



WHEN GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE

State Government Municipal Day

A Day of Workshops for Vermont's Local Officials

Thursday, November 13, 2014
National Life Building, Montpelier, VT

The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), in cooperation with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTTrans) and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), invites you to participate in an all-day event that will include poster presentations, workshops, technical assistance and the opportunity to engage with Agency staff members and municipal colleagues from across the state.

SPACE IS LIMITED, PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

The \$30 registration fee includes morning coffee and a buffet lunch by the New England Culinary Institute.

The agenda and workshop details can be found below or [on our web site and registration can be completed online.](#)

COMPLETE AGENDA AND WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS INSIDE.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS throughout the day include:

- » Adapting to a Shifting Climate
- » Evolution of Stream Crossings / Flume
- » Local Planning for Recreation
- » Communities Caring for Tree Canopy
- » Environmental Assistance Office – We Can Help
- » Stormwater Master Planning
- » Hunting and Fishing Licenses
- » Agency of Natural Resources Grants Available
- » Forest Land Conservation
- » Solid Waste Programs and Assistance
- » Public Health Tracking / Healthy Vermonters 2020
- » Water Infrastructure Financing Programs
- » Vermont Boat Access Greeter Program
- » DWGWPD Capacity Program / Sustainable Water Systems
- » Brownfields
- » Flood Resilience
- » VTTrans technical assistance and related grant opportunities
- » Forest, Parks and Recreation Programs
- » The benefits ANR lands and facilities bring to your town, Vermonters and our visitors
- » Geologic Investigations to Reduce Community Vulnerability



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/site/html/mtdc.htm>

State Government Municipal Day Agenda: November 13, 2014

Please see complete workshop descriptions on following pages

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Registration, Coffee & Poster Presentations in Cafeteria						
9:00 AM	Plenary Remarks by Agency heads						
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	WORKSHOP SESSION 1						
	1A Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 1 of 4): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources (Hands-on Workshop)	2 Building Strong Communities (Part 1): Tools You Can Use	3 Road Ready: Are You Prepared for the Storm?	4 Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI): Innovative Solutions to Stormwater Woes	5 Avoiding Common Mistakes: The Most Common Municipal Violations of DEC's Permit Programs and How to Avoid Them	6 In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas (Repeat of Workshop 12 and 18. Do not sign up for multiple sessions.)	
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Buffet Lunch in the National Life Cafeteria						
12:45 PM – 1:45 PM	WORKSHOP SESSION 2						
	1B Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 2 of 4): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources (Hands-on Workshop)	7 Building Strong Communities (Part 2): Putting the Tools to Work	8 Technical Assistance and Grant Opportunities from VTtrans' Highway Division	9 Flood Resilience (Part 1): What You Need to Know About Emergency In-stream Work	10 Town Forests Enrich Communities: Learn What They Can Do for You!	11 How to Handle Unwanted Visitors: Local Approaches to Managing Invasive Species	12 In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas (Repeat of Workshop 6 and 18. Do not sign up for multiple sessions.)
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	WORKSHOP SESSION 3						
	1C Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 3 of 4): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources (Hands-on Workshop)	13 Flood Resilience (Part 2): Municipal Planning and Tools	14 A Multi-Agency Introduction to Municipal Involvement in Act 250	15 Managing Roads: Best Practices to Maintain Infrastructure, Protect Water Quality, Enhance Safety and Save Money	16 Manage your Greatest Assets: Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure	17 Natural Resource Inventories: Forest Blocks, Wildlife Corridors, Natural Communities, and Rare Species!	18 In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas (Repeat of Workshop 6 and 12. Do not sign up for multiple sessions.)
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	WORKSHOP SESSION 4						
	1D Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 4 of 4): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources (Hands-on Workshop)	19 A Multi-Agency Introduction to Municipal Involvement in Section 248	20 Next Steps for Vermont's Universal Recycling Law: Pricing and Pick-Up	21 Do your Part. Be Septic Smart!	22 Where Land and Water Meet: Wetland and Shoreland Regulations		

Workshop Session 1 (10:00 AM – 11:30 AM)

1A

Vermont's Ecology & Environment (*Part 1 of 4, Hands-on Workshop*): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources

THIS IS A FOUR PART WORKSHOP. *You must sign up for all four sections. If this is a problem, please contact jens.hilke@state.vt.us.*

In this four-part workshop, participants will learn important context and scientific concepts involved in planning for natural resources. This course will expose participants to the full suite of issues at play for natural resources planning, from forests and wildlife to floodplains and climate change. Presentations on Context, Scale, and Whole Communities are interspersed with interactive hands-on activities that make this an intensive and exciting training.

