

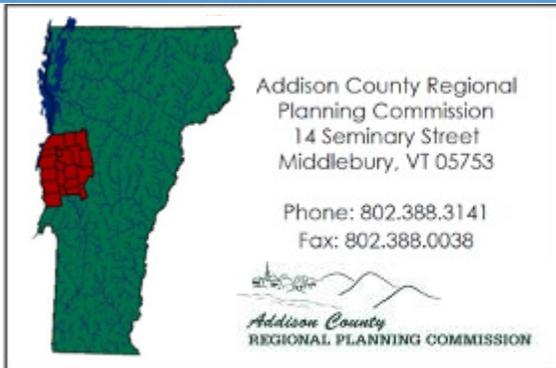


This Month's Calendar

Digital calendar located at
<http://acrpc.org/calendar/>

Date	Time	Event
Wed. 12	7:00pm	Full Commission Meeting (Zoom)
Wed. 19	6:30pm	TAC meeting
Thurs 20	6:00pm	ACSWMD meeting
Wed. 26	5:00pm	Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
Wed. 26	6:30pm	ACRPC Executive Board meeting

Meetings held at 14 Seminary St, Middlebury, are currently postponed due to COVID-19. Virtual meetings are open to the public and call-in information is provided by invitation and request.



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 ADA accessible.

In Remembrance of Ellen Kurrelmeyer

I write on a rainy spring morning to honor our friend, Ellen Kurrelmeyer. Ellen died peacefully in her sleep on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. We will miss her.

Ellen has been a friend and a member of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission for as long as I can remember. Ellen joined ACRPC in 1998 as a Delegate representing the Town of Whiting. At that time, she had recently returned to the Vermont she had enjoyed as a child. She and her husband, John Travis, were looking for a new start after having spent years living in New York City, where Ellen had done scenery and lighting for the Light Opera of Manhattan, which specialized in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. When LOOM folded, she taught scenery construction and art at Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn.

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(In Remembrance of Ellen Kurrelmeyer)

Ellen and John took up residence in Whiting, Vermont. Ellen took a job as the postmaster for the community and she and John ran Bulwagga Books, a used bookstore and specialty gift shop, out of their home on the corner of Route 30 in the center of Whiting.

Ellen jumped into community life in Whiting. In addition to working and living right in the center of the community, Ellen served on the Whiting Town Planning Commission, chaired the democratic party, served on the Selectboard and volunteered at the school and food shelf. From these positions, Ellen advocated tirelessly to serve Whiting.

I remember first meeting Ellen as a friendly, jovial and hardworking RPC delegate. Ellen's list of service to ACRPC is long and impressive. She served as a delegate for 21 years. She served on the Executive Board three times, including her current tenure. At the time of her passing, Ellen also served as Chair of the Act 250 Committee, and on the Local Government and Housing Committees. Ellen's service to ACRPC and Whiting ran deep. This year merely illustrated an example of her dedication.

However, Ellen's dedication is only a small part of her story. Her personality stood as her most endearing quality. In 2005, ACRPC recognized Ellen as the first recipient of its "Bertha Hanson Community Service Award", affectionately known as the "Bertha". In part, the inscription on the Bertha reads,

She had a friendly nature and a ready smile...She always served as a voice of conciliation and common sense. She participated as a valued member of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission, and all who knew her remember her with respect and affection.

This tribute describes Ellen equally as well as Bertha and stands as the reason ACRPC honored her as its first recipient. We will miss her friendly and thoughtful participation in our work, but I hope we will keep her spirit alive as we work together to make Addison County a better place.

Rest in peace Ellen and thank you.

-Adam Lougee

ACRPC Executive Director

Announcements

ACRPC has a New Website!
Check it out at <https://acrpc.org/>



Join us to consider transformational goals and actions for the future of our economy, environment, communities and people at VCRD's Summit on the Future of Vermont!

- Consider a Proposition for VT's future
- Think with experts and leaders
- Contribute your ideas for action
- Engage in partnership

Share your voice and shape Vermont's future!

