



Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY



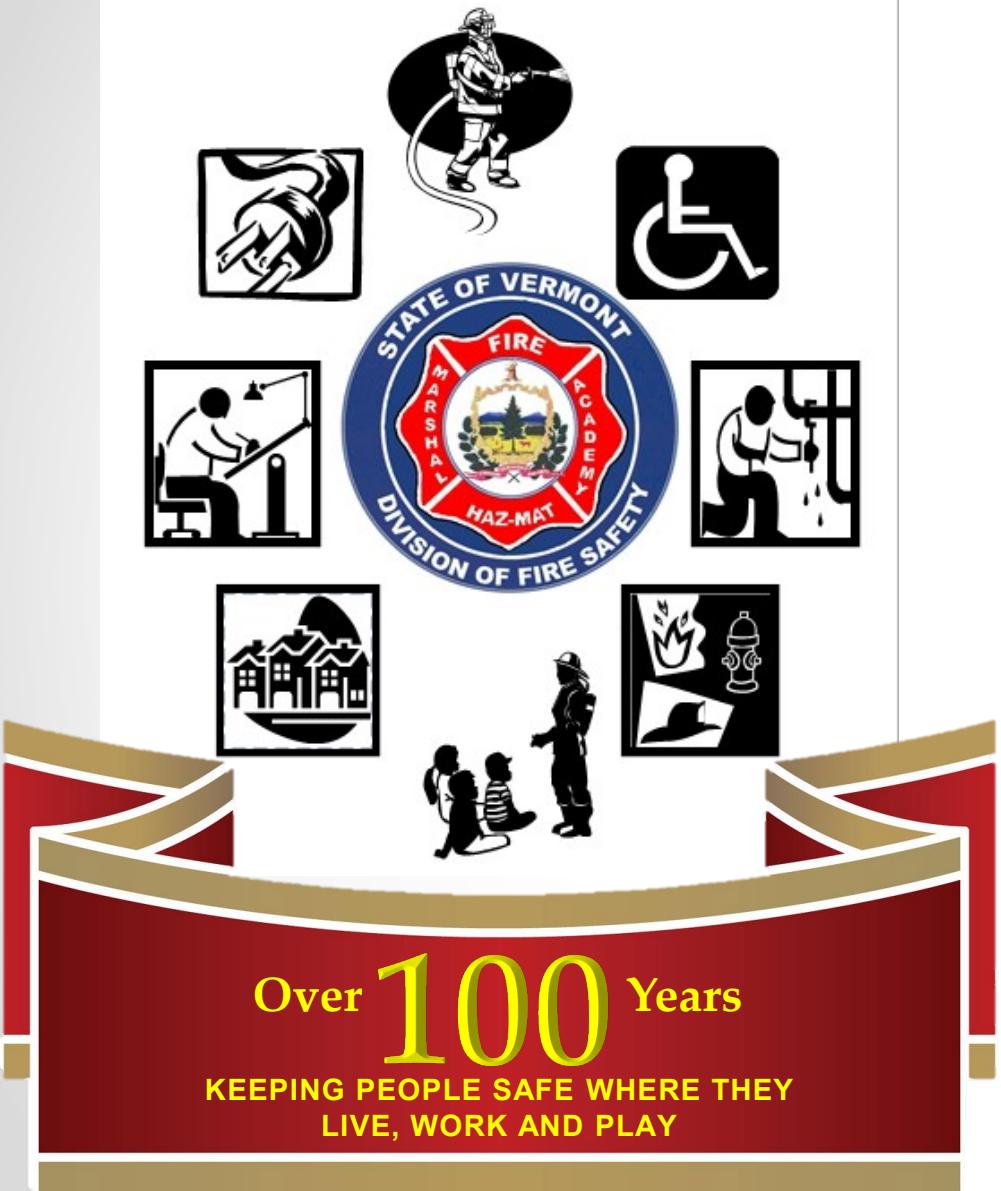
FIRESAFETY.VERMONT.GOV

FLOOD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES SERVICES AND RESOURCES



2021





The Division of Fire Safety (DFS) provides numerous services related to the safety of residents and guests of the State.

The mission of DFS is to protect the public and fire service through coordinated efforts in **Code Enforcement, Fire Service Training, Public Education, Hazardous Materials Response, Fire Investigation and Urban Search and Rescue**.

These efforts maximize life safety and property conservation and minimize environmental impacts due to fire, natural disasters and other emergencies in the State of Vermont.



Special Operations

During disasters and other emergencies, the Division's special operations section provides specialized response activities to meet the operational and resource needs of Vermont's emergency services and local governments.

