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Sustainable Livable Communities in New Hampshire

In an unprecedented collaboration between two federal agencies, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) jointly awarded **\$206,618** to help stimulate a new generation of sustainable and livable communities in New Hampshire. Two awards were received in New Hampshire both written by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission. With less than 4% of the applications that were submitted being funded we are proud of this effort. Nation-wide, the joint HUD-DOT funding will support 62 local and regional partnerships seeking to create a more holistic and integrated approach to connecting affordable housing, job opportunities and transportation corridors.

The **City of Claremont** was awarded **\$58,740**. Claremont will undertake a comprehensive zoning analysis of its City Center. The City will identify effective tools and practices to maintain its historic cityscape, encourage redevelopment to maximize use of existing infrastructure, encourage infill development, direct private investment and economic development to the downtown, and improve the quantity and quality of housing. The City will facilitate public involvement in the creation of a vision for the Center City, conduct a baseline inventory of existing property and housing, identify parcels for redevelopment and infill opportunities, model the Center City utilizing GIS data sets, and develop recommended changes to the city's zoning ordinance. The project will promote infill development in the historic downtown area and direct private investment toward the area while preserving historic architecture. Also, the project will establish a baseline inventory of housing quality downtown to be a basis for future investments in affordable housing.

The **Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission** was awarded **\$147,878**. The Commission will collect and analyze data to help community leaders to increase the supply of affordable housing within walking distance of food sources. The project will include completion of the Housing Needs Assessment and mapping exercises to understand the patterns of development that have resulted from current regulation and policies. The Commission will be seeking volunteers in each community who are interested in becoming part of the Livable Community Corps to be trained to use GPS equipment, and conduct walkability assessments and healthy food source data



Gregory Carson HUD, Richard Walega HUD, Christine Walker UVLSRPC, and James Owens EPA

2 Around the Region

Sustainable Communities (continued)

collection. If you are interested contact Chris Courtemanche at 603-448-1680 and she will place you on the list to notify when the project gets up and running. The project will focus on underserved census tracts to engage volunteers about local policies, how they can participate, and how they are able to shape the quality of life in their communities. Communities will also participate in a regulatory/policy audit process to incorporate measures that enable appropriately scaled grocery stores to locate in areas that encourage walkable communities. This project will assist community leaders in implementing policy changes that accommodate housing supply and new food source options to be within walking distance of one another. Also, this project will provide the necessary information for municipal leaders to understand the long term health implications of creating mixed-use village centers that accommodate healthy food choices within walking distance of diverse housing and businesses. HUD's Sustainable Communities Challenge Grant will also provide information for communities on opportunities for financing energy projects within municipalities. The project is expected to be completed by September 2013.

The grant was successful through HUD because of the diverse partnerships that will be collaborating in the effort. Partners include the Upper Valley Housing Coalition, the Town of Hanover, the Upper Valley Health Eating Active Living partnerships, Granite United Way, Vital Communities, Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission and Dartmouth Hitchcock HEAL.



Upper Valley Energy Expo

The Upper Valley Energy Expo will be held at the Plainfield School on Bonner Road in Meriden, NH on Saturday, January 29, 2011 from 10 AM to 3PM. It is free and open to the public. This event will build on the success of the Plainfield Cornish Energy Expo held in October, 2009, and will follow a similar format.

A range of workshops will be held throughout the day, with a noontime keynote address by Lee Lynd of Dartmouth's Thayer School and the Mascoma Corporation. Topics will include Bob Walker's "Button Up" workshop, sessions on both DIY renewable energy systems and contractor-installed solar hot water systems with information on current rebates and tax credits, discussion of the Plainfield School's deep energy retrofit with tour, and other topics.

An exhibit hall will showcase vendors of weatherization and renewable energy products, as well as non-profit and governmental groups with information on planning, transportation, building, and community energy challenges, and local energy and transition town committees.

Childcare will be available. Snacks and lunch will be provided by students and "Bike Blender Smoothies" will be pedaled (sic) as well.

In addition to the event on Saturday, two energy-related films will be shown free of charge on Friday evening, January 28th at Hayes Auditorium, Kimball Union Academy: "A Crude Awakening" at 7 PM and "No Impact Man" at 8:30 PM.

The expo events are produced by the Plainfield Energy Committee with assistance from the energy committees of Hartland, Enfield and Cornish as well as SERG and Vital Communities. For more information, please contact these organizations or Mike McCrory (mmccrory@uvlsrpc.org) at the UVLSRPC office.

