

# RRPC Info Letter Vol 5

22 April 2020

## Topics

Town Planning and Bylaws

Emergency Management

Health

Food Access

Business & Economic Development

## Contact Us

RRPC staff are working remotely and actively responding to emails and checking their office voicemails. Please feel free to reach out with any needs, information, or questions as you normally would.

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RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

# Rutland Region COVID19 Outreach

The Rutland Regional Planning Commission is working with the region's municipalities to provide additional support during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as providing assistance through our regular program areas. Our team's monthly reports can be found on our website under 'Board Materials', which highlights updates as well as new and ongoing work <https://www.rutlandrpc.org/meeting-materials>. Below please find helpful resources pertaining to issues across our program areas.

## Town Planning and Bylaws

For additional specific guidance on holding virtual public meetings, including a model script for opening meetings, please see VLCT's Public Meeting Toolkit <https://www.vlct.org/municipal-assistance/municipal-topics/remote-public-meeting-toolkit>.

## Emergency Management

While the Governor's 'Stay Home. Stay Safe' order has been extended till 5/15, effective April 20<sup>th</sup> the State will commence with Restart Phase 1. Initial steps to reopen the economy include but are not limited to allowing outdoor business and construction operations with 2 or fewer workers, certain retail operations, and low or no contact professional services. For details and specific guidance <https://acd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>.

## Health

'Stay Home. Stay Safe' doesn't exclude you from getting outside and enjoying Vermont nature. Guidance for recreating safely can be found here <https://fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/outdoor-recreation-and-covid-19>. You can find information on local spots and possible trail closures on <http://www.Trailfinder.info> and [www.vtfishandwildlife.gov](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.gov).

To view the most recent Vermont COVID19 data visit the VT Dept of Health's dashboard:

<https://vcgi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/6128a0bc9ae14e98a686b635001ef7a7>.

## Food Access

Farmers markets are set to reopen May 1<sup>st</sup> under guidelines that will be announced soon. In the meantime, you can access your local farmers at their farm stands or by checking out the VT Farmers Food Center's online market <http://www.vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org/onlinemarket>.

The Vermont Foodbank will be distributing MREs (Meals Ready to Eat) from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 24 at Rutland Southern VT Regional Airport, 1002 Airport Rd, North Clarendon, VT. Anyone in need of food is welcome and can receive a seven-day supply of Meals Ready-to-Eat (MRE) for each member of their household <https://www.vtfoodbank.org/event/meals-ready-to-eat-mres-from-the-vermont-foodbank-rutland>.

## Governor's Executive Orders:

<https://governor.vermont.gov/document-types/executive-orders>

## The Positive:

- Show a latte love for BROC's food shelf at Speakeasy Café 67 Center St in Rutland. Order curbside lattes at Speakeasy Café on Friday, April 24th at 8am and all proceeds benefit BROC.

As regional resources to support the Rutland Region community become available new info letters will be sent out and can also be found at <https://www.rutlandrpc.org/>



**RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

## Business & Economic Development

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation has launched the Save Small Business Fund <https://savesmallbusiness.com/>. The fund will offer grants of \$5,000 to businesses that employ between 3 and 20 people; are located in economically vulnerable communities; and have been harmed by the COVID -19 pandemic.

This week we enter into Restart Phase 1 of reopening the economy. For specific guidance related to reopening as well as sector specific guidance for operating under the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive order see ACCD's website <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business/stay-home-stay-safe-sector-specific-guidance>.

Businesses that need technical and financial assistance can find a list of business support organizations to provide recovery guidance here <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business/assistance-providers>.