2

Building Strong Communities (Part 1): Tools You Can Use

Staff from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and their partners will offer a series of snappy 5-10 minute 'lightning talks' on a variety of tools available to municipalities, highlighting successful examples of community planning and revitalization from around state. Learn about Community Development, Historic Preservation and Municipal Planning Grants, Historic Tax Credits, and Downtown and Village Center Designation, VTrans grants and more. The presentations will focus on key points only and the speakers will linger afterwards to chat if you want to learn more.

3

Road Ready: Are You Prepared for the Storm?

Presented by the VTrans Maintenance and Operation Bureau, this session addresses Federal Highway Works Administration's Emergency Relief Program and winter maintenance issues, helping you to understand the impacts and cost benefits of proper equipment maintenance and materials use.

4

Low Impact Development (LID) and Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI): Innovative Solutions to Stormwater Woes

Stormwater runoff is a mounting concern in Vermont, sparking much debate about how we manage flows generated from impervious surfaces throughout the state. Across the country, conventional methods of stormwater management are being eschewed for alternative systems that use natural processes to mimic pre-development hydrology. Slowly but surely, Vermont is moving in the same direction. This workshop will explore LID principles and GSI practices; how they are being used to effectively manage stormwater runoff, how they may play a role in the future of the stormwater management in Vermont, and why municipalities should encourage and promote their use through effective and flexible bylaws.

5

Avoiding Common Mistakes: The Most Common Municipal Violations of DEC's Permit Programs and How to Avoid Them

As a municipal official you are pulled in many directions simultaneously. Often you feel more like a fireman responding to one crisis after another which reduces the time you have to proactively manage your town. This workshop is designed to help you understand and hopefully eliminate issues related to the Department of Environmental Conservation permit compliance. You will learn about the most common sources of municipal violations of DEC's permits. We will provide you with strategies for avoiding these problems in the first instance as well as what to do when a problem does arise. Save yourself stress and your town money by attending this informative workshop.

6

In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

THIS WORKSHOP WILL REPEAT IN SESSIONS 2 & 3. *Do NOT sign up for multiple sessions.*

This hands-on session will introduce you to, and teach you to use ANR's Natural Resource Atlas. 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.

Workshop Session 2 (12:45 PM – 1:45 PM)

1B

Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 2 of 4, Hands-on Workshop): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources

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7

Building Strong Communities (Part 2): Putting the Tools to Work

This session will provide 20 minute case studies showcasing how communities can use the tools to achieve their goals—with time set aside to answer questions. The sessions will hit the major milestones in two different communities, one large and the other small. Learn how these communities rallied local support, leveraged state and federal programs and overcame obstacles to make significant improvements.

8

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. Come learn what opportunities are available to you.

9

Flood Resilience (Part 1): What You Need to Know About Emergency In-stream Work

This session will provide information on ANR flood resiliency initiatives to improve regulatory and technical assistance capacity in the realm of river management, specifically during flood recovery. Presenters from the Rivers Program will discuss recently adopted Stream Alterations Rules, including municipalities' responsibilities when authorizing emergency in-stream work and ongoing training programs for road foremen and other municipal officials.

10

Town Forests Enrich Communities: Learn What They Can Do for You!

The public values of town forests are diverse—from watershed protection, wildlife habitat and forests products to public recreation, outdoor classrooms and a neighbor gathering place. Town forests can be an economic engine if planned for and managed to meet local needs. Whether your community is interested in acquiring a parcel or learning about opportunities to maximize these values, this workshop will share stories and resources to meet your community's unique town forest needs.

11

How to Handle Unwanted Visitors: Local Approaches to Managing Invasive Species

Research shows that 80% of the costs of invasive forest insects are borne by municipal governments and homeowners. The prevention, detection, monitoring and management of invasive species within our communities is the responsibility of the municipality in collaboration with public and private stakeholders. The reality is that once invasive species become established, communities may be forced to deal with tough economic, environmental, legal and social issues. The panel will discuss issues specific to forest pests and invasive terrestrial and aquatic plants; share resources available to help you detect, monitor and manage invasive species in your town; and opportunities for management.

