



## Weekly News Roundup August 28, 2020

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### Upcoming Events

Visit our Website

#### **Regional Energy Committee Round Table**

September 1, 2020 | 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Join CVRPC for an evening discussion focused on regional energy committee coordination, Button Up and Efficiency Vermont opportunities, and energy data visualization. We're looking forward to hearing about what you're working on, and what you think we can collaborate regionally to pursue in the future!

Join via your computer @ <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/741359421>

You can also dial in using your phone: (872) 240-3212 | Access Code: 741-359-421

#### **What's Next for Vermont? Building Strong Communities in the New Normal**

September 1, 2020 | 1:00 - 3:30 pm

The Vermont Community Development Association invites you to join them for a virtual conference and workshop on the critical recovery challenges and opportunities facing Vermont as our communities continue to grapple with the pandemic. [Registration.](#)

#### **Washington County COVID-19 Recovery Forum: Response and Recovery to Renewal**

September 10, 2020 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm

The Local Solutions and Community Action Team established by Governor Phil Scott invites you to join a virtual COVID-19 recovery discussion to connect with others in Washington County to:

- Share challenges and ideas for community recovery and resilience as we look ahead to the coming fall/winter months.
- Connect to others working to build long-term community and economic resilience
- Meet with a "visiting team" of state, federal, business, and non-profit leaders who will share recovery strategies from across the state and ideas for resources and support

To Register Visit: [www.vtrural.org/recovery/washington](http://www.vtrural.org/recovery/washington)

#### **Agenda:**

6:30pm - Opening Session

6:40pm - Breakouts

Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation

Community Unity & Health

Housing & Homelessness

Rethinking Employment & Supporting Business Recovery

8:10pm - Closing Session

**All ARE WELCOME.** Coming together to discuss recovery strategies and build ongoing resilience is vital and your voice is critical. Registration is required: [www.vtrural.org/recovery/washington](http://www.vtrural.org/recovery/washington)  
Once you are registered, you will receive instructions to join via computer, mobile device, or phone.

Recovery Visits are hosted by the Local Support and Community Action Team of the Governor's Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force, in partnership with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, and produced by the Vermont Council on Rural Development.

## VLCT Town Fair Sept. 28 - Oct 2

Town Fair has gone virtual! The annual conference of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns which usually alternates between northern and southern Vermont is all virtual this year. The virtual event encompasses member training, annual meetings (VLCT, PACIF and VERB), and time to connect with your colleagues from across the state. [Conference Agenda](#) & [Registration](#)

## Community News

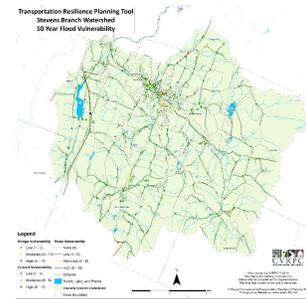


The 2020 Census ends on September 30th, please *take five minutes* at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) or call [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020) to make sure you count. Already filled out your Census form? Thank You! Now, ask your friends and family if they've done the same.

Completing the Census is a civic duty that helps ensure our democracy. Completing the Census helps ensure your taxpayer dollars come back to Vermont.

## CVRPC Completes Transportation Resilience Planning Tool

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission contracted with VTrans to input data into the Transportation Resilience Planning Tool for the Stevens Branch Watershed and to verify/present this information to towns within the watershed. The towns included Barre Town, Barre City, Berlin, Plainfield, Orange, Northfield, Washington, and Williamstown. This tool uses damage data, physical stream processes, proximity of the stream bed to the infrastructure, and travel patterns to determine the vulnerability, criticality and risk of damage to road segments and bridges or culvert crossings. This collaboration has resulted in a successful outcome with a planning tool to be used for more resilient communities. [READ MORE>>](#)



## COVID 19 Updates

### Central Vermont Tackles Connectivity Barriers for Families During COVID-19

Organizations throughout Central Vermont have been working hard to ensure connectivity for families in our region to reduce barriers to home visiting, telehealth and education resources. [READ MORE>>](#)

### Utility Bill Assistance Program Announced

Eight million dollars is available to assist Vermonters with overdue utility bills as a result of economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will provide 100% of eligible outstanding arrearages that are more than 60 days overdue for regulated utility customers with delinquent balances who may face disconnection of service. Applications will be accepted through November 30, 2020 and grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. For more information about the program visit: <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/vermont-covid-19-arrearage-assistance-program-0> or contact the Department at [psd.consumer@vermont.gov](mailto:psd.consumer@vermont.gov) or 1-800-622-4496.