Contact info@vtrural.org or 802-223-6091



www.acornenergycoop.com/community-solar

The Acorn Renewable Energy Co-op is hosting informational Zoom meetings for anyone interested in this innovative solution to help decentralize our energy grid. A limited number of subscriptions are now available for the community solar array planned for the closed landfill on Pine Street in Bristol. Subscriptions will be open to any Vermont residents with an electric meter in the Green Mountain Power (GMP) service territory beginning May 8. An overview of the project is on the Community Solar page of Acorn Energy Co-op's website:

www.acornenergycoop.com/community-solar

Email Mary at info@acornenergycoop.com to register or if you have any questions.



Spring Transportation Challenge

Grab your bike, roller blades, or sneakers and join thousands of Vermonters **May 1–16** for the Way to Go! Spring Transportation Challenge. This fun two-week challenge is your chance to "Get up and Go" walking, rolling, biking, carpooling and riding the bus for a chance to win great raffle prizes including \$50 gift cards to grocery stores, Darn Tough Socks, walk/bike safety gear and our grand prize, a foldable fat tire DJ eBike.

Celebrate everyone who walks and bikes and shares a ride. Log two trips between May 1 and 16th to be entered to win great prizes. Learn more about the challenge and stay tuned for more prize announcements

at www.connectingcommuters.org/waytogo.

Staff and students (under 18) can participate at school, too. Details on how to win points and prizes for your school here www.waytogovt.org

Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

May 15th - 22nd

<https://vtcommunityforestry.org/community/story/emerald-ash-borer-awareness-week-may-15th-22nd>

VT Urban and Community Forestry and partners are raising awareness and understanding about the destructive invasive forest pest. Free webinars are planned for **May 19 and May 20**.

Interested individuals also may sign up to become a Forest Pest First Detector to help monitor and plan for invasive insects in their community

by contacting **Ginger Nickerson** at

ginger.nickerson@uvm.edu

Grants & Funding

COVID Funding for Municipalities

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/cdbg-cv>

Through June 10 or until all funding awarded

Community Development Block Grant CARES Act funding through the Municipal Public Facility and Service Program is available for municipalities and non-profits that have unmet needs due to COVID-19. Funding will be awarded through a competitive application process. Grants are from \$5,000 to \$200,000. For more information contact Nathan Cleveland at nathan.cleveland@vermont.gov

Small Business Administration

Restaurant Revitalization & Shuttered Venue Grants

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/restaurant-revitalization-fund>

These grants provide emergency assistance for eligible restaurants, bars and brewpubs, coffee shops, caterers, food trucks, and more.

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/shuttered-venue-operators-grant>

The Shuttered Venue Operator provides assistance to live venue operators, performing arts organizations, museums, theaters, etc.

Farm to School Vision grants

tinyurl.com/FarmToSchoolVision

Application deadline is May 12

This new grant program is to help communities build better food systems through youth education and empowerment. Up to \$38,000 is available to support projects that help youth learn about and engage in issues related to agriculture, nutrition, health and related fields. Vermont schools and licensed and/or registered childcare providers are eligible to apply. Non-profits or community organizations that conduct programming in Vermont are also eligible, but must apply as a co-applicant with an eligible school or childcare.

Downtown and Village Center Tax Credit

<https://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/funding/tax-credits>

Applications are due **Thursday, July 1, 2021**

See the program guidelines and application.

Applicants are also encouraged to register for a **FREE Applicant Webinar, on May 11, at 10:00am**

Applications and questions can be sent to Caitlin Corkins at caitlin.corkins@vermont.gov

VTrans Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program

<https://vtrans.vermont.gov/highway/local-projects/bike-ped>

Applications due by 1:00 pm, June 4

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) has issued a grant solicitation for new infrastructure projects that improve access and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. In 2020, awards totaled \$3 million for construction and planning projects throughout the state. The AOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program improves access and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians through the planning, design, and construction of infrastructure projects. To learn more about the AOT 2021 grant program and to access the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Guide and Application, visit

For more information contact Jon Kaplan at 802-498-4742 or Jon.Kaplan@vermont.gov

Grant Deadline Reminders

(more information in previous newsletters, <https://acrpc.org/newsletters/>)

Walter Cerf Community Fund

<https://vermontcf.org/our-impact/programs-and-funds/walter-cerf-community-fund/>

Applications due by 5pm Wednesday, June 23

Tools & Training

Essential of Local Government

Thursday, May 20 at 5:30 pm

ACRPC's John Van Hoesen will host this training for new members of local government, for example Planning Commissions, Selectboards, Zoning Boards, or Development Review Boards. Topics will range from an overview of Vermont's open meeting law, to running efficient meetings, and fostering collaboration within local government.