DFS Personnel respond to disaster events in a variety of ways, from working to mitigate the effects of flooding on populated areas to supporting the fire service in fire control, rescue and recovery efforts and working in the Mission and Resource Support Section of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)



To request DFS special operations response or other assistance after hours contact the VT Emergency Management Watch Officer at

1-800-347-0488



VT State Hazardous Materials (HAZ-MAT) Response Team

The purpose for the Team's creation was and remains to work with the fire chiefs before, during and after hazardous materials events in their municipalities.

By having HAZMAT Technicians located across the entire State supported with four HAZMAT response vehicles, the Vermont HAZMAT Response Team (VHMRT) endeavors to have highly trained and equipped personnel on scene quickly when requested by the Incident Commander.



Urban Search And Rescue (USAR VT-TF1)



The primary mission of Vermont Task Force One is to provide advanced technical search and rescue capabilities to victims trapped or entombed in structurally damaged buildings.

To this endeavor VT-TF1 members pledge to the citizens of the State of Vermont to provide efficient and effective rescue technologies in a planned and measured response system that mirrors the Federal Emergency Management Agencies guidelines on Urban Search and Rescue and the appropriate National Fire Protection Association Standards



Urban Search And Rescue (USAR VT-TF1)



Swiftwater / Flood Response

Vermont Urban Search and Rescue Task Force – 4 swiftwater boats,

one 14 person NIMS Type I swiftwater team or two, 8 person NIMS Type II swiftwater teams.

This capability also includes four (4) live-find FEMA/SUSAR live-find canines

There are currently 10 swiftwater rescue teams geographically located with MOU's thru VEM ranging from Type I (14 person team), thru Type II and III (8-4 person teams).

The teams can be activated thru the VEM Watch Officer during floods, ice jams and other severe weather events.



Department of Public Safety

Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit (FEIU)

The Department of Public Safety Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit (FEIU) brings together the strengths of both the Division of Fire Safety and the Vermont State Police to address the issues identified in fire investigation.

It is the Fire Chief's responsibility by law to investigate all fires. The Fire Chief should call for assistance when he/she cannot determine what started the fire or for help determining the origin and cause.





DFS FIELD ASSISTANCE AND INCIDENT SUPPORT

DFS Fire Marshal teams may mobilize to provide a wide range of technical field assistance and incident support to state, local municipalities and other organizations.

State Fire Marshals can be a technical resource for building safety and fire safety issues at the incident command post. They also can help determine initial damage assessment or help with public education.





RAPID BUILDING SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

Rapid building assessments are to determine structural, electrical, fuel storage and heating plant safety of affected areas.

- Activation based on initial assessment and/or a local request from incident commander.
- Building Safety Teams of a Fire Marshal and Electrical Inspector assess structures.
- Buildings are posted for limited entry or no entry as necessary. The posting and inspection reports are mandatory requirements for public buildings but only advisory for non-public buildings.
- Structural assessments may also be performed if needed.
- Hazards are documented and owners are informed.



RAPID BUILDING SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

- All affected public buildings may be evaluated, including commercial, residential rental units and others.
- Single-family owner-occupied homes can be included in assessments.
- ‘Municipal Condemned to Be Destroyed Order’ available to assist with removal of dangerous structures.
- Building Assessments are reported to VEM and other partners .





ATC RATING SYSTEM PLACARDS

UNSAFE
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

DO NOT ENTER OR OCCUPY

WARNING:
This structure has serious hazards and is unsafe.
Do not enter. Entry may result in death or injury.
Restrictions on use:
Comments:
Facility Name and Address:
For more information contact:
Site Number:
Structure is NOT SAFE
FEMA Disaster/Hazardous Material
Date _____ Time _____
This facility was inspected under Emergency
conditions by:
Inspector/ID/Agency:
Any unauthorized person removing this sign is subject to a penalty up to \$20,000 (20 VSA)

- UNSAFE (RED)

An “unsafe” building has been evaluated and eminent safety hazards have been identified which makes the building unsafe for anyone to enter or occupy.

LIMITED ENTRY
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

OFF LIMITS TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL
This structure has serious hazards and its safety is questionable. Enter only at own risk.
Restrictions on use:
 Entry for Emergency Purposes only
 Other
Facility Name and Address:
Structure is SIGNIFICANTLY DAMAGED
FEMA Disaster/Hazardous Material
Date _____ Time _____
This facility was inspected under emergency
conditions by:
Inspector/ID/Agency:
Any unauthorized person removing this sign is subject to a penalty up to \$20,000 (20 VSA)

- LIMITED ENTRY (YELLOW)

A “limited entry” building has been evaluated and obvious safety hazards have been identified which limit the use or occupancy of a building. Volunteer cleanup workers, tenants, customers, and the public would not be permitted in public buildings. Specific limitations, or special allowances may be noted on the poster

