

# ACRPC

*update* January 2018

## Major Disaster Declaration Declared for Vermont

On January 2nd, 2018 Governor Phil Scott’s request for a federal disaster declaration was granted for Addison County, along with nine other Vermont counties, as a result of severe storms and flooding that occurred between October 29-30 2017.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Public Assistance disaster declaration (DR-4356) allows communities and public utilities in those counties sustaining at least \$3,200 in damage to receive 75 percent federal reimbursement for storm

response and recovery, including costs for debris removal and repairs to public roads, bridges, and other infrastructure with damage resulting from the storm.

The declaration also includes funds from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for towns, state agencies, and approved nonprofit organizations statewide. This program provides funding for a variety of mitigation activities, including home buy-outs, structural elevations, flood proofing and public infrastructure upgrades for roads, bridges and culverts in vulnerable locations.

Town leaders will be able to begin the reimbursement process at four applicant briefings to be held throughout the state. The briefings will outline the requirements for receiving federal awards and maximizing eligibility of repairs. Vermont Emergency Management, Agency of Transportation district personnel, and FEMA will help guide town officials through the application process and will continue to be available to provide assistance.

ACRPC will host a FEMA applicant briefing on Thursday, January 11th at 10:00am at ACRPC in Middlebury. The other three briefings are as follows:

- Tuesday, January 9th – St. Albans at 9:30am (579 Lake Road)
- Wednesday, January 10th – Brattleboro at 10:00am (venue TBA)
- Friday, January 12th – Waterbury at 10:00am (EOC, 45 State Drive)

To become an Applicant for this disaster event, your town or public utility must fill out a request for public

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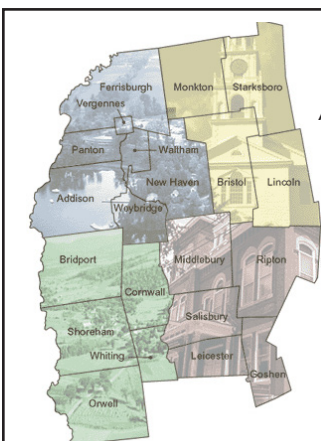
*This newsletter is financed through the State of Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the State of Vermont. All programs of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission are handicapped accessible.*

## Commission Calendar

January 2018

10	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting
17	6:30pm	TAC Meeting
18	7:00pm	ACSWMD Meeting
24	6:30pm	Executive Board Meeting

Meetings are held at ACRPC, 14 Seminary Street, Middlebury, and are open to the public.



Addison County Regional Planning Commission  
14 Seminary Street  
Middlebury, VT 05753

Phone: 802.388.3141  
Fax: 802.388.0038

# Leftovers...

assistance form (RPA). This form will be available at the applicant briefing. Towns, utilities, and private non-profit organizations that sustained damage are encouraged to attend one of the four scheduled applicant's briefings to learn about how to use the online FEMA grants portal and the Public Assistance grants process. For town leaders seeking more information on the funding process, please visit <http://vem.vermont.gov/funding/pa>.

Requests for Public Assistance (RPA) MUST be submitted no later than February 1st for your municipality to be eligible to receive funding. Please submit all RPAs to Kim Canarecci at [kim.canarecci@vermont.gov](mailto:kim.canarecci@vermont.gov). If your town reported damage resulting from this storm but has not yet submitted a RPA, please get in touch with Tim at ACRPC immediately. Tim can be reached at [tbouton@acrpc.org](mailto:tbouton@acrpc.org) or by phone at 388-3

## 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference

The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP), along with our co-host, Vermont State Parks, is pleased to announce the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference that will be held in Burlington, Vermont, on April 23 through 26, 2018. This four day event brings together 250+ Outdoor Recreation Professionals for: Learning, Networking, Celebrating and Mentoring. This year's conference theme, "Building Resilient Communities, Environments, and Economies" focuses on demonstrating the tangible ways that connecting people with the outdoors improves public health, reinvigorates local economies, and instills a life-long commitment to the environment.

The best way to stay informed is to visit the 2018 National Outdoor Recreation Conference website, where you can also sign up for the mailing list: <https://www.2018norc.org/>. You can also connect via Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1481366641928732/>.

AICP Credits will be offered.

## 2018 Addison County Legislative Breakfast Schedule

- Jan. 29th – Grange Hall, Bridport
- Feb. 5th – American Legion, Bristol
- Feb. 12th – Grange Hall (82 Post Office Hill Rd.), Granville
- Feb. 19th – President's Day, No Breakfast
- Feb 26th – Parish Hall, Vergennes
- Mar. 5th – Town Meeting Day, No Breakfast
- Mar. 12th – Fire House, Orwell
- Mar. 19th – Platt Memorial Library (279 Main St.), Shoreham
- Mar. 26th – American Legion, Middlebury ~ Governor's Breakfast
- Apr. 2nd – Congregational Church (Maple St.), Salisbury
- Apr. 9th – Ag Lunch, Grange Hall, Bridport
- Apr. 16th – Congregational Church, Weybridge
- Apr. 23rd – Congregational Church, New Haven
- Apr. 30th – Town Hall, Whiting
- June 4th – Grange hall, Bridport

All breakfasts begin at 7:00am, with program running from 7:30 - 8:45am. Luncheons begin at 12:00pm and end at 1:45pm.

Purchase of breakfast not required to attend but helps our hosts to defray the cost of opening their hall.

Sponsored by Bridport Grange #303 and Addison County Farm Bureau; Supported by Addison County Chamber of Commerce and ACRPC

# News, Resources & Events

## ~ Webinar Series ~

### **Implementing Act 171: Land Use Planning To Address Forest Fragmentation**

Beginning in 2018, Vermont's Act 171 requires that municipalities and regions that are updating their municipal and regional plans identify areas that are important as "forest blocks" and "habitat connectors" and plan for development in those areas to minimize forest fragmentation. As town and regional plans come up for revision, many communities are now attempting to create the required maps and write appropriate language. This webinar will provide background, tools, and samples for this implementation process.

What will be covered:

- What Act 171 requires of towns and regional planning commissions
- Sample town and regional plan language
- Guidance on finding, interpreting, and creating the required maps using the VT Agency of Natural Resources' BioFinder website
- Case studies of policies that maintain and protect forests and connectivity

There will also be time to respond to questions. The panel of presenters includes: Jens Hilke or Monica Przyperhart, VT Fish & Wildlife; Jamey Fidel, VT Natural Resources Council; Clare Rock, Central VT RPC.

The webinar will be offered on the following dates and times:

- January 29, 2018, 6-7:30 pm
- February 12, 2017, 2-3:30pm
- March 1, 2018, noon – 1:30 pm

To register please visit: <http://vcgi.vermont.gov/events/list>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Each webinar will follow the same format with the same content.

### **Save the Date! 2018 Vermont Walk/Bike Summit**

In partnership with Vermont Agency of Transportation, and a number of other participating organizations and sponsors, the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee and Southern Windsor Regional Planning Commissions will host the 2018 statewide Vermont Walk/Bike Summit on May 4th in White River Junction.

The Vermont Walk/Bike Summit is an excellent opportunity to connect with community members, employers, planners and researchers from throughout the state for in-depth sharing on current efforts, new ideas, and networking to advance more livable communities.

This year's Summit will include interactive mobile workshops, peer exchanges, a highly-acclaimed keynote, and a variety of dynamic presentations and topics including advocacy and education, public safety, economic development, and the built environment. For further information about the event visit here: <https://vtwalkbikesummit.com/>.