



2020 Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference Presentations Available On-Line

Vermont's 2020 Emergency Preparedness Conference is in the books. This year's event was forced to go on-line due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which means there were no luncheons or continental breakfasts, but educational opportunities were still plentiful.

Over 100 people participated in the event, taking part in eight presentations and training sessions over the two-day event. Topics included floodplain management, critical infrastructure, and myths around psychological readiness and mental health in first responders, among others.

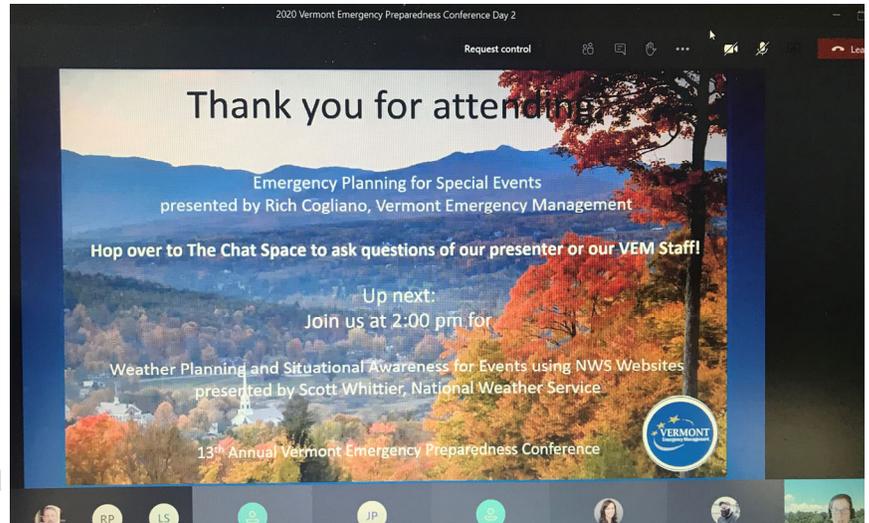
Those who missed the conference can view the presentations on the Vermont Emergency Management YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/user/VTDEMHS/playlists>) and selecting the 2020 Emergency Preparedness Conference playlist.

Sessions include:

Public Information During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Power of Partnerships, Protecting Vermont's Cultural and Historic Resources

Flood Response Training: Rivers and Roads Training Program for Transportation Recovery



Prepared or Not? Dispelling the Myths Around Psychological Readiness, Resilience, and Mental Health in First Responders

Emergency Planning for Special Events

Weather Planning and Situational Awareness for Events Using NWS Websites

Vermont Critical Infrastructure – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

Don't Make it Worse – Floodplain Management 101

Application Period Now Open for Hazard Mitigation Annual Grant Programs

The application period opened on September 30 for FEMA's new mitigation funding program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) along with the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program. The State deadline to submit an application is January 6, 2021.

The sub-application is now available in the FEMA Go program. Eligible applicants include municipalities, Regional Planning Commissions and State agencies. If you are interested in developing an application, you can now make an account here: <https://go.fema.gov/>. You will also need to reach out to Stephanie A. Smith (stephanie.a.smith@vermont.gov) in order to be added as a sub-organization of the State. Reach out to Stephanie no later than November 6 to express your interest in applying.

Eligible projects include home buyouts, floodplain restoration, culvert upsizing, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan development, project scoping, and many other projects that mitigate a hazard and are cost-effective. For projects that are not shovel-ready, project scoping funding can be utilized to study a particular problem, develop an analysis of alternatives and develop a Benefit-Cost Analysis for a future hazard mitigation grant application.

For more information or to discuss project eligibility, reach out to Stephanie A. Smith, stephanie.a.smith@vermont.gov, 802-989-6793.

The Vermont Department of Health's YouTube Channel has been an invaluable resource for Vermonters during the pandemic. Videos produced by VDH explain in simple terms what Vermonters can do to slow the spread of COVID-19, and how the state helps stop the spread. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/user/HealthVermont> to access those videos.

Other helpful YouTube Channels for town officials and Vermonters include:

Vermont Emergency Management:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VTDEMHS>

Vermont Division of Fire Safety:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwuJ4XIYYsYFrIQinPcXUcg/featured>

VEM Training Schedule

All Vermont Emergency Management Courses for the remainder of 2020 will be held virtually.

Registration via the Learning Management System (www.vermont.csod.com) is required to receive the classroom link.

October 2020

WebEOC Basic Training (SEOC Staff ONLY)
 Weeks of October 19 and 26. Various Times
 Please see the LMS Training Calendar to register.