National Broadband Map to be Released February 17, 2011

UVLSRPC has been working with the University of New Hampshire and the state's regional planning commissions to map the availability of high-speed Internet or broadband access in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire map, along with those from 49 other states, 5 territories and the District of Columbia, are being processed into a nationwide interactive map that will be published online on February 17, 2011. This nationwide effort is funded through the State Broadband Data and Development Program (SBDD) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, with funds appropriated through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The SBDD Program is designed as a comprehensive, nationwide approach "to facilitate the integration of broadband and information technology into state and local economies." The national map will be accessible through <http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/>.



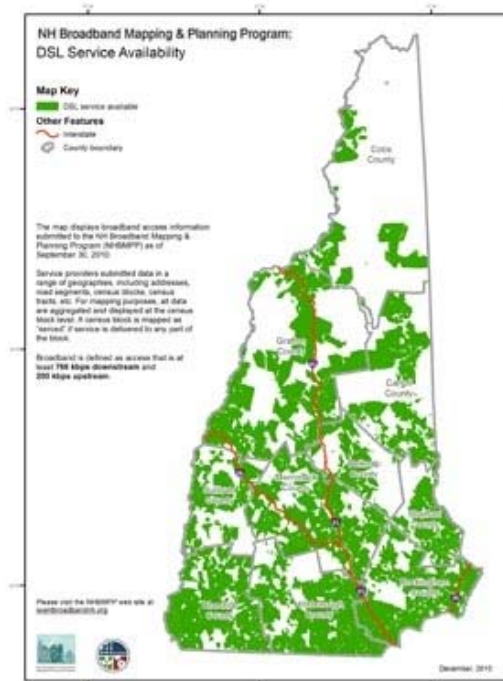
New Hampshire Broadband Mapping Program

The data used to develop these maps has been assembled over the past year from a variety of sources and is the first release of data from Year One of a five-year project. UVLSRPC's primary role for Year One has been to survey local community institutions on their current Internet access, or lack thereof. UVLSRPC also helped to organize three community forums to inform the public on the status of broadband in New Hampshire, share initial results of the mapping program, and ask for community input to refine the data. The University of New Hampshire has been working directly with the state's 70+ Internet service providers to map coverage areas; UNH has already received information from 21 providers and plans to process information from 18 more providers during the spring of 2011. For a full list of providers, please visit <http://iwantbroadbandnh.org/projectresults>.

It is an ongoing effort to verify, update and refine the data, and we recognize that the data is not a final product, but rather a work-in-progress. We request that you help us identify gaps in coverage and report

on what type of Internet access is available at your home, business, school or community institution. If you have an Internet connection, please visit http://iwantbroadbandnh.org/speed_test to take the speed test, which records your location and the speed of your connection, or send Rachel Ruppel an email with your connection information at rruppel@uvlsrpc.org. If you do not have Internet access, please contact Rachel by phone at 603-448-1680.

Each month, broadband service continues to expand and improve in our region and around the nation, and to capture the changing landscape of broadband access, the data powering the online broadband map will be updated on a six-month cycle through 2015. UVLSRPC has access to these data through their Geographic Information System and can provide detailed maps and statistics for your community; please contact Rachel at rruppel@uvlsrpc.org to request a map or statistical summary.



2010 data collection shows significant gaps in DSL service, one common type of broadband internet service.

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2010 Aerial Photography now available for the UVLSRPC Region

On January 10, 2011, New Hampshire Geographically Referenced Analysis and Information Transfer System (GRANIT), New Hampshire's statewide GIS clearinghouse, announced the release of 2010 aerial imagery for a large area of the state, including all municipalities within the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee planning region. These aerial photos are one-foot resolution and were taken during leaf-off conditions, i.e. before the trees put out leaves in the spring. The data are invaluable for planners in our region, as the last photos of this type were flown in 1998; the high resolution of the 2010 images will allow for more accurate land use mapping, more accurate measurements and locations, up-to-date visualizations of the landscape and many other applications.

Financial support for the 2010 aerial photography program was provided by the NH Departments of Transportation, Safety, and Revenue Administration, and the US Geological Survey. GRANIT staff assisted in defining the project technical requirements, in securing federal funding for the project, and in archiving and distributing the imagery.

The data are now available for download at the GRANIT website (<http://www.granit.unh.edu>), or for order on an external hard drive. Shortly, GRANIT will serve these data via a Web Mapping Service, which allows GIS users to access the aerial photos without downloading them.

For more information on the 2010 aerial photography and how you can use them in your community, please contact Rachel Ruppel at UVLSRPC at (603) 448-1680 or rruppel@uvlsrpc.org or visit the GRANIT website at <http://www.granit.unh.edu>.

