

State Government Municipal Day

WHEN GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE



A Day of Workshops for Vermont's Local Government Officials

Friday, October 28, 2022

8:30am-3:45pm

National Life Building, Montpelier, VT

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), in cooperation with Vermont Emergency Management (VEM), Natural Resources Board (NRB), Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD), and the Agency of Agriculture Food & Markets (AAFM), invites you to participate in a day-long event that will include workshops, a plenary session with the State Office of Racial Equity – Education & Outreach, Shalini Suryanarayana, and networking opportunities with colleagues from across Vermont.

**Online Registration at
EventBrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-state-government-municipal-day-tickets-376570000007>

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
PAYMENT QUESTIONS
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SPACE IS LIMITED

ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

The \$30 registration fee includes morning coffee/tea, pastries, buffet lunch, and two state park passes in the welcome folder. Payment by credit card only.

**State Government Municipal Day Agenda
Montpelier – Fri, October 28, 2022**

7:30 am	<i>Registration Table Opens (and is staffed all day)</i>					
8:30 – 9:30 am	<i>Plenary Session & Coffee in the National Life Cafeteria</i> IDEAL Vermont Initiative Shalini Suryanarayana, State of Vermont’s Office of Racial Equity					
9:45 – 11:00 am	1. FEMA Public Assistance 101	2. Linear Construction in Rights of Ways	3. Hunter/ Bowhunter/ Trapper Education in Your Town	4. Using BioFinder For Land Use Planning	5. Environmental Justice and You	6. Lake and Shoreland Regulations
11:15 – 12:30 pm	7. FEMA Flood Map Updates and What’s Ahead	8. Industrial user surveys and allocation tracking for WWTFs	9. Electric Vehicles 101	10. Natural Resources Inventories	11. Supporting urban and community tree stewards	12. Transfer Station Operations - Best Practices and Safety
12:30 – 1:30 pm	<i>Buffet Lunch in the National Life Cafeteria</i>					
1:30 – 2:30 pm	13. Removing Obsolete Dams in your Town	14. COVID-19 Wastewater Epidemiology in Vermont	15. Best Practices of Noxious Weed Management	16. Municipal Parcel Data: Features, Improving Data Quality, and the Future	17. The ANR Permit Navigator	18. Wetland Identification, Permitting, and Allowed Use
2:45 – 3:45 pm	19. State Resources for Promoting EV and EVSE in Your Jurisdiction	20. Water and Wastewater Workforce Resources	21. Farm Operation & Farm Structure Determinations	22. Environmental Justice and You	23. Navigating Act 250	24. Developing a Municipal Climate Toolkit

1. FEMA Public Assistance 101

Towns, come learn how to recover from a Federally declared disaster before it happens! This session will cover what funding is available and what documentation is required for the FEMA public assistance program.

2. Linear Construction in Rights of Way

With the current level of infrastructure improvement funding, many municipalities are undertaking projects to replace aging infrastructure such as water, storm, and sewer lines and roadbeds. Often the projects receive federal funds that are disbursed by the Agency's Water Investment Division (WID). Installation, repair, or refurbishment of municipal infrastructure in right of ways may also encounter work delays, and cost over-runs due to unidentified contamination under roadways, sidewalks and along infrastructure footprints. The workshop will provide municipalities with an understanding of these funding mechanisms and associated WID requirements, but also to present the recently updated Linear Construction Projects Guidance document prepared by the Sites Management Section, with a focus on the importance of early planning for the possibility of encountering contamination in the subsurface.

3. Hunter/Bowhunter/ Trapper Education in Your Town

Why should you host a hunter education course in your town? What does it entail? Who are these people teaching these courses? Hunter Education is an important way for communities to gather to learn about firearm safety, outdoor ethics, survival, and conservation principles. We'll show you some of the fun tools, and you can ask all your questions. We'll also go over the fundamentals of safe firearms handling and have some fun giveaways!

4. Using BioFinder for Land Use Planning

Are you working on a town plan or zoning rewrite and need help pulling together natural resource information? Are you struggling with identifying forest blocks and habitat connectors in your town? Are you having trouble getting natural resource data for land use planning? Attend this workshop and learn how to use BioFinder, a free online database and mapping tool that identifies lands and waters that support ecosystems, natural communities, habitats, and species; how to share the information with others in town; and interpret the data for your town's land use planning.