## Local Government Reimbursement Grant (LGER) Applications Due September 4

LGER funds are available to reimburse units of local government (ULG) for expenses incurred due to, or as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Eligible expenses could include: hazard pay; supplies and equipment; sanitation facility alterations; overtime compensation; redirection of staff for first-response needs.

LGER funds will not reimburse funds that are covered by insurance or other funding sources, including funding provided by FEMA's Public Assistance program. ULGs can contact their Regional Planning Commissions for free assistance to identify and document eligible expenses. For assistance applying in the Central Vermont region, please contact [vinson@cvregion.com](mailto:vinson@cvregion.com). Applications close September 4, 2020. For more information visit <https://tax.vermont.gov/coronavirus/municipal-grants>

### News from CVRPC

Previously published editions of [CVRPC's Municipal Updates](#) are available on our website.

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

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### Agriculture and Working Lands Assistance Grants

Applications are now open for \$8.5 million in relief funding made available for farmers, sugar makers, meat and poultry processors, slaughterhouses, farmers markets, agricultural food products businesses, forest products businesses, and producer associations to cover losses and expenses caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency. [Apply now](#) through the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets; applications are due **October 1, 2020**.

### Grants to Preserve Historic Buildings and Barns

Vermont's historic buildings and barns are critical to our sense of place, identity, and economy. The State offers matching grants to municipalities, nonprofits, and owners of historic agricultural buildings to preserve and maintain these architectural treasures. Applications are available online for the State's [Historic Preservation Grants](#) and [Barn Preservation Grants](#) with Historic Preservation Grant applications due on October 5, 2020 and Barn Preservation Grant applications due on November 2, 2020. For more information, contact [Caitlin Corkins](#) or visit the [website](#).

### VT Diesel Emissions Reduction Grants

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has developed the Vermont Diesel Emissions Reduction Grants program, which provides technical assistance and incentive funding for projects that reduce emissions from diesel powered vehicles, engines and equipment.

Funding is available for:

- Replacement of diesel-powered heavy-duty vehicles, engines, and equipment with new diesel, alternative fuel, or electric options,
- Retrofitting with emission control technologies,
- Engine replacements,
- Clean alternative fuel conversions,
- Installation of idle reduction technologies, and
- Aerodynamic technologies and low rolling resistance tires.

The DEC is **now accepting applications** for this grant opportunity. The application **deadline is September 18, 2020**.

Here are the relevant links regarding this grant opportunity:

- RFP and Application at the Vermont Business Assistance Network (<https://www.vermontbusinessregistry.com/BidPreview.aspx?BidID=46651>)
- Additional grant details on our webpage (<http://dec.vermont.gov/air-quality/mobile-sources/diesel-emissions/vt-diesel-grant>)

**CONTACT:** please contact Maria Davies at (802) 622-4022 or at [maria.davies@vermont.gov](mailto:maria.davies@vermont.gov) with any questions. While the DEC is actively accepting applications, Maria Davies will be the single point of contact for this grant opportunity. **A meeting by conference call will be held September 2, 2020** to go over the application process and answer questions. All questions that Maria receives during the conference call and by email will be posted on the Vermont Business

Assistance Network (<http://www.vermontbusinessregistry.com/BidPreview.aspx?BidID=38823>) along with their answers.

## Upcoming Meetings

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

### **AUGUST**

Aug 31 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

### **SEPTEMBER**

Sept 1 5 pm Regional Energy Committee Roundtable, Via Technology (See above)

Sept 8 4:30 pm Municipal Plan Review Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Sept 8 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Sept 10 4 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Sept 10 6:30 pm Washington County COVID-19 Recovery Forum, Via Technology (see above)

Sept 22 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Sept 24 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD

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STAY CONNECTED