Upcoming Solid Waste Educational Workshops

Your Medicine Chest and You: Collection and Management of Unwanted Medicine

This interactive workshop includes speakers from the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Pharmacy talking about collection of meds; Lebanon and Claremont police discussing illegal activities related to prescription meds; Northeast Waste discussing problems with sharps disposal; a US Geologic Survey hydrologist discussing environmental problems with improper meds disposal; and Drug Abuse Prevention organization representatives.

For more information, contact Victoria Davis at the Commission at 448-1680.

March 23, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Kilton Public Library, West Lebanon, NH

April 20, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Common Man, Claremont, NH.

Small Quantity Generator Hazardous Waste Management

This workshop is provided to educate small businesses and schools on proper management of hazardous waste, State regulations, and disposal options.

To register for this workshop, contact Victoria Davis at the Commission at 448-1680.

April 28, 2011 2:00 – 4:00 pm at AVA Gallery, 11 Bank Street, Lebanon, NH

and Date and Location to be Determined for Claremont workshop

These workshops can be used for NHDES transfer station attendant recertification credits.

Sullivan County Receives \$104,000 USDA Grant



Bales of Recyclables at Grantham Transfer Station

The Commission received a USDA grant on behalf of Sullivan County towns to provide solid waste technical assistance. Victoria Davis will be the project manager to

- Evaluate existing and potential household hazardous waste, universal wastes, and special waste programs,
- Develop a household hazardous waste committee for the county,
- Evaluate a potential paint reprocessing program,
- Continue the unwanted medicine collections in partnership with the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Outpatient Pharmacy,
- Evaluate the feasibility and cost of a regional transfer station in comparison to existing municipal systems,
- Develop an organic composting program including commercial food wastes,
- Evaluate construction and demolition debris management,
- Research potential funding sources,
- Provide municipal education of full-cost accounting services to provide true costs for solid waste management,
- Update the web site <http://sites.google.com/site/sullivancountymsw/home>

- Provide educational opportunities

Patrick Pinkson-Burke was hired to assist in the evaluation of the regional transfer station and full-cost accounting education. Patrick has many years of experience in the solid waste field and lives in Sullivan County. Anne Nordstrom was contracted to develop the organic composting program. Two years ago, Anne developed a food composting program at the Sullivan County Farm using food waste from meals served at the nursing home and prison.

This is an exciting project which includes interactive meetings with municipal representatives and lunch meetings with transfer station attendants for networking and viewing neighboring facilities. A tour has been tentatively scheduled to visit the Chittenden Solid Waste Facility in northern Vermont for April 14th. This facility includes composting, a materials recovery facility, paint reprocessing, transfer stations, swap shops and more. Contact Victoria Davis at 448-1680 to register. Non-Sullivan County municipal officials and solid waste operators will be allowed to come along if room allows.



Compost



Sample of unwanted medicine

6 UVLSRPC Updates

UVLSRPC Commissioners

Acworth:	Laurence Williamson
Charlestown:	Steven Smith
Claremont:	Bernard Folta John Marini
Cornish:	William Lipfert J.Cheston Newbold
Croydon:	Willis Ballou, Jr.
Dorchester:	William Trought
Enfield:	Dan Kiley Steven Schneider
Grafton Cnty:	Ken Morley
Grantham:	Thain Allan
Hanover:	Katherine Connolly William Dietrich
Lebanon:	Shawn Donovan Larry LeClair Joan Monroe
Lempster:	Terry Spada
Lyme:	Dan Brand Paul Mayo
New London:	Peter Stanley
Newbury:	Claire Vannatta Judy Healey
Newport:	Jeffrey Kessler
Orange:	Jay Heinrichs
Orford:	Paul Dalton
Piermont:	Helga Mueller
Plainfield:	James Taylor Richard Winters
Springfield:	Kevin Lee
Sullivan Cnty:	Jeff Barrette
Sunapee:	Aaron Simpson Stephen White
Washington:	John Sheehy
At-Large Members:	
	Peter Gregory Marc Scarano

Upcoming Meeting: Full Commission Meeting

The Full Commission will meet on Wednesday, February 19, at 6:00 pm in the UVLSRPC Conference Room, 10 Water Street, Lebanon.

UVLSRPC Welcomes Three New Additions



Yutian Zhang: Accounting Manager

Graduated from McGill University and has been working in public accounting for almost ten years. He currently lives in Hanover with his wife and two kids.

Yutian enjoys making friends, sports and singing all kinds of songs.