5. Environmental Justice and You

In this workshop participants will familiarize themselves with key concepts in and tenets of environmental justice, and ANR's goals as an active participant in the advancement of this work in Vermont. The discussion will include an overview of the newly enacted State of Vermont environmental justice legislation, Act 154, with context provided for the work of the Agency. Time will be provided for a conversation and answering questions for participants interested in how this might apply to your day-to-day work.

6. Lake and Shoreland Regulations

Development on lakeshore property has a direct impact on lake water quality, shoreline erosion, and wildlife habitat. This workshop will describe "what to expect" when owning lakeshore property in Vermont and include an overview of development regulations, including the Lake Encroachment and the Shoreland Protection Act.

7. FEMA Flood Map Updates and What's Ahead

New floodplain maps are being developed across Vermont and new Flood Insurance Rate Maps will become official in the next few years. Is your community up to date with flood resilience planning and bylaws? Come learn how river corridors and floodplains protect you and your community.

www.floodtraining.vermont.gov

8. Industrial User Surveys and Allocation Tracking for Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Your Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is a major asset of your town and treats more than just domestic sewage. Keeping track what is coming from where in your sewage collection system is critical to protect your facilities operations, permit compliance, and financial sustainability. Join the Wastewater Management Program for guidance on conducting surveys of commercial sewer system users and best practices for keeping track of the amount of hydraulic and organic capacity of your system they use. Implementing this guidance could save your municipality money on operations and maintenance of your collection system and treatment facility!

9. Electric Vehicles 101

You've heard of Tesla, but wondering what all the hubbub is about? This session will provide attendees with the basics of electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging. With a foundation on why there's so much excitement (and sometimes apprehension) about EVs, and where and how to recharge the battery, attendees will be better prepared to dig into what municipalities can do to support the transition to electric vehicles in their communities, starting with our other Municipal Day session "State Resources for Promoting EV and EV Charging in Your Jurisdiction".

10. Natural Resources Inventories

For towns, organizations, and landowners looking to better understand their land, conducting a Natural Resources Inventory is a great place to start. Whether you are interested in wildlife, wetlands, or forest blocks, a natural resources inventory can help you identify what matters most and where it occurs on the landscape. Join Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's Community Wildlife Program to learn how you can effectively kickstart this process and get the most out of your time and resources.

11. Supporting Urban and Community Tree Stewards

The Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program provides technical and financial assistance to municipal staff and volunteers working to grow and maintain healthy trees in their communities. From emerald ash borer preparedness to learning about new municipal tree law, UCF has you covered! Learn about available resources, successful stewardship efforts, and local tree heroes growing urban and community forests across our state.

12. Transfer Station Operations, Best Practices and Safety with the Solid Waste Program and VOSHA Project WorkSafe

What you and your operators need to know about running a transfer station in line with requirements and safely. This workshop will cover facility operations, materials management and collection, training, and making your facility a safe place to work and serve the public.

13. Removing Unsafe Obsolete Dams in Your Town

Old, nonfunctioning dams pose public safety and adverse economic and environmental impacts. Removal of these dams is an increasing trend in Vermont and globally. After removal, many neighbors see the benefits. For example, after removal of the Dunklee Pond Dam, Rutland City neighbor Lee explained it's... "Good, Good, Good! It's much better - the land and stream look great!". Come learn how some Vermont towns removed their old dams and experienced reduced flood damages, as well as significant social, economic, and environmental benefits.

14. COVID-19 Wastewater Epidemiology in Vermont

Come learn about wastewater epidemiology! This workshop will focus on wastewater monitoring for COVID-19, including the benefits of participation and how to interpret data. We'll review examples of Vermont monitoring systems including Burlington and sites enrolled in the National Wastewater Surveillance System.

15. Best Practices of Noxious Weed Management

Noxious weeds thrive in disturbed soils and can be found within municipal highway rights of way and be spread because of other types of infrastructure projects. Noxious weeds can also be found in municipal parks or other municipally controlled lands requiring management by staff. Each location and type of weed can call for a different approach. In this session, the Plant Health Team at VAAFM will provide common pathways for spread, and teach you to identify weeds, select appropriate tools and techniques for management and responsible disposal.

