



WHEN GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE

State Government Municipal Day

A Day of Workshops for Vermont's Local Government Officials

Friday, September 9, 2016

8am–3:45pm National Life Building, Montpelier, VT

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), in cooperation with the Agency of Transportation (VTrans) and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), invites you to participate in a day-long event that will include a full day of workshops, plenary session and networking opportunities with colleagues from across the State.

SPACE IS LIMITED AND ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

The morning Plenary Session will focus on the timely topic of forest health and forest fragmentation in Vermont.

The \$25 registration fee includes morning coffee/tea and a buffet lunch in the National Life cafeteria. Payment by check or credit card accepted.

Agenda, workshop descriptions and general information:

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

Online registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/when-governments-cooperate-2016-state-government-municipal-day-registration-25244224154>



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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AGENDA, DETAILS AND REGISTRATION:

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

With generous support from:



Thank you!

State Government Municipal Day Agenda: September 9, 2016

7:30 on	Registration Opens					
8:15am - 9:30am	1a. VT's Ecology and Environment (Part 1 of 4)	2. Municipal Roads Program	3. Town Plans that Work	4. Natural Resources Inventories	5. Vermont's Clean Energy Future	6. Computer Lab: NR Atlas
9:45am - 10:45am	Plenary Session & Coffee Break in the NL Cafeteria / Forest Fragmentation and Forest Health in Vermont					
11:00am - 12:15pm	1b. VT's Ecology and Environment (Part 2 of 4)	7. Dollars Make Sense - Funding Water Projects	8. Municipal Involvement in Energy Siting	9. Where Land and Water Meet	10. Invasives Make Bad Neighbors	11. Computer Lab: NR Atlas
12:30pm - 1:15pm	Buffet Lunch in the National Life Cafeteria					
1:30pm - 2:30pm	1c. VT's Ecology and Environment (Part 3 of 4)	12. All About Act 250 (Part 1)	13. Projects Done Right: Revitalizing Downtowns	14. Tech Advice and Grants from VTrans	15. Universal Recycling: Leaf, Yard Waste and Clean Wood	16. Computer Lab: NR Atlas
2:45pm - 3:45pm	1d. VT's Ecology and Environment (Part 4 of 4)	17. All About Act 250 (Part 2)	18. Projects Done Right: Citizen Engagement	19. Required Agricultural Practices		

Workshop Session 1 (8:15am – 9:30am)

1a. Vermont's Ecology and Environment: Caring for Natural Resources in Your Community

Last year's workshop "Vermont's Ecology and Environment: An introduction to town planning for natural resources" covered cultural and historical context, ecological scales and a basic introduction to planning. This year's sequel, by contrast, will help you choose locally appropriate land use planning strategies for conserving natural resources. It uses case studies and exercises to show how taking action can work in real life. The overall goal is to build understanding of what you can do, how to work with different people in your community, how to choose ways to protect natural resources, and how to make it happen. *Note: This is a 4-session workshop. You must sign up for all four sessions if you wish to take this class.*

2. Municipal Roads Program

The new DEC Municipal Road General Permit timelines and framework will be discussed. Collaboration with VTrans, VLCT, regional planning commissions and other partners through stakeholder groups, technical teams, and roads round table forums will be shared. The latest on MRGP standards and road erosion inventories will be included as well as grant funding, training, technical assistance, and outreach opportunities and approaches.

3. Town Plans that Work – Using the New Planning Manual

Town plans can take a lot of effort to write and adopt so how can we ensure they are useful, living documents that help improve our communities? Hear from municipalities that are updating their plans using Vermont's new Planning Manual, engaging townspeople in articulating a vision and translating that into actionable policies while meeting all the statutory requirements for a plan. State program officials will also provide their perspectives and audience interaction is encouraged.

4. Natural Resource Inventories: Forest Blocks, Wildlife Corridors, Natural Communities, and Rare Species!

Participants will learn about the range of features that may be included in town-wide natural resource inventories and how to access information that is already available for some of these features, including forest blocks, natural communities, and rare species. Participants will understand the benefits and practical considerations in coordinating a town-wide natural resource inventory and review options for integrating the range of natural resources identified through inventory into the town's planning framework. Specific examples of town inventory results and town planning and zoning language will be provided and discussed.

5. Municipal Opportunities to Create Vermont's Clean Energy Future!

Communities across Vermont are supporting and implementing energy improvements in facilities, transportation and operations to increase energy independence, reduce carbon pollution, and save money. This session will offer information on energy efficiency retrofits, transitioning to renewable electric and thermal energy, and supporting plug-in electric vehicle adoption for town operations as well as local residents and businesses. An expert panel will provide recommendations on prioritizing clean energy initiatives, organizing and financing energy projects and technical assistance options. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss prospects in their towns and share success stories with each other.

6. In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

This hands-on session will introduce you to ANR's Natural Resource Atlas and teach you to use it! The Atlas provides geographic information about environmental features and sites that the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources manages, monitors, permits, or regulates. For example, this includes wetlands, public water sources, and conserved lands. In addition to standard map navigation tools, this site allows you to link from sites to documents where available, generate reports, export search results, import data, search, measure, mark-up, query map features, and print PDF maps. This tool will be useful for the town planning, development review, and managing town owned properties. *Note: This workshop repeats in Session 2 and 3. Please sign up for ONLY ONE session.*

Workshop Session 2 (11:00am – 12:15pm)

1b. Vermont's Ecology and Environment: Caring for Natural Resources in Your Community

Session 2 of 4 - See description in Session 1.

Note: This is a 4-session workshop. You must sign up for all four sessions if you wish to take this class.

