



Weekly News Roundup January 22, 2021

Visit our website

Upcoming Events

Festival of Trees

January 24 - 31, 2021

The 2021 Festival of Trees goes outdoors this year with the 2021 Festival of Trees Scavenger Hunt.

Use the Hunt to go outside and take some time to get to know the trees you see every day at your house, on your street or on a walk through Montpelier. There are three hunts available on the city website, one for your yard, another for your street and a third for the whole city. Enjoy one or all with family or friends or just solo! You'll have fun, get some exercise and learn a lot about trees!

For more information about the Tree Board's 2021 Festival of Trees and to find the Trees Scavenger Hunt go to <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1218/Festival-of-Trees>



How the Personal Becomes Professional: Unconscious Bias in the Workplace

A two-hour Implicit Bias training for employees at all levels, facilitated by Tabitha Moore.

This workshop will be offered on two dates, each of which will be limited to 50 registrations:

- Thursday, February 11th from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
- Thursday, February 18th from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

[Click to learn more and register](#)

Community News

Calais LHMP Survey- Feedback Requested

The Town of Calais is looking for help identifying local safety hazards to assist in editing the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP).

Hazard Mitigation Plans aim to develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future hazard events. Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property damage by lessening the impact of disasters. This is accomplished by identifying risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural and other disasters and developing long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future hazard events.

Hazard mitigation is most effective when implemented through a strategic, comprehensive, and long-term Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), which are reviewed and updated every 5 years. The Town of Calais, in collaboration with the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, has begun the LHMP update process and is looking for input from Calais residents to help identify hazards that impact the Town.

Please respond to the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JBCH6F9> to help inform the LHMP. Paper copies will also be available in the next few days at the Maple Corner Store, Adamant Store, East Calais Post Office, Calais Post Office and the Town Office. Please complete the survey within the next 2 weeks. Your input is greatly appreciated and will help reduce risks and damages

from future hazards. Contact Grace Vinson at vinson@cvregion.com with any questions.

“Slow the Spread” Efforts Ongoing in Vermont Despite End to Federal Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine

On January 14th, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) ended the [Federal Emerald Ash Borer \(EAB\) quarantine](#) to place more emphasis on management and biological controls to combat the pest. In Vermont, while we continue to find new areas of infestation, our forests support overwhelmingly healthy populations of ash to protect as long as possible. Bearing that in mind, we urge Vermonters to continue to follow the [“Slow the Spread” recommendations](#), which can be found on VTinvasives.org.

COVID 19 Updates

H48 Passes

In response to COVID-19 H48 has been signed by the Governor and includes in part:

- Authorizes municipalities to move the date of their 2021 annual meeting;
- Authorizes municipalities to mail out annual meeting Australian ballots to all active, registered municipal voters; and
- Authorizes the Secretary of State to order or permit supplemental elections procedures related to these 2021 annual municipal meeting provisions. More details [here](#).

Vermont Vaccine Updates—Phase 2 Begins January 25

Beginning on January 25, people who are 75 years and older and live, work, or access primary care in Vermont are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Registration is required (online or via phone). A link to make an appointment and a phone number will be added to this page: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/myvaccine> starting on Monday, January 25.

News from CVRPC

The status of many municipal offices has changed in recent weeks - please see our [Municipal Status](#) chart for the latest information (in red). If your community has a need we can assist you with, please contact us at CVRPC@cvregion.com. Previously published editions of [CVRPC's Municipal Updates](#) related to COVID-19 are available on our website. Stay Safe!

RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

Microgrants Open to Vermont Artists

The Montpelier Public Art Commission has two microgrant programs available to Vermont-based artists. The award for the first of these will be up to \$1500 for a short-term installation (0 to 5 years) anywhere within the city with no limits on the medium, size, or style. The second, titled "Picture It Big," will award \$500 to artists for the right to enlarge a digital image (up to 20' x 10') that can be hung on a downtown building for up to two years. Images for this grant can be made by any method (photography, painting, digital program, etc.) and may be of any style but must fit within the theme of "We Are All In This Together." The commission will be responsible for the printing and hanging of the images. Submissions are [due March 12](#). To learn more about the guidelines check out the RFPs which have been posted on the commission's webpage - <https://www.montpelier-vt.org/1216/Request-for-Proposals-RFPs>

New Grant Funds Available from the 1772 Foundation

In cooperation with the Preservation Trust of Vermont, the 1772 Foundation is pleased to announce that funding in the form of 1:1 matching grants of \$5,000 – 10,000 is available for the following historic preservation projects in Vermont:

- Exterior painting, finishes and surface restoration
- Installation or upgrading fire detection, lightning protection and security systems
- Repairs to/restoration of porches, roofs and windows
- Structural foundation and sill repair/replacement
- Chimney and masonry repointing

Letters of Interest are due February 15, 2021. [Visit PTV's website](#) for more information and to apply.

EPA's 2021 DERA National Grant Program

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting applications nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions. Priority for funding is given to fleets operating in areas designated as having poor air quality and fleets which service goods movement facilities. Further priority for funding is given to projects with outcomes that benefit affected communities, those that engage affected communities in the design and performance of the project, and those which demonstrate the ability to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions after the project has ended. Awards will be selected and managed by EPA's ten regional offices. EPA anticipates 2 to 8 cooperative agreement awards per EPA region, subject to the availability of funds, the quality of applications received, and other considerations. Please visit www.epa.gov/dera/national#rfa for questions and answers and additional details about the following information sessions:

Funding Opportunity Information Sessions

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. (ET)

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. (ET)

Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. (ET)

Upcoming Meetings

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

JANUARY

Jan 26 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

FEBRUARY

Feb 1 4 pm Executive Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Feb 2 11 am Bylaw Review Work Group, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Feb 2 4 pm Regional Plan Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Feb 9 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Feb 15 Presidents Day Holiday - CVRPC Office closed

Feb 23 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Feb 25 4 pm Project Review Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

STAY CONNECTED

