

When Governments Cooperate – State Government Municipal Day

October 23, 2019

100 Mineral St, First Floor Conference Room, Springfield, VT

8:00 – 8:30 **Registration, Coffee and Pastries**

8:30- 9:00 **Opening Remarks: Intro to Regional Permit Specialists and Enforcement Officers**

John Fay and Dan Mason (*Department of Environmental Conservation*)

9:00-9:30 **Rivers in the Design and Construction of Municipal Road Infrastructure**

Todd Menees (*Department of Environmental Conservation*)

Lael Will (*Department of Fish & Wildlife*)

Flood erosion and inundation are the most common natural disasters occurring in Vermont. Each year we experience at least 1 flood in a town or county – this year, April flooding impacted six counties. In this workshop, we'll discuss the hydrology, river morphology, and aquatic life considerations in designing and constructing municipal road infrastructure. Attendees will be provided with technical insight on the engineering and environmental protection rationale underlying contemporary regulatory requirements for the replacement of stream crossings and culverts. We'll discuss lessons learned from past events and ways to work with water to create a win-win-win for our budgets, public safety, and environment.

9:30-9:45 **Break**

9:45-10:15 **Is it a farm? The Intersection of Municipalities and Agriculture in Vermont**

Kaitlin Hayes (*Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets*)

Do you have questions about agriculture in your community? What are farms required to do to protect water quality? How do you know if an operation is truly a farm, or if a structure is truly a farm structure? Do you have questions about the 2018 Accessory on-Farm Business Process? Are you unsure what the implications for agricultural land might be when Act 250 is activated? Come and ask your questions to better understand the relationships between farms, communities, and towns.

10:15-10:45 **Know Before You Construct: Wetland Regulations**

Rebecca Chalmers (*Department of Environmental Conservation*)

Wetlands are everywhere! Over 10% of Vermont is either wetland or adjacent land. The state regulates activities within wetlands and a fifty foot "buffer" zone around the wetland. When wetlands and buffers cannot be avoided, a state wetland permit may be needed. During the workshop we will cover the history of wetland degradation and the importance of regulation; wetland mapping, classification, and jurisdiction; wetland functions and values; avoidance and minimization; permitting; and tools and resources.

10:45-11:00 **Break**

11:00-11:30 **Water Quality Funding Opportunities for Municipalities**

Emily Bird (*DEC Clean Water Initiative Program*)

Municipalities are important partners to implement clean water projects. Learn about DEC's clean water funding and financing options available to municipalities, including the Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid program and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). Presentation includes an overview of the Clean Water Service Delivery Act of 2019 (Act 76) and opportunities it presents for municipal clean water work.

11:30-12:00 **Is your town willing to help bring self-driving cars to Vermont?**

Joe Segale (*Agency of Transportation*)

During its 2019 session, the Vermont General Assembly approved the testing of automated vehicles, often referred to as self-driving cars, on local and state highways. You will learn about automated vehicle technology and hear the latest on its development and testing around the country. You will also learn about the requirements in Vermont's automated vehicle testing law and the role of municipalities in the test permit approval process.

12:00-1:00 **Lunch**

Provided if you are registered for the full-day training. Those who registered for a ½ day are welcome to join us during this time, but you must bring your own bag lunch.

Hands-On GIS Workshop

Bring your laptop to explore the mapping data and resources available to you from the State (and more)
(Please let us know if we need to provide a laptop for you)

1:00-1:30 **ANR Atlas Boot Camp**

Erik Engstrom (*Agency of Digital Services*)

Get introduced to—or solidify your skills—navigating your way around the **ANR Natural Resources Atlas**. The Atlas is the best online mapping tool for Vermont's Natural Resources. With over 150 map layers available to make your custom map from across many state and municipal agencies, you can use the Atlas to create a robust map for any purpose.

1:30-1:50 **Parcel Data**

Tim Terway (*Agency of Digital Services*)

By the end of 2019, all Vermont municipalities will have had their parcel data digitized, “standardized,” and joined with the grand list. Come to this session to learn about plans for maintaining this parcel data, ways to access and use it, and novel applications now available using parcel data.

1:50-2:10 **Vermont Conservation Design and the BioFinder**

Monica Przyperhart (*Department of Fish & Wildlife*)

Jens Hawkins-Hilke (*Department of Fish & Wildlife*)

Getting the big picture of conservation in Vermont, and using the data for planning in your community. Vermont Conservation Design is the data and the vision that is delivered through BioFinder. It is a tool that identifies features at the landscape and natural community scales that are necessary for maintaining an ecologically functional landscape – a landscape that conserves current biological diversity and allows species to move and shift in response to climate and land-use changes.

2:10-3:00 **Explore what's important to you!**

Stick around for time to look at specific parcels or points of interest in your work for your town. The expert GIS staff will mingle to answer your questions one-on-one and help you find what you need, or just explore all there is out there.

Contact Info of Presenters

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