Weekly News Roundup
July 6, 2020 - July 10, 2020

Upcoming Events

Is a Heat Pump Right for Your Home?
July 14, 2020 - 6:00 pm

Join Efficiency Vermont co-hosted by the Vermont Natural Resources Council and Northeastern Vermont Development Association for an informative webinar presentation on heat pump technologies. [Click Here to Register To Attend.]

Information will include: How well do they perform? What will happen to your electricity bill? Who can install them? Can you afford one? And, of course, how well do they stand up to Vermont's notoriously cold winters? Contact Ian Hitchcock at ihitchcock@vnrc.org with any questions.

Community News

Call for Nominations for Athena Award

The Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce (CVCC) has been selected by ATHENA International to be the statewide sponsor of the ATHENA Leadership Award® and the ATHENA Young Professional Award®. They are reaching out to the community for nominations. Last year, the CVCC recognized two women for their strength of leadership and commitment to service. Please consider submitting a nomination form or forms for that person or persons you think demonstrate the qualities the Athena Leadership or Athena Young Professional embrace.

More information and nomination forms can be found on the CVCC website at centralvt.com/athena-leadership-awards/.

Hunger Free Vermont Shares Food Resources for Families

Hunger Free Vermont has provided a number of resources families can use to put food on the table and support local farmers, grocers, and farmers markets.

Farmers to Families Food Box Program: In July and August, Farmers to Families food boxes containing fresh produce, dairy products, and chicken will be available at multiple daily food distribution sites throughout the state. These boxes are available to anyone who needs them. To keep wait times to a minimum, reservations will be required. To register and see the dates and locations, please visit humanresources.vermont.gov/food-help or dial 2-1-1.
**Summer Meals for Kids 18 and Under:** Kid-friendly, delicious, easy to access meals prepared following health and safety guidelines. Families throughout the state can use [this website](#) to find summer meals sites nearby.

**3SquaresVT:** If you’re curious about 3SquaresVT and whether you’re eligible, visit [vermontfoodhelp.com](http://vermontfoodhelp.com). There are a number of programs available during the summer that can help stretch your 3SquaresVT benefit even further. Individuals that receive 3SquaresVT can double their money with Crop Cash at local farmer’s markets. For every $1 you spend of 3SquaresVT benefits, you receive an additional $1 in Crop Cash [here](#).

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**COVID 19 Updates**

**Guidance for Employees Returning to Work After Testing Positive for COVID-19**

The Department of Health has issued [guidance for the safe return to work](#) of an employee who tested positive for COVID-19. It is important for employers to know that neither a negative test for COVID-19 nor a letter from the Department of Health should be required to return to work.

**News from CVRPC**

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

If your community has a need, we can assist you with, please contact us at [CVRPC@cvregion.com](mailto:CVRPC@cvregion.com) - Stay Safe!

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**RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines**

**Building Communities Grant Program**

The 2020 General Assembly and the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS), has announced the Building Communities Grants Program is funded for FY2021. This program, administered by BGS, includes the following:

1. Recreational Facilities Grant Program
2. Regional Economic Development Grant Program
3. Human Services and Educational Facilities Grant Programs.

The grants are for construction and capital improvements to support and strengthen Vermont towns and regions. Descriptions and application criteria for all three of these grant programs are available on the Department of Buildings and General Services website: [http://www.bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants](http://www.bgs.vermont.gov/commissioner/building-communities-grants). The deadline is September 15, 2020. [READ MORE>>](#)

**COVID-Economic Recovery Grants for Minority Owned Businesses**

As a result of the federal CARES act, the State of Vermont announced new Economic Recovery Grants for Vermont businesses, which includes a set-aside of $2.5 million for women-owned businesses and $2.5 million for minority-owned businesses with zero - five employees. Businesses should apply using the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD)’s Recovery Grant Resource Center at: [https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/economic-recovery-grants/application](https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/economic-recovery-grants/application)

Applications opened Monday, July 6th, and will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

**JULY**
July 14 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners, Via Technology (see agenda for details)
July 28 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee, TBD
July 30 4 pm Project Review Committee, TBD