INSPECTED
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

NO RESTRICTION ON USE OR OCCUPANCY
This structure has been inspected (as indicated below) and no serious hazard has been found. Report any unsafe condition to local authorities; re-inspection may be required.
 Exterior only
 Exterior and Interior
Facility Name and Address:
Site Number:
Structure is SAFE
FEMA Disaster/Hazardous Material
Date _____ Time _____
This facility was inspected under Emergency
conditions by:
Inspector/ID/Agency:
Any unauthorized person removing this sign is subject to a penalty up to \$20,000 (20 VSA)

- INSPECTED (GREEN)

“inspected” building has been evaluated and no apparent hazards identified which would restrict its use or occupancy. The inspected classification allows a building to continue with its prior use and be open to the public



MUNICIPAL CONDEMNED PROPERTY TO BE DESTROYED ORDER

**Title 24: Municipal and County Government, Chapter 061:
Regulatory Provisions; Police Power of Municipalities, Subchapter
011: Miscellaneous Regulatory Powers, § 2291. Enumeration of
Powers**

When a disaster or emergency has been declared by the Governor, a municipal building inspector, health officer, fire marshal, or zoning administrator may declare condemned to be destroyed a property that has been damaged in the disaster or emergency and is dangerous to life, health, or safety due to the disaster-related damage.

The owner of property condemned under this subdivision may appeal the condemnation according to the condemnation appeals procedure of chapter 83 of this title, provided that any appeal to the Superior Court shall be to the Civil Division.

<https://firesafety.vermont.gov/buildingcode/permits>

Municipal Condemned Property to be Destroyed Order		
Authority and Scope: Title 24: Municipal and County Government, Chapter 061: Regulatory Provisions; Police Power of Municipalities, Subchapter 011: Miscellaneous Regulatory Powers, § 2291. Enumeration of Powers When a disaster or emergency has been declared by the Governor, a municipal building inspector, health officer, fire marshal, or zoning administrator may declare condemned to be destroyed a property that has been damaged in the disaster or emergency and is dangerous to life, health, or safety due to the disaster-related damage. The owner of property condemned under this subdivision may appeal the condemnation according to the condemnation appeals procedure of chapter 83 of this title, provided that any appeal to the Superior Court shall be to the Civil Division.		
Municipality: _____	Inspector: <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building Inspector <input type="checkbox"/> Health Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Marshal <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Administrator	
Physical Address: _____	Town and Zip Code: _____	
Physical Location: (S-1-1 Address) _____		
Owner Name Address: _____	General / Health <input type="checkbox"/> There is a fuel oil or other hazardous spill <input type="checkbox"/> There is significant mold	
Structural <input type="checkbox"/> The structure poses an immediate hazard to the public or public right of way. <input type="checkbox"/> The structure has moved off its foundation. <input type="checkbox"/> Structural frame is twisted or damaged.	Furnace has been submerged	Damage Information Date Damaged Occurred (mm/yyyy): _____ Date of Inspection (mm/yyyy): _____ Cause of Damage: _____ Fire _____ Flood _____ Flood and Wind _____ Seismic _____ Wind _____ Other Cause of Damage (if "Other" is selected): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure has been condemned to be destroyed Inspector Name: _____ Inspector Signature: _____		



DFS FIRE SAFETY OPERATIONS CENTER (FSOC)

When activated the FSOC provides centralized and coordinated DFS support to Local towns, state agencies as well as the responders.

Primary functions of staff in FSOC include:

- **Collecting and disseminating information.;**
- **Supporting resource needs and requests, including allocation and tracking.**
- **Coordinating plans and determining the current and future needs.**
- **Provides a link to the SEOC, and improve information flow, communication and coordination between the Incident commander and the SEOC.**
- **Provide additional resources and subject matter expertise needed to support an incident.**



EVACUATION/DISASTER SHELTER SAFETY SURVEY

When the Red Cross or other agencies establish a shelter due to a flood or other disaster, the Division or local fire department will make a site visit before sleeping can occur in that shelter. The inspection will make sure a few basic fire and life safety items are in place.



Some locations have been pre-approved as regional shelters and the set up is pre-planned.

If you have identified a building which could be used to shelter people in your town, ask one of the Fire Marshals to visit so it could be approved to be used as a shelter before the disaster hits.



