



COVID 19 Updates & Resources

6/12/2020

CVRPC is providing this information to assist municipalities to maintain situational awareness and to plan for, respond to, and recover from the COVID 19 pandemic. CVRPC hereby grants permission for reuse and reprint of information contained in this document.

The document contains only updated information. Previous resources can be found on our website – <http://centralvtplanning.org>.

MUNICIPAL NEWS

Information has been gathered from municipal websites or provided directly to CVRPC by the municipality and updated to this [Municipal Chart](#). This information is being shared to assist municipalities with mutual response as well as service and planning ideas. Contact Nancy Chartrand, chartrand@cvregion.com with updates.

CVRPC SERVICES

CVRPC provides a variety of services related to planning, public engagement, project management and project implementation in all programmatic areas (transportation, community development, brownfields, emergency planning, energy, natural resources, etc.) and on special projects. Municipalities can contact Bonnie Waninger via email (waninger@cvregion.com) or cell (802-585-9174) to discuss how CVRPC can assist.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

AARP Vermont

Community Action Grants

The pandemic has heightened the importance of social networks and community support and services in Vermont. Apply to AARP Vermont for a [Community Action Grant](#) to make your community more livable. **The deadline to apply is Friday, 6/26/20.**

Vermont League of Cities and Towns

Municipal Borrowing

Legislature passed H.951, a bill that would provide for the state to pay interest costs that municipalities incur as a result of borrowing to cover obligations to pay education property taxes to either their school districts or the state, the latter being due on June 1. The borrowing must be attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. The state treasurer is poised to enact the program as soon as the legislation is signed. The bill states that the treasurer “shall ... begin accepting applications not later than ten days after enactment...” (The bill passed on June 2.) “Short-term borrowing costs” means interest incurred for short-term borrowing directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, including interest on letters or lines of credit, revenue anticipation notes, tax anticipation notes, and bond anticipation notes. These costs must have been incurred between March 1 and December 30, 2020. The bill includes up to \$2,700,000 from the Coronavirus Relief Fund for use in FY20 and FY21 to provide payments under the Municipal Emergency Statewide Education Property Tax Borrowing Program. Local officials should watch for an announcement from State Treasurer Pearce regarding the availability of application forms to request funding.

New COVID-19 FAQs for Municipal Operations

Updated [FAQs](#) for municipalities on recent guidance and its legal and practical effects on general municipal operations, as well as information related to municipal services such as dog licensing, access to public records, town office closures and re-openings, and processing zoning applications.

Vermont Council on Rural Development

Local Support and Community Action Team- Interim Report to the Governor

The Local Support and Community Action Team of the Governor’s Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force has released their Interim Report. This Team, led by VCRD, serves to “gather information about local initiatives, validate and vet those efforts, and provide strategies to maximize our response for the benefit of all Vermonters.” The report includes preliminary recommendations for social and economic recovery in housing, childcare, local food access, business support and recovery, and broadband. The report also includes a list of next stage action steps. [Read the report here.](#)

Additionally, VCRD [developed a webpage](#) shares best practices and other news in the Vermont community recovery. ACCD also offers the Resources for Communities page featuring municipal and community support services.

Vermont Recreation and Parks Association

Recreation Guidance

The Vermont Recreation & Parks Association [website](#) has links to recreation-related guidance from Vermont and the CDC for parks and trails, playgrounds, athletic fields, pools, fitness centers, and summer camps.

STATE UPDATES

Vermont Emergency Management

Distribution of Perishable Food Continues throughout June

Meal distributions of perishable food is continuing throughout June, but now requires the completion of a 3 question pre-registration survey. This will streamline the process of pick-up and help assess the need for these services. To register on-line visit: <https://vem.vermont.gov/pods>

Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

The USDA is hosting webinars throughout the next two weeks for producers, farmers, and ranchers beginning June 9. Agriculture producers may learn more about CFAP and how to submit additional commodities for USDA consideration through the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) process. Complete details [here](#).

Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Addendum 17, signed by Governor Scott on June 5, allows:

- Travel without the 14 day quarantine to and from counties in New York and New England with 400 or fewer active cases per 1 million people. The map of these counties will be updated every Monday by ACCD and can be seen [here](#).
- Resumption of indoor dining starting June 8 per ACCD guidance [here](#).
- Allows municipalities to issue ordinances/regulations that are more strict than ACCD.

New Guidance for Lodging

Effective June 8, lodging operations may increase occupancy limits to 50% or a total of 25 guests and staff, whichever is greater. Indoor dining will be permitted beginning June 8th with 25% occupancy limits along with social distancing and health and safety protocols. Read the guidance [here](#).

New Guidance for Organized Sports

Effective June 15, some intra-squad activities and practices can begin to take place. Group numbers, including players, coaches and officials, may not exceed 25 people. Competition between Vermont clubs (inter-squad games) is anticipated to be able to resume starting July 1, 2020. Read the guidance [here](#).

FEDERAL UPDATES

None.