

## Weekly News Roundup April 29, 2022

Visit our website

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### Upcoming Events



#### Vermont Food Bank 2022 Virtual Hunger Action Conference

May 6th | 9:00 - 3:00

Registration for the 2022 Hunger Action Conference is open for a little while longer! [Click here](https://www.vtfoodbank.org/event/2022-hunger-action-conference) to register or visit us on the web:

<https://www.vtfoodbank.org/event/2022-hunger-action-conference>. Registration fee of \$15. If the registration fee is a barrier to your attending, please contact us at (802) 477-4103 before you start registration to discuss scholarship options.

This year's virtual conference will focus on the theme *"From Emergency to Engagement: Celebrating our Collective Advancements and Commitment to Eliminate Hunger"*. The charitable food system has come a long way since its inception in 1967. During this event, we wish to recognize the shift from the "cupboard" to a more engaging system that includes and lifts up the voices of people most impacted by hunger and poverty.

#### Arbor Day: EAB and Resilient Roads

May 24th | 6:00 - 8:00 pm | U32 High School - East Montpelier

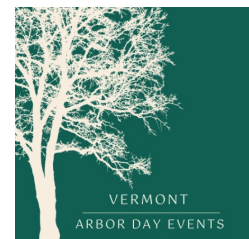
Join the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program to celebrate Arbor Day during the entire month of May! All Vermont communities are encouraged to determine their ash management strategy in response to emerald ash borer (EAB). EAB feeds on and kills all species of ash trees, and most ash trees will die within 5 years of infestation. So what does that look like on the ground? Join members of the Resilient Roads Committee and Joanne Garton, Technical Assistance Coordinator with VT Urban & Community Forestry Program to discuss East Montpelier's proactive management approach.

Topics will include:

- The decision to remove ash & leave some trees
- Treatment of ash
- Outreach and community engagement
- Making arrangements with tree removal services
- Forestry on the roadside and working with the road crew
- Replanting with new trees and species selection

East Montpelier provides a great model for other non-urban communities and their work can be reviewed in this case study.

Be prepared to walk on paved surfaces and periodically stand to discuss certain trees. Indoor space is available in case of inclement weather. Event is free, but registration is required. [Register here!](#)



## Downtown and Historic Preservation Conference

June 9th - St. Johnsbury

Detailed conference information will be emailed about a week before the conference including up to date COVID safety protocols, the conference program, and a map of St. Johnsbury. The conference will follow state-mandated COVID safety protocols current at the time of the event while individual sessions will follow COVID safety protocols specific to venue requirements.

**Register Now.** Take advantage of the early bird rate until May 13<sup>th</sup>. Space is limited and the conference may sell out quickly. Please [visit website](#) for more information on the schedule, sessions, and additional conference information. **Sign Up for Sessions!** Once registered you will receive an email to sign up for sessions. Please take a minute to complete this as some sessions have limited capacity and will sell out quickly.

If you have any question, please contact [ACCD.CPR@vermont.gov](mailto:ACCD.CPR@vermont.gov) or Gary Holloway at 802-522-2444.

## VCDA Spring Conference – Addressing the Vermont Housing Challenge

June 28th | 9:30 - 4:00 | Barre Elks Lodge

Housing experts, community and municipal leaders, and other community development professionals from across the state will gather to discuss:

- How towns can use ARPA funds to support housing
- Investing in rehabilitation to bring units back online in regions with an older vacant housing stock
- Promising practices from municipalities implementing Zoning Bylaw Modernization grants to promote housing development
- Making sense of new resources to kickstart housing projects

We'll let you know when registration opens. Until then... [learn more here.](#)



## Community News

### Municipal Mask Rules Expire April 30

The authority for Vermont municipalities to adopt face covering rules lasts **until 04/30/22**, after which any existing local face covering rules will be repealed by operation of law (i.e., sunset) and have no further force and effect. [More Information here.](#)



## RFPs, Grant Information, Applications, and Deadlines

### Request for Proposals for Moretown Elementary School & Town Office Stormwater Implementation Project

CVRPC, the Town of Moretown (Town), and the Moretown Elementary School (School) (collectively referred to as the Project Partners) invite qualified firms to submit proposals for bid and construction engineering support for a stormwater mitigation project at the Moretown Elementary School and Town Office Complex located at 79 School Street, Moretown, VT, 05660 (the Project Site).

