

ACRPC

News

November 2002



REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

On-Site Regulations: Important Dates & Facts

June 14, 2002

All lots, no matter what size, created from that day on need a state wastewater /water supply permit.

November 1, 2002

Existing, but undeveloped lots can be developed with one single-family residence without needing a state permit until July 1 2007, provided that the system complies with the state technical standards, and is designed and certified by a licensed designer.

July 1, 2007

All new and replacement water and wastewater systems will require a state permit.

Any local ordinance regulating water and wastewater systems will be superceded by the state rules.

The revised minimum site conditions will apply in all municipalities, regardless of their planning and zoning status.

Minimum Site Conditions

The old rules required 24 inches of naturally-occurring soil above bedrock or the seasonal high water table.

The new rules have revised minimum site conditions that allow for as little as 18 inches of naturally-occurring soil over bedrock and as little as six inches of naturally-occurring soil above the seasonal high water table.

Land Records

All permits and design or inspection certifications must now be recorded in the municipal land records.

Municipal Planning and Zoning

Until July of 2007 in order to use the less stringent minimum site conditions, a municipality must have a current, regionally-approved plan and must have zoning in place.

Exemptions

Until July 2007, there are numerous exemptions to the permit requirements for existing lots and development.

Addison Region Municipal Plan Status
as of November 2002



In July, 13 of the region's 21 municipalities had current, regionally-approved plans and zoning. Within those municipalities, landowners can use the revised minimum site conditions to meet the state permit requirements.

Note that since July, Leicester's plan has lapsed and so is not included on the current map. This does not affect their status in relation to the on-site regulations.

November

Calendar

December

- 12 7:00 p.m. Bristol Plan Hearing & Local Gov't Committee Mtg. Bristol Town Offices.
- 13 7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting. Kirk Alumni, Middlebury.
- 18 7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities & Services Committee Mtg. ACRPC Office.
- 19 3:00 p.m. Economic Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.
- 20 7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.
- 27 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting. ACRPC Office.

- 11 7:30 p.m. ACRPC Full Commission Meeting. Kirk Alumni, Middlebury.
- 16 7:00 p.m. Utilities, Facilities and Services Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.
- 17 3:00 p.m. Economic Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.
- 18 7:00 p.m. Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting. ACRPC Office.
- 25 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting. ACRPC Office.

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Addison County Regional
Planning Commission

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Mobile Command Post

Addison County emergency services providers began asking the public and local business community to donate funds for a much needed mobile command post over a month ago.

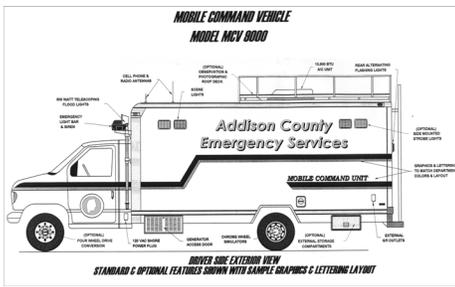
The project, with FEMA funding from ACRPC's Project Impact is well over halfway to the \$150,000 supporters feel is needed for purchase and upfit costs.

The command post is a four-wheel drive box truck outfitted with communications equipment and a conference room to allow large scale emergencies to be coordinated from one single location.

Any county emergency response agency will have access to the vehicle to assist coordination of emergencies including, fire, mass casualty, search/rescue, floods, hazardous material spills or even public event management.

The current fund-raiser is being coordinated through the efforts of Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley (388-3191) and ACRPC's Tim Bouton (388-3141).

They hope to reach their goal by early winter to allow vehicle delivery by early spring of 2003.



Community Tree Grant Program Felled by Budget Cuts

The Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program has announced that due to budget reductions it will not be offering its Trees for Local Communities grant program. Since 1991, the program has provided over \$750,000 in grants.

VYCC Work Crews for Community Projects

Since 1985 municipalities, public agencies and other community organizations have hired Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) crews for a variety of projects including constructing and improving trails, building bridges, stabilizing streambanks, and restoring historic sites and cemeteries.

While VYCC is best known for doing work constructing and maintaining trails, the crews have skills and experience in a variety of areas such as carpentry, masonry and landscaping.

If you have a project in your community that a VYCC work crew could help you complete, contact them and talk about it. In addition to work crews, they provide assistance with project planning and funding. For more information, contact Paul Schmidt (802) 241-3904 or vyccpaul@aol.com.

Emergency Planning in the Addison Region

Local responders, emergency management directors and other local officials will soon be receiving what is hoped to be the first of several grant opportunities directed at terrorism preparedness. The current grant program using \$1.6 million in federal Department of Justice terrorism funds is being made available to bolster response capacity within local responder groups.

Additionally, FEMA citizen disaster training funds of up to \$149,000 will be available to the state. These funds are for the purpose of developing Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to work in support roles in the event of a major disaster.

Recreation Trails Grants

Applications for Recreation Trails Grants are due January 31. These grant funds are for (1) maintenance on existing trails; (2) restoration of areas damaged by use of trails; (3) development of trail-side and trail-head facilities; (4) trail accessibility; (5) construction of new trails; (6) preparation and printing of trail-related maps, studies, and other educational information and materials related to trails; (7) trail protection including fee simple title to property or easement acquisition for recreation trails or recreation trail corridors; and (8) purchase of hand tools for trail work.

These grants will be awarded to municipalities and nonprofits and require a minimum 20% local match. There will also be a mini-grant option that requires no match.

For more information, contact Brandy at ACRPC (388-3141 or bsaxton@sover.net).

ACRPC staff has for years been working to build and support a strong regional disaster planning group. That group, Addison County Emergency Planning (ACEP) is currently being held up as a successful model in the State of Vermont.

Because of the ACEP's strength, Vermont Emergency Management will be depending on this group to assist in the coordination of DOJ and FEMA funds for Addison County.

The regional coordination that ACEP can provide will ensure that duplicate projects are not created and that equipment/ services are provided where they are needed most. For further information on ACEP, contact Tim Bouton at the ACRPC office at 388-3141 or tbouton@sover.net.

Transportation Meetings

VTrans will be hosting public meetings on two transportation topics in November. On the 14th, there will be a meeting on the Boston-Montreal High-Speed Rail Corridor Planning Study at 6:30 p.m. at the Pavilion Auditorium in Montpelier. There will also be a series of public meetings to report on the findings of the Airport Economic Impact Study. For more information contact Garrett Dague (388-3141 or gdague@sover.net).