

VERMONT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE

September 29 & 30, 2020

I wear my mask...

to keep others safe & healthy.



VERMONT

#MasksOnVT



I wear my mask...

to keep our family safe.



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Conference Schedule

Day 1		Day 2	
13:00	Welcome and Opening Comments	13:00	Welcome & EMD Awards
13:15	Public Information during the COVID-19 pandemic	13:15	Emergency Planning for Special Events
13:45	Break	13:45	Break
14:00	The Power of Partnerships: Protecting Vermont's Cultural and Historic Resources	14:00	Weather Planning and Situational Awareness for Events using NWS Websites
14:45	Break	14:45	Break
15:00	Flood Response Training: Rivers and Roads Training Program for Transportation Recovery	15:00	Vermont Critical Infrastructure – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
15:45	Break	15:45	Break
16:00	Mental Health Burnout in Emergency Management	16:00	Don't make it worse – Floodplain Management 101
16:45	Closing Remarks	16:45	Closing Remarks

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS & SPEAKER BIOS

September 29

Time	Session Title	Session Description	Speaker and Bio
13:15	Public Information during the COVID-19 pandemic	Take a look back at how the state communicated among state agencies and partners, with the press, and with the public during this ongoing pandemic.	Mark Bosma , Vermont Emergency Management, manages all external communications for VEM before, during, and after an emergency event. He is the editor and content creator for all VEM social media and produces all preparedness materials like the Family Workbook and monthly newsletter. He also fields information requests from the public and municipal officials, and manages all media relations.
14:00	The Power of Partnerships: Protecting Vermont's Cultural and Historic Resources	At the conclusion of this presentation participants will be able to: Identify opportunities to effectively partner with cultural institutions to help the cultural heritage community prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Describe the role of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force in helping cultural institutions prepare for emergencies and obtain the needed resources when disaster strikes. Understand the role they can play in protecting Vermont's cultural and historic resources from the damaging effects of natural disasters and other emergencies.	Lori Foley , Coordinator of the Heritage Emergency National Task, which is a public-private partnership between FEMA and the Smithsonian Institution. She promotes collaboration and information sharing between the cultural heritage and emergency management communities to protect the nation's cultural heritage and, when disaster strikes, coordinates technical assistance for the arts and culture sector.

September 29

Time	Session Title	Session Description	Speaker and Bio
15:00	Flood Response Training: Rivers and Roads Training Program for Transportation Recovery	<p>The Participants will gain an understanding of the economic, social and environmental benefits in attending the three Tiered-Training events. Participants will learn the content and time involved in attending the three Tiered-Training events and the great outcomes of each Tiered offering. The Training Program provides an understanding of the goals and objectives of the Vermont River Management Engineering Program and how to better communicate with Vermont River Management Engineers and State Fisheries Biologists during the State Stream Alteration Permit Process and US Army Corps of Engineer Staff during the federal permitting process.</p>	<p>Staci Pomeroy is a regional River Scientist and has been working with the VT Rivers Program since 2000. Staci works with various groups, such as watershed groups, towns, state and federal agencies, and non-profit organizations to provide technical assistance, help collect stream geomorphic data, develop and implement projects, and look at flood resiliency strategies along our river systems.</p> <p>Todd Menees is a River Management Engineer in the Rivers Program since 2011 providing technical assistance during post-flood damage response events. Todd has contributed to the authorization of Stream Alteration Permits, providing technical assistance for in-channel activities for private, commercial and public landowners, assessing the stability of Vermont's rivers, overseen the design and construction phases of river related projects, dam removal projects and river restoration projects, and provided trainings and technical assistance on the topic of river mechanics and the interaction of rivers and transportation infrastructure.</p>
16:00	Prepared or Not? Dispelling the myths around psychological readiness, resilience, and mental health in first responders.	<p>You don't want to miss this presentation!</p> <p>This brief 45-minute lecture will examine "what is assumed" when emergency responders are deployed in response to a natural disaster. It will discuss the importance of leadership during a crisis and how challenging it can be to care for your personnel. It will also highlight best practices in the wake of a crisis-like event.</p>	<p>Salvatore (Sonny) Provetto MSW, LICSW is an EMDR clinician and a trauma consultant for police departments and emergency responders in Vermont and the founder of the Vermont Center for Responder wellness. His experiences as a police officer and emergency mental health clinician have guided his clinical practice with first responders for more than 19 years. Sonny consults on issues of stress and trauma with police officers, firefighters, emergency responders and their organizations. He works closely with 10 Vermont police departments and the Vermont Department for Children and Families. Recently, Sonny testified for the Vermont legislature as a subject matter expert on PTSD and influenced legislation making Vermont the first state to recognize PTSD as a compensable work-related injury for first responders. He is also the recipient of the EMDRIA Advocacy award for the advancement of EMDR practices with responders soon after traumatic events.</p>

September 30

Time	Session Title	Session Description	Speaker and Bio
13:15	Emergency Planning for Special Events	<p>We spend hours figuring out just the right content, registration, and feedback processes for our conferences and events, but how much do we focus on planning for event emergencies? Emergencies can range from medical events like heart attacks or allergic reactions to fires at the venue, or our worst case, an active shooter. When these emergencies happen, seemingly out of nowhere, how are we able to prepare?</p>	<p>Rich Cogliano, Regional Emergency Management Program Coordinator for the Engagement Section of VEM, where he works with towns, agencies, and organizations throughout the southern half of Vermont on planning, training, exercising, and general disaster preparedness.</p>
14:00	Weather Planning and Situational Awareness for Events using NWS Websites	<p>Many public events occur in small communities with limited available resources. It is important for these folks to know where to go to get weather information for planning and during a public event to ensure the safety of their constituents.</p>	<p>Scott Whittier, has been the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at NWS Burlington, since the summer of 2008 and has been a forecaster at NWS Burlington since 1993. He has witnessed and/or worked closely with the Emergency Management community for big events like Ice Storm 1998, February Blizzard 2007, March 2017 Blizzard, Tropical Storm IRENE in 2011 and has been a part of many drills and exercises, including Cat Ex 1,4 and Vigilant Guard.</p>
15:00	Vermont Critical Infrastructure – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow	<p>Knowledge on the sixteen critical infrastructure sectors and the threats they face; tools for interacting with the critical infrastructure community; and examples of recent events that have impacted critical infrastructure.</p>	<p>Matt Pritchard, Vermont Emergency Management, joined the Homeland Security Unit in September of 2019. He oversees the Vermont Critical Infrastructure program and manages outreach initiatives on behalf of the Unit.</p>
16:00	Don't make it worse – Floodplain Management 101	<p>Ninety percent of communities in Vermont regulate development in flood zones through the National Flood Insurance Program. Communication and coordination after a disaster can be difficult yet critical for families, communities, damage assessment, insurance claims, mitigation actions and our shared goal of flood resilience. Where to start? What is “Substantial Damage”? Who can authorize repairs? When can we repair? Floodplain Management 101 in the mud and the dust.</p>	<p>Ned Swanberg is the Regional Floodplain Manager in Central Vermont for the Rivers Program of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. Ned manages www.floodready.vt.gov providing community leaders with access to river corridor maps and incentives for flood resilient communities. Ned is a Certified Floodplain Manager and holds an MST in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England.</p> <p>John Broker-Campbell is the VT Assistant NFIP Coordinator and Regional Floodplain Manager for Southern Vermont. He is a Certified Floodplain Manager and provides technical assistance to towns and property owners on floodplain development. John has over ten years experience in emergency preparedness planning and floodplain management throughout Vermont and SE Alaska.</p>