America Red Cross Shelter Fundamentals
 October 22, 12:30PM-4:30PM
 Virtual Learning Event

November 2020

State Emergency Operations Center Orientation (SEOC Staff ONLY)
 November 12, 9:00AM-11:30AM

Vermont Emergency Management Director Seminar
 November 12, 12:30PM-2:30PM

G0191 – ICS EOC Interface
 November 14, 8:30AM-3:30PM

ICS 402 – ICS Summary for Executives
 November 19, 12:30PM-4:30PM

Coming soon to a virtual classroom

ICS 300 – Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

Interested a training but don't see it on the calendar? Contact dps.emhstraining@vermont.gov to schedule one.

Online Training Resource

FEMA Emergency Management Institute's Independent Study online courses are always available at: <https://training.fema.gov/is/>

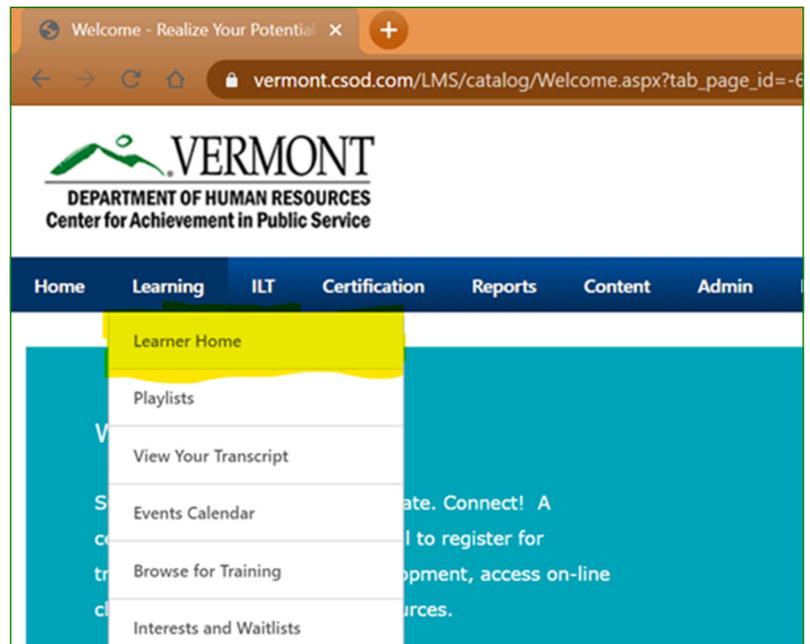
VEM Emergency Management Director's Certification Program

Find out more information on our website: <https://vem.vermont.gov/programs/emd/certification>

Starting next month, logging into the LMS will look a bit different. Traditional homepages in the LMS will be transitioning to the Learner Homepage. For a preview:

Login to the LMS.

Hover over Learning and click on Learner Home. More information on will be coming soon on the benefits of Learner Home!



Vermont EMD of the Year 2020: Kevin Beattie, Londonderry

Vermont's annual Emergency Preparedness Conference was a virtual event this year, so our annual Emergency Management Director of the Year presentation had to be done remotely. Thankfully, our recipient was treated to cupcakes by those close to him.

Kevin Beattie was nominated for Vermont's Emergency Management Director of the Year by four people, so he was a natural choice.

He has all the characteristics of an exemplary EMD; a wealth of experience, a willingness to mentor other EMDs, and a proactive approach to assisting surrounding communities and the state. He has served as the EMD of Londonderry since Tropical Storm Irene, and during that time has led his Emergency Operations Center through various storms, floods, and power outages – including in 2018 when the Londonderry Emergency Operations Center was established at an alternate location during an event.

Kevin has been active in the COVID-19 response for much of this year, carrying out the usual EMD duties, and coordinating food distributions for those impacted by the pandemic. He has multiple achievements to point to over the years, proactively setting up warming shelters for multiple towns during power outages, and coordinating the delivery of trainings to the region and working with surrounding towns to ensure individuals attended.

Kevin was the driving force behind the establishment of the “Mountain Towns Emergency Operations Center” – a multi-jurisdiction Emergency Operations Center that pools the



resources, information and communication of four towns to respond to COVID-19.

As one nomination noted “I can't imagine anyone more deserving of being Vermont's 2020 Emergency Management Director of the Year.”

For more on the Vermont Emergency Management Director program, please visit:

<https://vem.vermont.gov/programs/emd>

