



## Weekly News Roundup March 19, 2021

Visit our website

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### Upcoming Events

#### Starting a Conservation Commission

March 23, 2021 | 7:00-8:00pm

A Conservation Commission is part of municipal government that has a wide purview to engage in all manner of inventory and education related to natural and cultural resources. More than half of Vermont towns already have a Conservation Commission and the activities that Conservation Commissions are engaged in range from land management of town owned forests to land use planning and even development review. Each commission looks a little different and can be incredibly helpful asset to your town! This webinar is hosted in partnership with the Vermont Association of Conservation Commissions (AVCC). [REGISTER](#)



#### Montpelier Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (LHMP)

March 26, 2021 | 9:30 am

The meeting is open to all interested community members. The focus of the meeting will be to discuss mitigation goals and actions and can be accessed by computer using [this link](#) or by phone: (1-929-205-6099) using the following Access Code (687238). Local Hazard Mitigation Plans identify mitigation strategies and actions to reduce damage from foreseeable natural and human-caused hazards. For more information, please contact Grace Vinson at [vinson@cvregion.com](mailto:vinson@cvregion.com)

#### Planning Commissioners + Municipal Officials Roundtable

March 31, 2021 | 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Topic: **Cannabis is Coming**

Session will include a review Act 164 Legislation and discussion on how municipalities can be partners in supporting healthy communities and preventing substance abuse.

Remote Participation via GoToMeetings. Via computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/734320605>

Via Phone: 1 (408) 650-3123 Access Code: 734-320-605

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/734320605>

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### Community News

#### CVRPC Seeks Finance Manager

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission seeks an experienced, part-time Finance Manager to join our team. The Finance Manager performs professional level accounting work in the maintenance, review, and reconciliation of financial records to ensure compliance with accepted

accounting principles and standards. This position is responsible for all fiscal operations for the Commission including operation of the Commission's financial system; budget development; analyzing financial reports, programs, costs, payments and/or accounting processes; sub-recipient audits; and coaching and monitoring staff in conformance with federal and state program fiscal requirements.

This is a permanent position at 24-30 hours per week. Compensation commensurate with demonstrated ability within a salary range of \$50,000 – \$80,000 annualized. Excellent benefit package may apply depending on hours. Outstanding work environment. Successful candidates will have a Bachelor's degree in accounting or related discipline and three to five years in a similar position; a master's degree in accounting, business or financial management preferred. The ideal candidate will be detail-oriented, have excellent time management skills to accommodate numerous concurrent tasks, and will work cooperatively with others to achieve shared objectives. Relevant knowledge of state and federal grant management and contract administration highly desirable. Full job description [here](#). Please provide cover letter, resume and three references to [chartrand@cvregion.com](mailto:chartrand@cvregion.com). Position open until filled; application review begins March 29, 2021. CVRPC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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## COVID 19 Updates

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### Updated Vaccination Schedule

- 03/25: Vermonters age 60+ eligible to register
- 03/29: Vermonters age 50+ eligible to register
- 04/05: Vermonters age 40+ eligible to register
- 04/12: Vermonters age 30+ eligible to register
- 04/19: Vermonters age 16+ eligible to register

See this link for more information: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine>

### Small Gathering Guidance & Restaurant, Bars, and Clubs Guidance

Two non-vaccinated households may get together, but you're not limited to choose just one other household. You can do so with multiple households, as long as it's just one at any given time, and you're still wearing a mask.

Restaurants are able to seat six people at a table and they can be from different families. Capacity, distancing & every other guideline remains. Effective March 24, bars and clubs will be able to open under the restaurant guidance.

### 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](mailto:CVRPC@cvregion.com). Previously published editions of [CVRPC's Municipal Updates](#) related to COVID-19 are available on our website. Stay Safe!

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

### Vermont Community Leadership Network Launching Community Response and Recovery Corps: Apply through March 29

Are you working to help your community respond to and recover from the pandemic? Want to come together regularly with other local leaders doing similar work? Consider joining the Vermont Council on Rural Development's new Community Response and Recovery Corps!