PUBLIC FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION AT A MULTI-AGENCY RESOURCE CENTER (MARC)

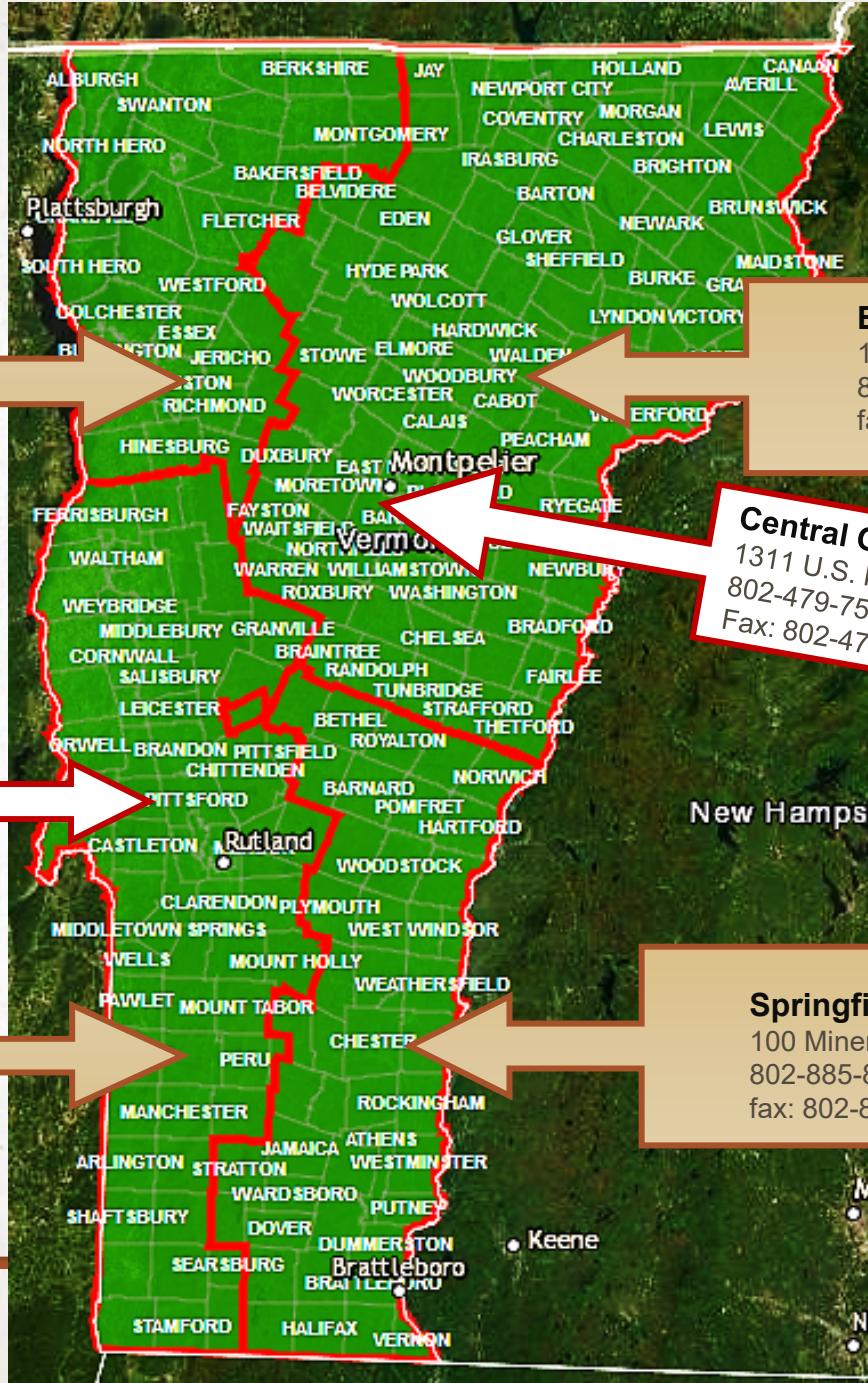


Multi-Agency Resource Centers (MRCs) is an efficient way to deliver services to individuals and families affected by a disaster.

It brings together multiple service providers in a single location to assist communities by providing a centralized location for services for victim's unmet needs.

The division will answer safety questions in addition, to providing resources and safety education to help people stay safe in their home.

DFS REGIONAL OFFICES



Williston Regional Office

380 Hurricane Lane Suite 101 Williston, VT 05495
802-879-2300 or 1-800-366-8325
Fax: 802-879-2312

Barre Regional Office

1311 U.S. Route 302 - Berlin Suite 500 BERLIN, VT
802-479-4434 or 1-888-870-7888
fax: 802-479-4446

Central Office

1311 U.S. Route 302 - Suite 600 Barre, VT 05641
802-479-7561 or 1-800-640-2106
Fax: 802-479-7562

Vermont Fire Academy

93 Davison Drive Pittsford, VT 05763
802-483-2755 or 1-800-615-3473
fax: 802-483-2464

Rutland Regional Office

56 Howe Street Building A Ste. 200 Rutland, VT 05701
786-5867 or 1-888-370-4834
fax: 802-786-5872

Springfield Regional Office

100 Mineral Street Suite 307 Springfield, VT 05156-3168
802-885-8883 or 1-866-404-8883
fax: 802-885-8885

THANK YOU



QUESTIONS,
COMMENTS
OR CONCERNS

Please help make every day a fire safe day! Fire is everyone's fight!