



Weekly News Roundup April 9, 2021

Visit our website

Upcoming Events

Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting

April 12, 2021 | 6:30 pm

The next meeting of LEPC5 will be held virtually via GoTo Meeting. Please email vinson@cvregion.com for meeting access information.

Virtual EMD Roundtable

April 21, 2021 | 5:00 pm

CVRPC is hosting a virtual EMD roundtable. The agenda for the 1-hour roundtable is:

- Update on Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) sharing agreements
- Overview of CARES Program
- Feeding during Disasters
- Upcoming VEM trainings
- Open Q&A Discussion: EMD support needed, COVID roundtable, etc.

Please reach out to vinson@cvregion.com if you have specific topics related to the agenda items you'd like to address at the roundtable.

April 22nd is Earth Day!

EarthDay.org's mission is to diversify, educate and activate the environmental movement worldwide. Growing out of the first Earth Day in 1970, it is the world's largest recruiter to the environmental movement, working with more than 75,000 partners in over 190 countries to drive positive action for our planet. [Read More >>](#)

Community News

Agency of Transportation Announces Restart of Amtrak and Inter-city Transit Service

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) today announced that Amtrak passenger rail service and inter-city bus service in Vermont will resume effective July 19, 2021. [Read More >>](#)



State Offers Free Online Municipal Day Training For Town Officials and Community Members

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has launched an [online training for Municipal officials](#). Sixteen informative videos, most around 10 minutes long, are intended to help new, and not-so-new, municipal officials learn about ANR's work and the tools available to help communities. While trainings are specifically tailored to municipal officials, any community member who would like to learn more about ANR's work is invited to participate.

Training topics range from invasive species to recycling laws to dam safety. Tutorials help

attendees gain proficiency in tools such as the Permit Navigator, BioFinder and the Clean Water Projects Explorer. One video even shows how to clean a bat house. A visually engaging platform known as a StoryMap has been used to combine stunning photographs, instructional video trainings and, in one case, music to showcase a sample of what ANR has to offer.

ANR has been proud to partner with municipalities over the past 7 years to provide a wide range of workshops at our annual training event, fondly known as Muni Day. When plans for 2020's in-person workshop were quashed due to the pandemic, staff turned their sights to technology for a solution. The online Municipal Day 2021 Workshop can be found at:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/53fd61b0d1f14c4b9a825bdaacb8ebab>

Information about the Agency of Natural Resources Municipal Day is at:

https://anr.vermont.gov/about_us/special-topics/municipal-day



April is Fair Housing Month

The [Fair Housing Project](#) of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) and statewide partners are hosting a number of events throughout the month. There will be informational discussions, library activities, workshops and more. [Read More >>](#)

Governor Scott Proposes Budget for ARPA Funds

Governor Phil Scott and his Administration presented a plan this week to strategically invest \$1 billion in one-time federal money provided to states to jumpstart recovery from the Coronavirus pandemic and support long-term economic growth.

Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Vermont received \$1,029,500,000, which it has until December 2024 to allocate. The Administration's plan recommends using the funds in five strategic categories:

- \$250.5 million for broadband and wireless connectivity
- \$249 million for housing
- \$200 million for climate change mitigation measures
- \$170 million for water and sewer infrastructure
- \$143 million for further economic development and recovery

The proposal also includes \$17 million to cover administration and successful deployment of funds. [READ MORE>>](#)

COVID 19 Updates

Vermont Forward Roadmap -- Changes in COVID Guidance Going Forward

The Governor has recently presented a "**Vermont Forward**" Roadmap. Guidance and restrictions on businesses, travel, and gatherings will change in the next three months based on what percentage of the population is vaccinated. [Read More >>](#)

RFP's, Grant Information, Applications & Deadlines

VCRD Climate Economy Model Communities Program

Apply for the Model Communities Program - Letter of interest due April 26th - Vermont Council on Rural Development's Climate Economy Model Communities Program (CEMCP) is designed to help communities build and implement priority actions that increase economic vitality, affordability, and resilience in a time of climate change. The ultimate goal is to help communities model rapid and transformative change by implementing energy efficiency, transportation system transformation, renewable energy generation, working lands development, and entrepreneurship and business incubation to spur economic resilience and progress.

To apply: interested individuals or communities should submit a letter of interest by April 26 providing an overview of what they hope to accomplish in participating in the Model Communities Program. The town select board should also weigh-in supporting participation. Participating communities will be selected by April 30 to enable a process launch in May/June and to maximize the use of the summer and fall months for public engagement.

[Click here](#) for more details about the program and process for 2021.

AVCC Tiny Grants RFP 2021

Applicants must be Vermont Conservation Commissions or local committees/groups that are working towards becoming a Conservation Commission and are paid members of AVCC. Grant awards range from \$250-\$500 and applications are due May 1st.

[Click here for 2021 Tiny Grant Information!](#)

AVCC Goals:

- To assist local committees/groups to become Conservation Commissions
- To increase the functioning capacity of existing Conservation Commissions, and
- To provide seed money and/or matching funds for specific projects in the broad categories of land conservation, education and outreach, stewardship and management, and planning.

Please note that all applications should be submitted through email. If it is not possible to send materials electronically, you can mail them to AVCC, c/o Vermont Natural Resources Council, 9 Bailey Ave, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Upcoming Meetings

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

APRIL

- Apr 12 6:30 pm LEPC#5 Meeting, 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 21 5 pm Virtual EMD Roundtable, 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)

MAY

- May 3 pm Executive Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)
 - May 11 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners, Via Technology (See Agenda)
 - May 13 4 pm Clean Water Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)
 - May 27 4 pm Project Review Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)
 - May 25 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee, Via Technology (See Agenda)
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STAY CONNECTED

