



## Weekly News Roundup August 7, 2020

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### Upcoming Events

#### **A Road to Net Zero Energy: Vehicle Sharing and Greening Your Fleet**

August 10, 2020 | 1 PM

Is your business or municipality looking for manageable strategies to achieve its transportation energy goals? Fleet procurement policies, vehicle sharing programs, and clean vehicle technologies can help you get there. Join VT Clean Cities for a webinar covering these topics, and more! Our presenters are “ahead of the curve” – using Electric Vehicles (EV) in their own organization’s vehicle sharing programs, and will explain tips, tricks, and best practices. We’ll even feature a virtual EV ride-and-drive to demonstrate vehicle charging, and how to operate and maintain an EV. Register [here](#).

#### **Conservation Easements and Legacy Planning**

August 11, 2020 | 7-8 PM

Most private woodlands owners wish to keep their land in the family and intact into the future. Unfortunately, due to lack of planning or inadequate planning, many of these woodlands will not remain in the family in the long run. Dr. Mary Sisock, a natural resource professional and expert on land legacy planning, will discuss how planning by woodland owners can help keep woodlands and families intact through ensuring a smooth transition from one generation to the next. In a one-hour presentation, Dr. Sisock will present key planning strategies and offer information on programs and resources available to assist landowners. There will be time for Q&A. Register [here](#).

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### Community News

#### **Route 100B Bridge Closure**

A section of Route 100B in Moretown will be closed beginning August 17<sup>th</sup> to allow for bridge repair. It is expected the closure will last approximately 60 days. Detours will be necessary Route 100 to Route 2 to Route 100B or the reverse, dependent on which direction you are traveling.



#### **Northfield Seeks Economic Development Director**

The Town of Northfield is seeking to hire an Economic Development Director to support local businesses in their sustainability, growth, and expansion; to build a network within the State and region to attract potential employers and residents to Northfield; and to support the town's vision for housing and other key development priorities. The ideal candidate will have knowledge and work experience with municipal zoning and infrastructure, planning programs and processes, economic development tools and programs, and a proven successful record in economic development leadership roles. In addition, that person shall be a capable public speaker, communicating effectively with groups and individuals, engineers, architects, developers, businesses, and the general public as well as capable of establishing working relationships and networks with developers, community organizations, and business professionals. This is a part-time position at twenty-four (24) hours per week. The salary is negotiable based upon experience. A complete job description is available [here](#). To apply, please email cover letter and resume to [jschulz@northfield.vt.us](mailto:jschulz@northfield.vt.us) or mail to: Northfield Town Manager, 51 South Main Street, Northfield, VT 05663. The Town is accepting applications until the position is filled. The Town of Northfield is an equal opportunity employer.

#### **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Guide Available for Municipalities**

VLCT has recently shared the following guide created by the Local Solutions and Community Action Team of the Governor’s Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force. The [Municipal Engagement for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Guide](#) can help municipalities and local leaders expand the vibrancy of their communities and ensure that recovery benefits all Vermonters. The guide is not designed to be prescriptive, but to provide ideas that can be adapted as needed by individual municipalities.

#### **National COVID Outdoor Learning Initiative**

Green Schoolyards America is providing resources matching simple outdoor learning infrastructure design with schools who are considering that as part of their new learning plan. Please feel free to share with any potentially interested schools, or designers who might want to volunteer!



Resource documents and links to sign up for design assistance for schools and to be a volunteer are available on this page: <https://www.greenschoolyards.org/outdoor-infrastructure>; and more general information about the different aspects of the initiative can be found at: <https://www.greenschoolyards.org/covid-learn-outside>

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### COVID 19 Updates



## Science and Practices to Keep Workers Safe

Project ECHO at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) transforms the way education and knowledge are delivered. This telementoring model uses video-conferencing technology to connect participants with experts at Dartmouth-Hitchcock. ECHO® sessions use case-based learning to provide education.

As employers begin returning to more normal operations, Project ECHO has some excellent resources for businesses and employers to access.

A recording on "Science and Practices to Keep Workers Safe" can be accessed with this link: <https://med.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/past-echo-materials.html>

### 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

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### Grant Opportunity - 2021 Supporting Municipalities Through Ash Tree Management

The Urban & Community Forestry Program announces [a new grant opportunity](#) to support municipalities ready to engage in ash tree management. Applications are **due October 30, 2020** for cost-share grant funds between \$5,000 and \$15,000 that will support projects in at least one of the following categories:

- Removal of ash trees on municipally owned or managed land and replacement plantings of species other than ash
- Development and implementation of effective and/or innovative management techniques and use of ash wood from public trees
- Assessment, management planning, and active management of ash trees in high-use municipal areas such as parking areas, trailheads, and along trails in town forests or natural areas

Due to budget constraints, it is very unlikely that Vermont UCF will sponsor any other grant programs in 2021, including the Caring for Canopy grants that have historically supported local tree management programs.