12

In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

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Workshop Session 3 (2:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

1C Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 3 of 4, Hands-on Workshop): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources

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13 Flood Resilience (Part 2): Municipal Planning and Tools

What are river corridors and why are they important? Learn about the new statewide maps of river corridors that will soon be available and how your community can use them to avoid future flood damage. Get a pre-release view of a new, one-stop web portal that will explore how municipalities can improve their flood resilience and how this will benefit them immediately and in the long term. Learn about how your community can address flooding and improve your post-disaster funding.

14 A Multi-Agency Introduction to Municipal Involvement in Act 250

In this session presenters will provide an overview of the Act 250 review processes with a particular focus on how municipal governments can play a role. The presenters will also explain how the state agencies are involved in the process and the role they play in promoting state policy goals for natural resource, prime agricultural soil, historic and cultural resource protection and smart growth, with particular focus on the recent statutory changes to criterion 9L dealing with strip development.

15 Managing Roads: Best Practices to Maintain Infrastructure, Protect Water Quality, Enhance Safety and Save Money

In this session participants will get an overview of the best and most cost-effective practices towns can utilize to maintain local roads while protecting water quality, controlling invasive species, and protecting public safety. Presenters will share appropriate erosion and sediment control techniques, roadside vegetation strategies, inventories to prioritize projects, and resources—both financial and technical—to put these practices into action and on the ground.

16 Manage your Greatest Assets: Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure

Municipalities face significant challenges as they try to comply with regulations, repair and replace aging infrastructure, and achieve financial viability. Come learn how an Asset Management Program can help municipal managers meet these challenges and provide their community the level of service they desire in the most cost-effective manner.

17 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. They 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.

18 In the Computer Lab: ANR's Natural Resources Atlas

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This hands-on session will introduce you to, and teach you to use ANR's Natural Resource Atlas. 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.

Workshop Session 4 (3:15 PM – 4:15 PM)

1D

Vermont's Ecology & Environment (Part 4 of 4, Hands-on Workshop): An Introduction to Town Planning for Natural Resources

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19

A Multi-Agency Introduction to Municipal Involvement in Section 248

In this session presenters will provide an overview of the Section 248 review processes with a particular focus on how municipal governments can play a role. The presenters will also explain how the state agencies are involved in the process and the role they play in promoting state policy goals for natural resource protection, renewable energy generation and historic and cultural preservation.

20

Next Steps for Vermont's Universal Recycling Law: Pricing and Pick-Up

With the initial implementation dates of the Universal Recycling law underway, and others fast approaching, ANR will focus the day's topics on the most pertinent dates for municipalities. These include Solid Waste Implementation Plans (SWIP), variable rate pricing structures, and public space recycling. Guidance and templates designed to assist with SWIP development will be discussed, frequently asked questions related to VRP will be shared, and recommendations for how to meet the public space recycling requirements will be covered.

21

Do your Part, Be Septic Smart!

Learn more about on-site septic system types. Topics will include: state jurisdiction over septic design standards for new construction; minor repairs to septic systems; and how we review failed systems. We will discuss our compliance outreach efforts to educate landowners of their ongoing permit conditions and the importance of compliance with those conditions. You will learn about the new On-site Loan Program designed to help Vermont residents repair or replace failed wastewater systems and potable water supplies. Learn how an investigation of a complaint of a failed septic system is conducted and how to coordinate with the Compliance & Enforcement Division (CED) during an investigation.

22

Where Land and Water Meet: Wetland and Shoreland Regulations

Wetlands are everywhere! Over 10% of Vermont is either wetland or adjacent land. The state regulates activities within wetlands and their fifty foot buffer zones. Some wetlands are not obvious at first glance and require investigation. This presentation will provide guidance on how to identify wetlands and helpful resources to aid in identification. When wetland and buffers cannot be avoided, a state wetland permit may be needed. We will discuss what to expect to provide within the wetland permit application and give the basics of the permitting process.

The Shoreland Protection Act went into effect on July 1, 2014. Under this Act, all lakes and ponds greater than 10 acres in size now have an established Protected Shoreland Area which encompasses the area from the mean water level (shoreline) out 250 feet. Within this area, the creation of new cleared area and impervious surface is now regulated. Come learn about what these new regulations are, what activities are exempt, how municipalities are involved, and what is required for a municipality to seek delegation.

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