

About the Resilient Vermont Network

Work is now underway to create and build a network of organizations and agencies in Vermont that are working to advance climate resilience. We envision a network that helps improve alignment, coordination, communication and strategic impact across a range of issues related to climate resilience.

Ultimately, the goal of the Network is to ensure that Vermont is better prepared for and able to more effectively manage, bounce back and reduce costly impacts from natural disasters and climate-related shocks, and the risks they pose to our economy, environment, and social well-being. Specific goals include:

- Promote a cross-sector, collective impact approach to resilience;
- Advance the recommendations of the Roadmap and other post-Irene reports and maintain accountability for the implementation of these recommendations (in any given year, the Network might choose to focus on a few specific actions);
- Develop and implement projects that reduce vulnerabilities – The Network will identify and nurture opportunities to work together, leverage expertise, & create win-win projects. It will accelerate the implementation of resilience projects;
- Maintain public awareness/focus on resilience: The Network will help keep resilience at the fore of Vermont's priorities through ongoing public dialogue, outreach and communications strategy, etc.;
- Guide statewide priorities and support efforts to align policies and programs with efforts to build resilience, including suggesting new policy, rule changes, etc ; and
- Serve as a conduit to best available risk, climate and climate change information.

What do we mean by resilience?

As described in the Roadmap, we define a resilient Vermont as better prepared for and able to more effectively manage and bounce back from natural disasters and climate-related shocks, and the risks they pose to our economy, environment, and social well-being. We are focused on both proactively reducing our vulnerabilities and improving our response and recovery, to ensure that we are continually strengthening our resilience. And, we are working to build resilience at every level – from individual residents, households, and businesses and neighborhoods, to the entire community and state. In a more resilient Vermont there is a shared sense of responsibility for resilience at every level and across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

In its first year, the Network is focused on communication, coordination, and advancing tangible, collaborative initiatives that create a more resilient Vermont.

Organizations Currently Participating

- American Red Cross, Northern New England Chapter
- Community-Resilience.org
- Institute for Sustainable Communities
- VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- VT Agency of Natural Resources
- VT Agency of Transportation
- VT Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies
- Vermont Council on Rural Development
- Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- Vermont Natural Resources Council



www.resilientvt.org

www.iscvt.org

Join Us

Are you working to support community, economic and environmental resilience in Vermont? To learn more about how to get involved in the network, please email our Network Coordinator at info@resilientvt.org

You can also follow our progress at www.resilientvt.org

Background

The Resilient Vermont Project began with an 18-month stakeholder engagement process to develop a shared vision for resilience. This process resulted in the release of Vermont's Roadmap to Resilience Report, which includes 23 recommendations in four categories. You can download the Roadmap at www.resilientvt.org.

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The Network is currently coordinated by the Institute for Sustainable Communities with our colleagues from Slow Communities and Community Workshop. Bill Roper and Rebecca Sanborn Stone bring years of experience in community-based work throughout Vermont.

“ Create the Vermont Strong Network – a cross-sector collaboration that includes nonprofit, public, and private organizations involved in resilience work to align efforts, share best practices, and leverage resources to advance resilience efforts statewide. ”

– Recommendation from Vermont's Roadmap to Resilience,
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