Learn more about the 2021 Supporting Municipalities Through Ash Tree Management Grants [here](https://vtcommunityforestry.org/programs/financial-assistance/2021-ash-management-grants) : <https://vtcommunityforestry.org/programs/financial-assistance/2021-ash-management-grants>.

### Notice of Funding Opportunity Released for 2020 FEMA Mitigation Funding: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

A notice of funding opportunity was released for the first year of FEMA's new annual mitigation funding program, [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](#) along with the notice for the annual [Flood Mitigation Assistance \(FMA\)](#) program. The new BRIC program replaces what was previously the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program. For both programs, the application period opens September 30, 2020 with a State deadline of January 6, 2021.

#### Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

How is BRIC different from PDM: With this new program, FEMA is focusing on innovative, collaborative projects and nature-based solutions that shift away from reactive disaster spending and toward research-supported, proactive investment in community resilience. In addition to activities previously eligible under PDM, under BRIC, applicants can apply for:

- Project Scoping (previously called Advanced Assistance): funding for an alternatives analysis and to develop a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)
- Capability- and capacity-building activities: building codes activities, partnerships, project scoping, mitigation planning and planning-related activities
- Non-financial direct technical assistance: activities to build a community's capacity and capability to improve its resilience to natural hazards

Eligible Applicants: State agencies, Regional Planning Commissions and municipalities. Note: FEMA is prioritizing projects with public-private partnerships. Municipalities must have an approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan at the time of application submission.

Cost Share: 75% federal, 25% local non-federal (cash and/or in-kind); up to 90% federal share for small, impoverished communities.

#### Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA):

Eligible Projects: FMA funds must benefit an NFIP-participating community; ideally those with Repetitive Loss/Severe Repetitive Loss properties.

Cost Share: 75% federal, 25% local non-federal (cash and/or in-kind); or up to 90% for Repetitive-Loss and up to 100% for Severe-Repetitive Loss properties.

#### NOFO Overview Webinars

FEMA will offer a webinar on the FY20 NOFOs for prospective applicants. This webinar will be offered three times, and applicants may attend any session.

- Tuesday, August 18 at 2-3:30 pm
- Thursday, August 20 at 2-3:30 pm
- Tuesday, August 25 at 2-3:30 pm

You can find project fact sheets and the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) [here](#). Please email [vinson@cvregion.com](mailto:vinson@cvregion.com) if you would like more information. have project ideas for BRIC or PDM.

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## 2021 HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has announced the 2021 round of matching state grants. Funding of up to \$20,000 is available to non-profit organizations and municipalities for work on municipal buildings, historical society buildings, granges, churches, town halls, opera houses and other historic structures.



Eligible work includes restoration and repair of roofs, structural elements, foundations, windows, and other important components of historic buildings.

Grant application and manual available at: <https://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/historic-preservation-grants>. If you have any questions about the application materials, please email [caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov](mailto:caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov) or call Caitlin at 802-828-3047.

### Forest Economy Stabilization Grants

The Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation announced the opening applications for the Forest Economy Stabilization Grant program (FESG). The revenue replacement grant program, developed in response to the pandemic, supports eligible forest products businesses with grants awards from \$5,000 to \$100,000. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, and applications will be open until all funds are expended, or September 4<sup>th</sup>, whichever is first. To learn more, visit [fpr.vermont.gov/FESGrantProgram](http://fpr.vermont.gov/FESGrantProgram). If you have any questions, email us at [Forests.CovidResponse@vermont.gov](mailto:Forests.CovidResponse@vermont.gov)

#### Resources

- **Grant webpage:** Go [here](#) to learn about the grant program and to apply.
- **FAQs:** A [list of FAQs](#) to support applicants.
- **Application Manual:** An [application manual](#) to help applicants when filling out the application.
- **Technical Support:** If someone needs assistance in filling out an application, go to [VHCB's Farm and Forest Viability Program](#) and fill out the intake form.
- **Questions:** If a potential applicant has questions, they can email: [Forests.CovidResponse@vermont.gov](mailto:Forests.CovidResponse@vermont.gov)

### Upcoming Meetings

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

#### AUGUST

Aug 11 There will be no Board of Commissioners Meeting this month  
Aug 27 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD  
Aug 31 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)

#### SEPTEMBER

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 22 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting, Via Technology (See Agenda)  
Sept 24 4 pm Project Review Committee Meeting, TBD

STAY CONNECTED