Proposals Due: May 19, 2022, 4 PM. [Full RFP Available here.](#) Inquires should be directed to Brian Voigt @ [voigt@cvregion.com](mailto:voigt@cvregion.com)

### **Request for Proposals for Waterbury Parks Study/Master Plan**

The Town of Waterbury is requesting proposals for a consultant to perform a study and prepare master plans for multi-use recreation and natural resource management for two parks, Hope Davey Park and the public lands in vicinity of the Ice Center of Washington West where heavily used, developed, and un-developed recreation facilities already exist. The purpose of this study is to inventory the recreation and natural resources of these two park areas and make recommendations for future active and passive recreation facilities, conservation of the natural resources, and overall management of the properties by the Town. Women-owned, minority and local small businesses are encouraged to prepare and submit proposals. Interested firms or individuals should submit their proposal by 12:00 noon on Friday, May 13, 2022.

[Full proposal here.](#) If you have questions or need any additional information please contact me at (802) 244-1012, or via e-mail at [slotspeich@waterburyvt.com](mailto:slotspeich@waterburyvt.com).

## **COVID RECOVERY GRANTS**

### **Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Office of Challenge Grants is accepting applications for the Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants program. Capital Projects support the design, purchase, construction, restoration, or renovation of facilities for humanities activities. Digital Infrastructure projects support the maintenance, modernization, and sustainability of existing digital scholarly projects and platforms. For both Capital Projects and Digital Infrastructure, expenditures must be shown to bring long-term benefits to the institution and to the humanities more broadly.

Deadline: **May 17, 2022** Website: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=338665> Eligibility: State governments, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, Private institutions of higher education, Special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, City or township governments, County governments.

### **FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)**

The FCC's Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) is a \$7.17 billion program that will help schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for remote learning during the COVID-19 emergency period. ECF will help provide relief to millions of students, school staff, and library patrons and will help close the Homework Gap for students who currently lack necessary Internet access or the devices they need to connect to classrooms. For eligible schools and libraries, the ECF Program will cover reasonable costs of laptop and tablet computers; Wi-Fi hotspots; modems; routers; and broadband connectivity purchases for off-campus use by students, school staff, and library patrons. Congress authorized the Emergency Connectivity Fund as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Deadline: **May 13, 2022** Website: <https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-connectivity-fund>

Eligibility: Schools, libraries, and consortia of schools and libraries (e.g., regional or statewide groups of schools or libraries that apply together) that are eligible for support under the FCC's [E-Rate Program](#) and Tribal libraries eligible for support under the Library Services and Technology Act may request and receive support through the Emergency Connectivity Fund.

### **IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #1**

NTIA's pre-NOFO technical assistance webinars are designed to help prospective applicants understand NTIA's IJA broadband grant programs and to assist applicants to prepare high quality grant applications. This webinar will serve as a broadband technology and economics primer. We will have additional technical assistance webinars from March-May 2022. Please visit the [upcoming events section on our BroadbandUSA website](#) to learn more about these webinars, planned for the following dates:

#### **Wednesday, April 27, 2022, from 2:30-4:00 p.m. ET**

- The focus of this session will be **Digital Equity & Inclusion**

Link for external registration page

[https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_MD9qNsZKR\\_-0-tyHQLPILA](https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_MD9qNsZKR_-0-tyHQLPILA)

#### **Wednesday, May 11, 2022, from 2:30-4:00 p.m. ET**

- The focus of this session will be **Managing Costs and Supply Chains**

Link for external registration page

[https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_4T0kjDJETK-XuCDSvkLMSw](https://ntia-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_4T0kjDJETK-XuCDSvkLMSw)

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## Upcoming Meetings

*CVRPC will provide a video or call in option for all meetings (see agendas on our [website](#) for details).*

### **May**

May 2 4 pm Executive Committee

May 3 5 pm Nominating Committee

May 9 6:30 pm Board of Commissioners

May 16 6 pm Brownfields Advisory Committee

May 24 6:30 pm Transportation Advisory Committee

May 26 4 pm Project Review Committee

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STAY CONNECTED