The Corps will be made up of up to 15 local leaders from around Vermont working on projects related to Covid-19 response and recovery. The group will hold Zoom lunchtime session 2x a month beginning in April to connect with guest speakers, share successes and challenges, and provide guidance and support. The deadline to submit a simple application to join the Corps is **March 29**. VCRD is hosting a [zoom info session](#) March 22 at 1PM. Learn more about the program and apply [here](#).

### Arbor Day Planting Grants

VT Urban & Community Forestry is celebrating 2021 Arbor Day through a month-long celebration and by offering twenty-one grants of \$1,000 each for tree planting and other urban and community forest stewardship activities. There is no cost-share (match) requirement. Applications are due **March 26th, 2021**.

[Apply for an Arbor Day Tree Planting Grant](#)

### **Sole Proprietor Stabilization Grant Program Set to Launch Second Round of Grants**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact revenues for small businesses across the state, Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) and Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) have announced a second round of the Vermont CDBG-CV economic relief grant program to support Sole Proprietors.

The additional \$1.6M in funding will offer grants between \$1,500 and \$10,000 to qualifying Sole Proprietors on a first come, first served basis. Applicants must demonstrate financial need through business expenditures which have not yet been reimbursed through other relief programs. Expenditures may represent expenses incurred between March 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, or ongoing expenses in order to “pivot” business operations due to the pandemic. The program is funded by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) CDBG program. The federal funds are passed through the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD).

The application for this new round of funding will open on **April 5th and run through May 26th**.

Eligibility criteria has been altered for this second round of grants to include both Sole Proprietors with no W2 employees and S-Corp owners with no W2 employees. Other key eligibility criteria include that the applicant must:

- Be from a Low to Moderate Income household per federal guidelines, which is defined as having a household income of 80% or below the area median income for your county.
- Be a for-profit entity, providing goods or services to clients.
- Have a physical establishment in Vermont.
- Have pre-pandemic or current gross annual revenues of over \$24,450 for the business.
- Have been legally established prior to March 15, 2020.

**Webinar training to explain the online application process will be available on April 1st.** To sign up for the Webinar and learn more about the program breakdown, full eligibility requirements, application materials and timelines, contacts for language translation services, and to view technical assistance recorded trainings, visit the program web site: <https://www.vermont-cdbg-cv.com/>

BDCC will be administering funds for the counties of Windham, Bennington, Rutland, Addison, Washington, and Lamoille.

### **NBRC 2021 State Economic & Infrastructure Development Grants**

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) is pleased to announce the 2021 State Economic & Infrastructure Development grant application opportunity. Eligible organizations, which include nonprofit and governmental entities (state, local & Indian tribes), will be able to access grant application details via NBRC’s website, [nbrc.gov](http://nbrc.gov)

Potential applicants are able to express interest through Letters of Interest, which are not required, but are strongly encouraged. Letters must be submitted to [loi@nbrc.gov](mailto:loi@nbrc.gov) by **March 26th** at 5PM. Initial inquiries concerning eligibility, suitability, and integration with economic development priorities, should be directed to each NBRC State’s Program Manager, Kristie Farnham | 802.398.5268 | [kristie.farnham@vermont.gov](mailto:kristie.farnham@vermont.gov). Questions about the application itself should be directed to the NBRC’s Program Director, Andrea Smith, at [asmith@nbrc.gov](mailto:asmith@nbrc.gov), or (603) 369-3001.

Applicants are encouraged to review the application materials closely this year for several programmatic changes, including the opportunity for a waiver of match requirements for applicants unable to provide match due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**Upcoming Meetings**

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

**MARCH**

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

Mar 24 4 pm Nominating Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

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

Mar 30 11 am Bylaw Review Work Group, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Mar 31 6 pm Planning & Zoning Roundtable (see info above)

**APRIL**

Apr 5 4 pm Executive Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 13 11 am Bylaw Review Work Group, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 13 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 14 2 pm Regional Elders and Persons with Disabilities Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 22 4 pm Project Review Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 27 11 am Bylaw Review Work Group, Via Technology (See Agenda)

Apr 27 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)

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STAY CONNECTED

