

September BCRC Meeting

Bromley Mountain Expansion Plans and Surface Water Classification Topics at September BCRC Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Bennington County Regional Commission will be held on Thursday, September 21, in Peru at the Mountain Campus of Burr and Burton Academy. The campus is located at 3067 Hapgood Pond Road – three miles from Peru Village along Hapgood Pond Road ([click here](#) for directions). Arrive by 5:30 PM to enjoy a delicious light meal provided by Peru's own JJ Hapgood General Store!

The meeting will begin with a hearing and vote to consider approval of municipal plans for Manchester, Stamford, Landgrove, and Old Bennington Village. The plans are available for review at BCRC's website (www.bcrct.org).

Next on the agenda is Ethan Swift, Watershed Coordinator with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, who will present information on the state's new classifications and management strategies for our streams, rivers, lakes and ponds. The meeting also will include an informative presentation on plans to expand the Bromley Mountain Ski Area to include a new base lodge and housing on the "Best Farm" property, located east of most existing ski area development along Route 11.

The meeting is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Jim Sullivan at the BCRC (jsullivan@bcrct.org or 802-442-0713).



**Sept 7-8 | Regional Planning
Conference Coming to
Manchester | BYOB!**

The annual conference of the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association ([NNECAPA](#)) will be hosted this month in Manchester on September 7th and 8th at the Taconic Hotel. This year's [conference](#) is BYOB – Bring Your Own Bike, that is! Attendees will be encouraged to hop on bikes to explore the Manchester area in between presentations on new technologies for the planning profession, food systems development successes, experiences in public engagement, and more. Click [here](#) to view the full schedule of sessions and workshops.

[Read More...](#)

Housing Revenue Bond Initiative

Thirty-five million dollars in bonding will be used for the development and improvement of ownership and rental housing for very low to middle-income households under a newly established program. Awards will be based on community needs and the availability of resources for leverage. Priority will be given to projects in areas designated for growth and those with a high degree of readiness to proceed. Projects must serve households at or below 120% of area median income.

[Read More...](#)

Green Mountain National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions



The Green Mountain National Forest has provided the following summary of proposed actions for the Manchester Ranger District. For more information contact the Manchester GMNF office at (802) 362-2307.

Branch Pond Trail Relocation: Relocate approximately 1 mile of Branch Pond Trail out of three significant state wetlands. A combination of trail relocations, puncheons and drainage structures construction will take place. [Read More...](#)

Prospect Mountain Nordic Trail Improvement: Upgrade and repair the Upper Loose Moose, Mountain, Hawthorne, Shea's and Danish Delight Nordic ski trails. Work includes the removal of boulders, removing 10 trees, installation of nine culverts, and some widening and short reroutes of trails. [Read More...](#)

Woodford Lake Estates Snowmobile Trails: Designate 1.7 miles of existing snowmobile trail located on a powerline, FR 280, and an access trail. Grade trail tread, and install water bars, ditches and 2 culverts. Remove snowmobile use on 4 miles of Forest Trail 393 (the Dome Trail). [Read More...](#)



Economic Development Highlights

Vermont Training Program Grant at NSK

On July 7, the Department of Economic Development awarded a \$208,753 grant to Bennington's NSK Steering Systems America through the Vermont Training Program (VTP). The grant will support a year-long program to support the training of 325 NSK employees. BCIC staff helped to facilitate this grant, connecting VTP administration with NSK plant management and reviewing the application. The grant is one of the largest in VTP's history, and accounts for approximately one-sixth of the program budget. Check out what the *Bennington Banner* had to say [HERE](#).

Vermont Community Foundation Grant

On June 9, BCIC was awarded \$15,000 from the Vermont Community Foundation's Innovations & Collaborations grant, in support of the Bennington County Entrepreneurial Expansion Program. Partnering with The Lightning Jar and local affiliates of the Kauffman Foundation, BCIC will adopt the Ice House entrepreneurship training program as an educational resource for entrepreneurs in the region. BCIC is also developing a Mentorship Matching program to supplement the Ice House, providing participants with access to one-on-one mentoring from successful entrepreneurs in the region. BCIC staff have also taken roles on The Lightning Jar's leadership committee, and have committed to maintaining an office presence in the co-working space as part of its ongoing work. Read more [HERE](#).



Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance (BCSWA)

BCSWA was created by the Towns of Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland and Woodford “to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills, by incineration or similar means by reducing the amount of waste generated, conserving resources and promoting recycling and reuse.” BCSWA offers outreach and education on methods to recycle an array of materials. If your school, business or institution is interested in having someone visit your site to discuss better ways to handle solid waste, organics, recyclables and other materials, please contact Michael Batcher at 802-442-0713 x 2 or mbatcher@bcrcvt.org.

In addition, many retail stores accept alkaline and rechargeable batteries, fluorescent bulbs, including both tubes and CFLS and latex and oil based paint for FREE! Goodwill in Bennington accepts clothing and has trucks on weekends

in Arlington and Manchester for donations of clothing. There are textile boxes located all over Bennington County, including at the transfer stations, where you can donate clothing. The Bennington, Northshire, Pownal, Searsburg and Sunderland Transfer Stations accept E-Waste. Visit www.bcswavt.org to find locations and more information.

The BCSWA will hold a **household hazardous waste event on Saturday, September 30, 2017, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM** for residents of the 13 Alliance towns at the Dorset School, 130 School Lane, Dorset, VT. Please visit www.bcswavt.org for more information.



The Local Emergency Planning Committee 7 meeting will be held on October 26th, at 6:00pm, location TBD. If you'd like to attend this presentation email Allison Strohl at alangedale@bcrcvt.org. Updates and the meeting agenda will be emailed once they become available.

Todd Sears of Vermont Emergency Management will join the fall Local Emergency Planning Committee 7 (LEPC 7) meeting. We will discuss the basics of cybersecurity in an easy to understand way, Types of Attacks, Penetration Methods, Vermont State

Top 5 Cyber Security Threats of 2017

1. Reverse Deception Tactics

Response Plans and Challenges, and Cyberhygiene. You will leave better informed, less intimidated by the subject, and entertained.

[Read More...](#)

2. Sophisticated Phishing Campaigns
3. Strategic Use of Information Operations
4. Alternative Crypto-Currencies
5. DDoS-for- Hire Services

Events & Opportunities



**Catalysts of the Climate Economy: National Innovation Summit September 6-8
Burlington, VT**

[Read More...](#)



Backyard Woods Program | Online Course

This 6-week online course uses a combination of videos, webinars, discussion forums, and weekly activities to guide you in the exploration of your backyard woods. The course runs September 18 through October 23.

[Read more...](#)



**Annual Conservation Summit | September 23
Common Ground Center, Starksboro, VT**

[Read more...](#)



**Way to Go School Challenge
September 25 - October 6**

New for 2017, Way To Go! Is focused on getting K–12 schools on board to battle carbon pollution head-on.

You'll get the tools you need to motivate your students, staff, and teachers to bike, walk, carpool or ride the bus to victory! Using transportation options, other than driving solo, helps us reach our goal of reducing 1 million lbs of carbon pollution in Vermont. That means cleaner air for everyone.

[Read More...](#)



Vermont's 7th Annual Farm to Plate Gathering | October 26 & 27 Killington Grand Resort

[Read more...](#)



New England Grassroots Environment Fund

Now accepting requests from town energy committees for up to \$3,500 in funding due September 15.

[Read more..](#)



Clean Energy Development Fund Incentive

Cash grants available to all Vermont-based sugar makers for the purchase and installation of wood pellet (or wood chip) maple sap evaporators. Grant size will be based on the size of the evaporators installed up to \$20,000. For more information on this and other renewable energy programs click [HERE](#).



FEMA Aid Programs for Vermont

Federal Disaster assistance has been made available to Vermont for the severe storms and flooding that occurred from June 29 to July 1, 2017. Funding is available for emergency and repair work in Addison, Bennington,

Caledonia, Orange, Rutland, Washington, and Windsor Counties and for hazard mitigation measures statewide.

[Read More...](#)