16. Municipal Parcel Data: Features, Improving Data Quality, and the Future

The statewide parcel program collects and publishes digital municipal parcel data in an accessible and useful way. Join this session to learn more about the nature and uses of parcel data, new tools for easy access and review, and ways to help improve your Town's data.

17. The ANR Permit Navigator

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources' Permit Navigator is a free service that offers guidance to Vermonters on what state environmental permits may be needed for their projects. Vermonters can use the Permit Navigator (<https://bit.ly/3JImBf0>) to make informed decisions about their project, including the cost of permitting and length of time required to follow State environmental regulations. Join us to learn how to use the tool and how you can use the Permit Navigator Results in your municipal review of projects!

18. Wetland Identification, Permitting, and Allowed Use

Wetlands play a vital role in maintaining Vermont's water quality, mitigating flood damage, and providing habitat for a wide variety of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and plant species. These unique ecosystems come in many shapes and sizes and not all of them are immediately identifiable – we would all recognize a cattail marsh or deepwater swamp but it gets tricky when we start dealing with farmed or mowed wetlands, situations where the landscape has been altered, or wetland mosaics. This presentation will offer some tricks to identifying wetlands, including an intro to conducting a desktop review using the ANR Atlas, followed by guidance on what activities are or are not allowed uses and a discussion of when permitting is required. An understanding of the Vermont Wetland Rules by town zoning administrators and review boards (and others!) can go a long ways towards protecting Vermont's ecological health and character as well as insulating towns and individuals from potentially costly restoration measures resulting from noncompliance with the VWR.

19. State Resources for Promoting EVs and Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) in Your Jurisdiction

You get it, electric vehicles are the way of the future, but how do we make it happen? This session is for you! We don't have all of the answers, but we DO have some planning tools, informational resources, grants funds and incentives for EVs and EV charging. Come see what might be of use to you!

20. Water and Wastewater Workforce Resources

Your water and wastewater infrastructure are major assets in your town and required to be run by certified operators. Are you aware of the rules for staffing? Support available to your operators? What to do in case of a cyber-attack? Join the Vermont Rural Water Association and DEC for a refresher on your staffing responsibilities, the resources available in emergency situations (including Vermont's W/WW Agency Response Network, or WARN), and have your questions answered!

21. Farm Operation & Farm Structure Determinations - Who, What, When, and Why?

The Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets, when asked, can issue an opinion on whether an operation is farming, and proposed structures are farm structures. The determination can have implications for municipal zoning requirements, but does not exempt farms from meeting other local, state, and federal requirements. This workshop will explain what a farm determination from the Agency of Agriculture does and doesn't do, as well as explore the intersect and relationships between farmers, State, and town regulations.

22. Environmental Justice and You

Not able to attend this morning's session? Attend in the afternoon! In this workshop participants will familiarize themselves with key concepts in and tenets of environmental justice, and ANR's goals as an active participant in the advancement of this work in Vermont. The discussion will include an overview of the newly enacted State of Vermont environmental justice legislation, Act 154, with context provided for the work of the Agency. Time will be provided for a conversation and answering questions for participants interested in how this might apply to your day-to-day work.

23. Navigating Act 250: An Overview for Cities and Towns

Is your town planning a large project that may need an Act 250 permit? During this workshop, staff will provide an overview of the review process for Act 250 --Vermont's signature land use and development law. You will also learn about Act 250 jurisdiction over municipal projects, the process of filing an application for a municipal project, and the role of state agencies in the review process. Bring your questions about all things Act 250!

24. Developing a Municipal Climate Toolkit

Are there issues related to climate change in your community that you would like to tackle, but so far, have not had the resources or tools to do so? Join this session to learn about the development of a Municipal Climate Toolkit, an online hub of existing State programs, datasets, planning guides, tools, and technical assistance providers that will connect the day-to-day work of municipal staff and volunteers to climate change. Through a partnership with the Vermont Climate Council, the Agency of Natural Resources is designing and developing a Municipal Climate Toolkit that will connect municipalities with climate action resources across the areas of transportation, energy, natural and water resources, farms & food, and more. Share your thoughts and ideas about what would be helpful to see in a toolkit as you take steps to tackle climate change in your community.