Please join John using this link:

<https://meet.google.com/qpx-qkck-tph?authuser=0&hs=122>

A Citizen's Guide to Community-Based Mapping

Thursday, June 17 at 5:30pm

ACRPC's John Van Hoesen will host this training for all community stakeholders!: from members of local government, to business owners, to conservation groups, and even individuals just curious about new ways to explore their communities. John will provide a brief overview of the importance of community mapping, highlight relevant state resources, and demonstrate a few free tools that allow anyone to explore and create maps.

Please join John using this link:

<https://meet.google.com/rdq-wpqt-rbp?hs=122&authuser=0>

ICS 402 - ICS Summary for Executives

Thursday, May 6, 2021, 8:00am - 12:00 pm

This course provides an orientation to the Incident Command System for Executives and Senior Officials.

You can register for these courses via the VT Learning Management System:

<http://vem.vermont.gov/training/trainingprogram/lms>

Updating Your Town Plan for Forest Integrity (Act 171)

<https://anr.vermont.gov/content/trainings>

Monday, May 24, 7:00pm-8:00pm

Tune in to hear how Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's Community Wildlife Program can help your town interpret available data and translate it into actionable planning and policy.



Ask an Arborist Webinar Series

<https://vtcommunityforestry.org/news/events/ask-arborist-webinar-series-1>

Each Friday, we will host a conversation with a Vermont-based ISA Certified Arborist about all things trees - from tree selection to planting, pruning, and planning. Each arborist will share about their work and answer any tree question you may have!

- **May 14th, 10am, Tim Parsons**, Middlebury College's Landscape Horticulturalist
- **May 21st, 10am, Bill Conn**, Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) Utility Forester

Weather & National Weather Service Alerts Seminar

Tuesday, May 25, 1:00 - 2:00pm

During this 1-hour seminar, students will learn how to find data on the National Weather Service (NWS) website, learn what that data means, and learn how it can be used. This seminar is especially useful for Emergency Management Directors, First Responders, and Emergency Operations Center staff. Register by May 20.

In Remembrance of Marty Ilick

Addison County and Vermont lost another champion this month. Marty Ilick, founding co-creator of the Lewis Creek Association, and her husband Terry Dinnan died tragically in an accident on Lewis Creek.



For decades the Lewis Creek Association has tracked and worked to improve the water quality along the creek's 80-mile run from the Green Mountains east of Starksboro through forests and farmland to where it empties into Lake Champlain in North Ferrisburgh. Marty was devoted to sharing her love of the creek, its beauty, the woods, flowers, animals and magic by bringing everyone to the table. In 2017 she was recognized with the Zetterstrom Environmental Award for her efforts.

LCA has established a fund in Marty and Terry's honor, to continue their legacy of conservation. Donations can be made to it by selecting it in the Designation dropdown on the Lewis Creek donation webpage: <https://www.lewiscreek.org/donate>

Cards can be sent to Tai Dinnan, 442 Lewis Creek Road, Charlotte, VT 05445, or to LCA to share with the family, at PO Box 313, Charlotte, VT 05445

More than 73% of Addison County has been Vaccinated!

<https://acrpc.org/covid-19/>

See webpage above for Addison County-specific information about COVID-19 or contact Andrew L'Roe at alroe@acrpc.org

**Stay up-to-date on the rollout of
COVID-19 vaccines in Vermont.**

Who's eligible and how to sign up:

HealthVermont.gov/OurShotVT



All Vermont residents age 16 and older are eligible to be vaccinated! College students and some residents of another state are now eligible for vaccines.