

Weekly News Roundup February 12, 2021

Visit our website

Upcoming Events

Vermont Land Trust Free Virtual Events

Bark, Buds & Branches: Learn to identify trees in winter FEBRUARY 22, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

What animal is it? Virtual wildlife tracking tour through the winter woods MARCH 11, 1:00 PM - 2:00

Traditional Abenaki Sugaring and Stories MARCH 25, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Registration here: vlt.org/events



Community News

Report of The Vermont Racial Equity Task Force

Under Executive Order 02-20, the Vermont Racial Equity Task Force was directed to examine structures of support for racially diverse populations; review current state and federal law on hate speech and freedom of speech; study and present options for encouraging Vermonters from diverse, marginalized, or underrepresented racial and ethnic groups to run and serve in public office at all levels.

Vermont's Racial Equity Task Force has released its most recent report, focused on free speech and public office. You can find the report HERE.

COVID 19 Updates

Vaccination Appointments to Open for Those 70 and Older

Registration for Vermonters age 70 and above is opening on February 16th. Registration is required (online or via phone). Visit <u>healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine</u> to schedule your appointment online, or call 855-722-7878 (M-F, 8:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Sat and Sun, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)



Even if your age group is not yet eligible, VDH is encouraging older Vermonters to get a step ahead

by creating your account. That way, when your age group is up, it'll be smooth sailing to sign up for your first dose. Learn more: **healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine.**

Everyone Eats- New Dates Added

Everyone Eats has restarted in Chittenden County & Central Vermont. Everyone Eats is a CARES Act-funded program that supports local restaurants, farms, and producers, while providing healthy, prepared meals to Vermonters in need. If you're experiencing food insecurity the Central Vermont Everyone Eats hub has meals for you! Distribution sites in Central Vermont are:

- East Calais General Store in Calais
- · Big Picture Theater in Waitsfield
- · Multiple locations in Montpelier rand Barre

To see the newest distribution sites and dates, visit https://shiftmeals.org/everyone-eats/

Central Vermont Pop-Up Testing Update

If you gathered with people you don't live with this past weekend during Superbowl Sunday, it's important to lower the risk of spreading COVID-19. The Health Department recommends quarantining and getting tested right away — and again on day 7 or later. If the test you take on day 7 is negative, then your quarantine can end. (Otherwise, quarantine is 14 days). Find free testing near you at https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing/where-get-tested

Central Vermont Medical Center has also expanded testing- to schedule an appointment, call the CVMC COVID Hotline at 802-371-5310.

News from CVRPC

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



Vermont Coronavirus Economic Stimulus Equity Program

If you did not receive the 2020 federal stimulus because of your *immigrant status* and meet qualifying criteria, please register

for the Vermont COVID Equity Fund. Applications accepted through March 1st.

Translation and free legal consultation are available for individuals who need it. If you have any questions, please reach out to Indra via email: indra@vtcovidfund.org or by phone (802) 559-0679.

RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program

The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program provides \$10,000 in startup funding for resident-driven groups in small cities and towns to implement the Community Heart & Soul model.



Grant funding requires a \$10,000 cash match from the participating municipality or a partnering organization.

Learn More >>

Shuttered Venues Operators Grant (SVOG) Program

The Small Business Administration's <u>Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) Program includes</u> \$15 billion in grants to shuttered venues, including live venue operators and promoters, theatrical producers, live performing arts organization operators, museum operators, motion picture theater operators, and talent representatives. Although the SVOG is not active yet, organizations can prepare in the meantime. The SBA recently released an FAQ guidance document to help answer questions <u>here.</u>

SBA Targeted Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Advance Program

The SBA has begun rolling out the <u>Targeted Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Advance</u>, which provides additional funds to businesses in low-income communities. Applicants do not need to take any action at this time, as SBA will reach out to those who qualify. All communications from SBA will be sent from an official government email with an @sba.gov ending.

COVID-19 Stimulus Equity Fund: Open through March 1 st

The <u>COVID-19 Stimulus Equity Fund</u> is Vermont's relief fund for people who were excluded from the federal stimulus due to their immigration status. <u>Applications are now being accepted</u> through March 1st for those who were ineligible to receive a 2020 federal coronavirus stimulus payment due to immigration status.

CDBG-CV Public Facility and Public Service Program

The Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) is continuing to accept applications seeking funding to address unmet needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the CDBG-CV Municipal Public Facility and Service Program (PF/PS).

- This CDBG-CV (PF/PS) program will provide grants that range from \$5,000 to \$200,000.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis to assist projects that prepare for, respond to and prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Funding is awarded through a competitive process and funds can be retained by the municipality or subgranted to non-profit organizations.
- The program has nearly \$1.8 million remaining to assist communities and non-profits with grants for public facility and service projects that have unmet needs due to COVID19.
- Priority for funding is given to projects
 - where at least 70% of the direct beneficiaries are considered to be of Low or Moderate Income (LMI).
 - Where a public service is available to all people within and "area wide benefit" community where a Town's population is at least 51% LMI
 - Where a public service is provided to a group of people defined by HUD as being a "limited clientele"
- Projects seeking CDBG-CV funding need to be able to be completed by June 30, 2022.

CDBG CARES ACT FUNDING (CDBG-CV)

FAQ's: CDBG-CV Municipal Public Facility and Service Program

Upcoming Meetings

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

FEBRUARY

Feb 15 Presidents Day Holiday - CVRPC Office closed

Feb 16 11 am Bylaw Review Work Group, Via Technology (See Agenda)

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

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

MARCH

Mar 14 pm Executive Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

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

Mar 15 Town Meeting Day

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

Mar 11 4 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

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

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

