



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

# ACRPC

*update*

May 2006

## commission calendar

May	3	8:00 a.m.	Town Officer's Education Conference Location: Holiday Inn, Rutland Information: <a href="http://www.regonline.com/toec06">www.regonline.com/toec06</a>
	10	3:00 5:00 6:00 7:00	<b>ACRPC Commission Annual Meeting</b> Open House at Judy Kowalczyk's Hors D'Oeuvres at Blueberry Hill Inn Dinner at Blueberry Hill Inn Annual Meeting at Blueberry Hill Inn
	15 & 16	10 a.m.	Green Mtn. Nat'l Forest Grant Writing Workshop Location: Middlebury Chamber of Commerce
	17	7:00 p.m.	Transportation Advisory Committee Location: ACRPC Office
	18	7:00 p.m.	Emergency Planning Workshop Middlebury College's Kirk Alumni Center Information: Tim Bouton, ACRPC
	19	8:00 a.m.	Champlain Basin Education Initiative Summit Location: Shelburne Farms
	21	10:00 - 4:00	Emergency Planning Workshop Mt. Abraham Union High School Information: Tim Bouton, ACRPC
	22-24	Three Days	Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference Location: Wyndham Burlington Hotel Information: <a href="http://www.neiwppc.org">www.neiwppc.org</a>
	31	7:00 p.m.	ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office
	June	9 & 10	
10		All Day	Vermont Clean Water Day Locations around the State
14		7:30 p.m.	ACRPC Full Commission Meeting Location: To be determined
21		7:00 p.m.	Transportation Advisory Committee Location: ACRPC Office
28		7:00 p.m.	ACRPC Executive Board Meeting Location: ACRPC Office

Meetings are open to the public.  
Minutes are available on-line at [www.acrpc.org](http://www.acrpc.org).  
For further information, contact ACRPC at 388-3141.

## Simulated Terrorist Attack Set for May 21<sup>st</sup>

Leaders of area first response agencies and emergency planners will descend on Mt Abraham Union High School on Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> to gauge their reaction to an unexpected terrorist attack. As part of ongoing efforts designed to test disaster preparedness in the Addison region, the Addison County Emergency Planning Committee and ACRPC will be co-hosting a tabletop exercise with Vermont Homeland Security.

A tabletop exercise is one where "players" interact around a table or tables making decisions based on a predetermined scenario and existing disaster plans. The exercise is designed to familiarize players with each other and to evaluate the effectiveness of existing disaster plans. Often, during an actual disaster, too much time is wasted by those in charge sparring over who, where or how decisions are made. By working together during a tabletop exercise, players become familiar with each other and learn to use each other's strengths to realize the best outcomes.

In addition to building a leadership team, the exercise simultaneously reviews current disaster plans to determine whether the written plan reflects actual actions, and if not, why not. It also is planned to test the community's ability to access resources and plan for a long-term incident.

Central to the concept of a tabletop is its use as a learning tool. There are no right or wrong answers and the process of coming to a decision is the most important task.

With any luck, Bristol will still be standing after the simulated attack and attendees will all head home with a renewed understanding of how a large incident can be managed through cooperation.

During the week of May 1<sup>st</sup> selected "players" will be invited to participate and all others are invited to attend as observers. For more detail, contact: Tim Bouton at 388-3141 or [tbouton@sover.net](mailto:tbouton@sover.net).

## ACRPC Annual Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 2006  
At the Blueberry Hill Inn, Goshen

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission will be holding its Annual Meeting at the idyllic Blueberry Hill Inn in Goshen. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:00, dinner will begin at 6:00, and Dr. Joshua Farley of the Gund Institute for Environmental Economics at UVM will be the special guest speaker at 7:00. ACRPC will provide dinner for Commission members and their spouse or significant other. Other guests are welcome to attend at their own expense.

Prior to the meeting, there will be an **Open House at Judy Kowalczyk's** off-the-grid home in Ripton from 3:00 to 5:00. This Open House will exhibit green building techniques and technologies for comfortable off-the-grid living via the sun (all year in Vermont!) and other renewable sources. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Contact ACRPC for more information about either even at 388-3141.

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### Oil Tank Removal Grants For Residential Tank Owners

The Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF) offers grants up to \$1000 to residential tank owners towards the removal, replacement, or upgrade of underground storage tanks (USTs) and aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) used to *heat a residence* located in Vermont.

The DEC will give priority to applicants with lower incomes. The DEC will also prioritize applications according to environmental threat and health risk. Projects that will address the greatest environmental or health risk will be awarded before other projects.

The grant program covers USTs and aboveground storage tanks ASTs and is capped at \$150,000 per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). In order to obtain the grant, tank owners must complete an application and submit it to the Waste Management Division of the VT Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information, call 241-3888 or visit <http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/ust/ustgrantapplication.htm>.

## Emergency Planning Workshop Scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>

Local emergency planners, 1<sup>st</sup> response agency leaders, and town officials are invited to attend an Emergency Planning Workshop at Middlebury's Kirk Alumni Center on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Following closely on the heels of the April 26<sup>th</sup> Pandemic Flu Summit, this workshop will be an opportunity for local emergency leaders to begin the process of developing an emergency operations plan for their town.

Recent homeland security communications have recommended that most towns in the Addison region drop the use of the familiar Rapid Response Plan in favor of a more detailed emergency operations plan. While a few of our communities will still be able to use the new and revised RRP format, Municipalities with a population of over 2500 residents or who have an operating fire, police or rescue squad are being encouraged to use a more detailed template for their plans.

The workshop, hosted by ACRPC will introduce participants to hazards assessments, new mutual aid concepts, Local NIMS adoption and the use of the new templates. Participants will have an opportunity to work with others in their community who attend and begin the process of developing their own emergency plans. Upon leaving, participants will be encouraged to schedule a community visit with ACRPC's emergency planner Tim Bouton to follow up on this initial workshop. For more information or to register for this workshop, contact: Tim Bouton 388-3141 or [tbouton@sover.net](mailto:tbouton@sover.net).

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### Vermont State Parks Photography Contest

This Vermont State Parks annual photography contest is designed to highlight the best in what the Vermont State Parks have to offer its many visitors each year. Anyone with a camera is invited, and encouraged, to submit photos that capture a part of your visit to a Vermont State Park.

All photographs must be taken within the boundaries or shoreline of a Vermont State Park between Jan. 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006. There will be four contest categories in which prizes will be awarded: 1. *Outdoor recreation*, 2. *Camping scenes*, 3. *Plants and animals*, and 4. *Open*. Each entrant is allowed up to five photograph entries.

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### Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence & Pollution Prevention

Applications and nominations for the Governor's Award can be found at [www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ead/gap/Index.htm](http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/ead/gap/Index.htm) or by calling 214-3628. The deadline for nominations is May 31, 2006.

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### 2007 Transportation Enhancement Grants

Letters of Intent Due June 2

Transportation Enhancement Grants fund activities to expand transportation choices, such as safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, scenic routes, beautification, and other investments increase opportunities for recreation, accessibility, and safety for everyone beyond traditional highway programs.

Funds can be used for planning, feasibility studies, preliminary engineering, property acquisition, staff time, and construction. Some some funds can be used for educational and promotional activities. Eligible applicants include municipalities, state agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and federal agencies. Applications are available at <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/progdev/documents/ltf/enhancements/2007application.pdf> and more information is available from Rick Kehne at 388-3141 or [rkehne@sover.net](mailto:rkehne@sover.net).

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