are available on our website with COVID-19 resources. Check back often as they are updated every few days.

If your community has a need, we can assist you with, please contact us at CVRPC@cvregion.com -

Stay Safe!

A Vermont Guide to Shared Streets During COVID-19 - Local Motion

Local Motion has developed a resource for communities considering "[rebalancing streets](#)" to address safe, socially distanced, walking and biking during the COVID-19 crisis.

[READ MORE >>](#)

COVID-19 and the Food System: Immigrants, Local Food and Resilience

Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman, discussing the future of food -**Saturday, May 2nd 5pm** "Virtual Program" by Capital City Grange.

The pandemic has shown us weaknesses in our current system: U.S. farms are having difficulties getting the immigrant workers they need. Large food facilities like meat-packing plants are shutting down amidst spikes of COVID-19. Long distance supply chains seem more fragile than ever. What are sensible policy responses to building a more resilient, self-sufficient food system? As individuals, what are some of the best things for us to be planting to feed ourselves and help our neighbors?

Go to the link to see how to join the program.

<http://capitalcitygrange.org/.../430-600-grange-meeting-main-...>

RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

Assistance to Firefighters Grant – COVID-19 Supplemental Program (AFG-S)

Funded under the CARES Act, this program provides \$100 million for the purchase of PPE and related supplies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. This includes reimbursement for expenditures made since January 1, 2020. Through this funding opportunity, FEMA will directly and competitively award funding to fire departments, State Fire Training Academies (SFTAs), and non-affiliated Emergency Medical Services (NAEMS) organizations. Please note, the AFG-S program is separate and distinct from FEMA's standard AFG program.

FEMA will begin accepting applications for the AFG-S program on Tuesday, April 28. The deadline for applications is May 15. Access the Notice of Funding Opportunity and technical assistance tools on the [FEMA website](#). The online AFG-S Grant Program application is available through the [AFGP FEMA Grants Outcomes \(GO\) application portal](#).

[FEMA Advisory COVID19 AFG Supplemental Final 20200423.pdf](#)
[FY 2020 AFG COVID-19 Supplemental Fact Sheet _ Approved.20200423.pdf](#)

Fire Prevention & Safety Grant

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is available for \$35 million in funding for the Fiscal Year 2019 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants, and **FEMA will begin accepting FP&S applications at 8 a.m. ET on Monday April 27, 2020. The application period will close at 5 p.m. ET on Friday, May 29, 2020**, so start planning your application now by reviewing the NOFO, Economic Hardship Waivers Information Bulletin and technical assistance tools. These tools were produced to help potential applicants begin to plan their FY19 applications ahead of the application period. These documents can be viewed on the AFGP website at www.fema.gov/fire-prevention-safety-grants and/or downloaded to your computer.

Upcoming Meetings

Please note that CVRPC will provide a video or call in option for all meetings

MAY

May 4 4:00 pm Executive Committee, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 6 9:00 am Planning & Zoning Roundtable, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 6 6:00 pm Town Leadership & Management Roundtable, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 8 2:00 pm Town Leadership & Management Roundtable, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 12 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 18 3:00 pm Executive Committee Special Meeting, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

May 14 4:00 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee, Via Technology (see agenda for details)

STAY CONNECTED