Patrick Pinkson-Burke: Solid Waste Consultant

More than thirty years experience providing resource management training and technical assistance to small rural communities in New England and NY. Previous Experience: Two decades of experience working with agencies addressing small New England communities' solid waste and energy problems. He has worked as the facilities' manager for a 27 town rural Vermont solid waste district; a solid waste planner for the state of NH; a community resource for the Northeast Resource Recovery Association; a solid waste and compost specialist for NH, VT, MA, RI, NY tribes, PR and the USVI; the director of a low income weatherization program and a certified energy auditor. Advisory Boards and Task Forces: Past trustee on the Board of Vermont Association of Recyclers; Current Trustee and chair of the Governance Committee--Northeast Resource Recovery Association; Lawrence Walbridge Reuse Fund Committee--Central Vermont Solid Waste District. Member of: the Town of Cornish Solid Waste Committee, Town of Cornish Energy Committee and the Town of Cornish Sustainability Committee. Education: M.S. in Environmental Resource Management and Administration, Antioch New England Graduate School; B.S. in Business Education, Illinois State University; Level 4 Solid Waste Operator with Hazardous Materials Certification (NH), certified by the Builders' Professional Institute as a Building Analyst and an Envelope Specialist.



Lin Bo: Regional Planning intern-- Lin is pursuing a B.A. at Dartmouth College with a major in Geography, modified with Environmental Studies. He is interested in developing environmental spaces in cities.

Goodbye to Jenny Devost

Jenny left the organization in December and has moved on to North County Council. Jenny has been with the Commission for many years. She kept the organization on financial track even when funding ebbed and flowed, through staff comings and goings and many other changes over the years. The organization is on solid financial ground because of the dedication Jenny has made to the organization. She has fulfilled many other roles at the organization in addition to financial management. She will be greatly missed but we wish her well in her new challenges.

Commissioner News

UVLSRPC is pleased to welcome Judy Healey who has been appointed as Commissioner representing the Town of Newbury.

Judy is replacing Nancy Marashio who has been a Commissioner for the Town of Newbury since 1997. We want to thank Nancy for her service and dedication to the Commission over the years.

The Program Committee is currently researching information regarding the Annual Meeting. Look for more details within the next few weeks.

Our new officers are as follows:

- Aaron Simpson—Chair
- Larry LeClair—Vice Chair
- Thain Allan—Treasurer
- Kate Connolly—Secretary

Mailing List Updates

Help us keep our mailing list up to date!

Let us know if:

- your address needs to be updated
- your name is misspelled, or
- you'd rather receive the newsletter via email.

Send us a note via fax: 603-448-0170

Email: info@uvlsrpc.org

Mail: 10 Water Street, Suite 225, Lebanon, NH 03766

UVLSRPC STAFF

Christine Walker
Executive Director
cwalker@uvlsrpc.org

Yutian Zhang
Accounting Manager
yzhang@uvlsrpc.org

Nate Miller
Senior Planner
nmiller@uvlsrpc.org

Michael McCrory
Senior Planner
mmccrory@uvlsrpc.org

Rachel Ruppel
GIS Analyst/Planner
rruppel@uvlsrpc.org

Vickie Davis
Planner
vdavis@uvlsrpc.org

Patricia Crocker
Planner
pcrocker@uvlsrpc.org

Chris Courtemanche
Administrative Assistant
info@uvlsrpc.org

Elise Angelillo
Research Assistant
eangelillo@uvlsrpc.org

Patrick Pinkson-Burke
Solid Waste Consultant
ppinkson-burke@uvlsrpc.org

Lin Bo
Research Assistant
lbo@uvlsrpc.org





Upper Valley Lake Sunapee
Regional Planning Commission
10 Water Street, Suite 225
Lebanon, New Hampshire 03766
<http://www.uvlsrc.org>

Address Service Requested

Your Water, Your Decision:

Making Plans and Protecting Local Drinking Water Resources in the Upper Valley Region

Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Place: Kilton Library, 80 Main St, West Lebanon, NH

Time: 9:00am—3:00pm

Free of charge—Lunch will be provided

Registration: To register, contact Rachel Ruppel at the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission at (603) 448-1680 or rruppel@uvlsrc.org.

Workshop Overview: A clean and sustainable local drinking water supply is a prerequisite for long-term economic growth and a recurring question is - how can communities effectively plan and take actions that protect and sustain local water supplies while allowing for new development? While community master plans inventory natural resources, they don't always provide a detailed, strategic approach to water supply protection. The objective of this workshop is to provide attendees a framework for evaluating contamination risks and developing community "source water protection plans" that identify the necessary actions that will protect local drinking water resources.