7. Dollars make Sense: Funding for your water-related projects

Increasing regulations, deferred maintenance, aging infrastructure, competing interests, and comprehensive infrastructure project planning all lead to the question 'how are we going to pay for all of this?' During this session, we'll provide an introduction to the state Water Infrastructure Financing Programs and how we can work with you on some of your infrastructure planning and funding needs.

8. Opportunities for Municipal Involvement in Energy Siting

This workshop will explore opportunities for Municipalities to engage in the energy siting process that currently exists through Section 248. This session will also provide an overview of Act 147, the State's new energy legislation, with a specific focus on the process towns may use to develop enhanced municipal plans that garner substantial deference in the Public Service Board siting process. Staff from the Agency of Natural Resources and Department of Public Service will also detail opportunities for public involvement and technical assistance available to towns and regions as Act 174 is implemented.

9. Where Land & Water Meet: Wetland, Shoreland, and Lake Encroachment Regulations

Join us to discuss real-life scenarios of land use regulation where land and water meet. Both the Wetland Rules and the Shoreland Protection Act come into play when we address development or harvesting along water bodies. This workshop will cover the history of wetland and shoreline degradation, the importance of natural resource protection, the effects of regulation on new and existing development, and how to navigate scenarios that involve multi-program jurisdiction.

10. Invasives Make Bad Neighbors

Invasive plants and insects are an increasingly apparent problem along Vermont's roads, rivers, fields, town forests, and even our own backyards. The scope of the problem may seem overwhelming, but individuals and towns can take specific steps that have measurable impacts when confronting this challenge. Learn about resources that allow you to plan for the imminent arrival of the exotic emerald ash borer, a pest that causes nearly 100% mortality of ash trees. We'll also discuss resources that allow you to plan, map, and prioritize invasive plant control and prevention efforts, and the effective use of the site www.vtinvasives.org.

11. In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

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Workshop Session 3 (1:30pm – 2:30pm)

1c. Vermont's Ecology and Environment: Caring for Natural Resources in Your Community

Session 3 of 4 - See description in Session 1.

Note: This is a 4-session workshop. You must sign up for all four sessions if you wish to take this class.

12. All About Act 250! (Part 1)

When is an Act 250 permit required? Who makes this determination? What resources are available to help an applicant prepare an application? What is the Act 250 process? What are the criteria? Who reviews the application? Who can participate, and how? What is a municipal presumption? Why are some towns called a "1 acre" town, and others called a "10 acre town" – what does this mean? What are some of the best tools on the Act 250 website? Is Act 250 going paperless? Learn the answers to these questions, and more, by attending our workshop!

13. Municipal Projects Done Right – Revitalizing Downtowns

What can municipal officials do to stimulate and sustain economic development in your villages and downtowns? Hear directly from local officials about successful revitalization through renovating buildings, improving streetscapes, addressing flooding, creating new housing, and attracting and retaining businesses. They will discuss the factors that contributed to successful outcomes including funding and partnerships, and lessons learned. State program officials will also provide their perspectives and audience interaction is encouraged.

14. Technical Assistance and Grant Opportunities from VTrans' Highway Division

VTrans has a variety of grant opportunities – both state and federally funded – that are available to assist municipalities with addressing environmental issues in their communities. These funds can assist communities with both planning and construction activities. VTrans also provides many opportunities for technical assistance. Participants will take away a general knowledge of funding opportunities from the Municipal Assistance Bureau as well as contact information.

15. Universal Recycling: Leaf, Yard and Clean Wood Requirements

This workshop will go over options for handling leaf and yard debris and clean wood waste under the Universal Recycling law, which prohibits their disposal in the landfill. Universal Recycling law basics, including the upcoming landfill ban on food waste, will be covered. Handling of wood waste resulting from construction and demolition projects will also be discussed.

16. In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

This hands-on session will introduce you to ANR's Natural Resource Atlas and teach you to use it! The Atlas provides geographic information about environmental features and sites that the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources manages, monitors, permits, or regulates. For example, this includes wetlands, public water sources, and conserved lands. In addition to standard map navigation tools, this site allows you to link from sites to documents where available, generate reports, export search results, import data, search, measure, mark-up, query map features, and print PDF maps. This tool will be useful for the town planning, development review, and managing town owned properties. *Note: This workshop is repeated from Sessions 1 and 2. Please sign up for ONLY ONE session.*

Workshop Session 4 (2:45pm – 3:45pm)

1d. Vermont's Ecology and Environment: Caring for Natural Resources in Your Community

Session 4 of 4 - See description in Session 1.

Note: This is a 4-session workshop. You must sign up for all four sessions if you wish to take this class.

17. All About Act 250! (Part 2)

What is this new 9L criterion? How do I use the new guidance document to help design my project? What are the underlying concepts of 9L? What can my town do to help incorporate these concepts into our planning documents? Learn the answers to these questions, and more, by attending our workshop!

18. Municipal Projects Done Right – Citizen Engagement

How can towns (large and small) interest residents in getting involved in municipal matters? What does it take to build interest, excitement in municipal projects and a commitment to follow through? In this panel discussion, you'll hear from municipal officials about how they improved communications, used proven public participation techniques to engage citizens in decision-making, and brought new blood and energy onto local boards and commissions. The panel will discuss factors that contributed to successful outcomes and lessons learned. State program officials will also provide their perspective and audience interaction is encouraged.

19. Required Agricultural Practices

The VT Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets (VAAF) has been engaged in revisions of the Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) - the base level management standards for all farms in Vermont - since October 2015. The current RAP Proposed Rule proposes a scenario whereby municipalities, currently limited from writing bylaws for the RAPs, would be able to adopt regulations for small, backyard landowners who are engaged in agricultural activities on a small-scale, non-commercial level. Join us for a discussion of the RAP Proposed Rules and the opportunity proposed for additional oversight by municipalities in Vermont.

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