



**Regional Planning &**

**Economic Development**

**in the Northeast Kingdom**

**David Snedeker, Executive Director**

[dsnedeker@nvda.net](mailto:dsnedeker@nvda.net)

**e-Newsletter - September 2024**

### **Emergency Assistance & Information**

#### **Major Disaster Declaration Request Approved: Flooding from July 9-11, 2024**

Gov. Scott's request for FEMA disaster declaration to assist **individuals and communities** impacted by flooding from July 9-11, has been approved by the Biden Administration. This provides funding for individuals in Addison, Orleans, Washington, Caledonia, Chittenden, Lamoille and Essex counties to apply to FEMA for assistance. Register at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov) or call 1-800-621-3362. The deadline to apply for FEMA's Public Assistance Program for July 9-11 flooding (DR-4810) is **Sept 20th**.

This declaration also includes funding to help cities and towns receive reimbursement for emergency storm repairs to public infrastructure. Town briefings will be scheduled soon.

**Note:** This declaration does not include damage to private and public property caused by storms on July 30th. Multiple flooding events have impacted the region this year and each storm requires its own Disaster Declaration request and approval. (Gov. Scott has requested Major Disaster Declaration for **July 29-31** flooding. Response is pending. Read the document [Here](#))

#### **FEMA Disaster Recovery Center Open in Lyndon**

A Disaster Recovery Center is now open 7 days a week from 8:00 am -7:00 pm at the Public Safety Facility, 316 Main Street, Lyndon. Disaster assistance specialists are available to help with FEMA Individual Assistance applications, to upload documents needed for the application, and answer questions in person.

## **Business & Rental Property Flood Damage Survey**

The Department of Economic Development is working to learn more about the damage to rental properties and the business community during recent flooding. If you are a landlord or work for a business or nonprofit that suffered physical damage since mid-July 2024, please take ten minutes to [fill out this survey](#)

## **Report Damage: [Vermont211.org](https://www.vermont211.org)**

Use the *Resident* form or *Business* form. Reporting damage is essential, no matter how large or small. Continue to take pictures/videos and save receipts to track expenses: loss of business income, inventory (due to spoilage or floodwater damage), equipment damage, and property loss. Reporting is a key piece as the state tracks flood damage that will unlock federal resources to repair and rebuild. Report online or dial 211 (or) 802/ 652-4636.

## **Starting Over Strong - Free Community Support Group for Flood Survivors**

Join Thursday Zoom Meetings @ 5:30 pm - FREE and no registration needed.

**Sept 12 & 26 and Oct 10 & 24**

<https://nkhs-net.zoom.us/j/88297803129?pwd=Wuhd0WNfi2MlySOAjUzTMjU6G8JM.1>

Meeting ID: 882-9780 3129 Passcode: 229517

**Questions?** Northeast Kingdom Human Services (802) 424-5368

## **Links to more Flood Disaster Assistance:**

- **VT Department of Labor** [Unemployment Due to Flooding](#)
- **VT Legal Aid** [Flood Related Legal Assistance](#)
- **VT ACCD** [Storm Resource Center](#)
- **NVDA Website** [Flood Recovery & Assistance](#)
- **VtSBDC** [Disaster Recovery Guide for Business](#)
- **VT League of Cities and Towns** [VLCT Flood Recovery & Resources](#)
- **FEMA** [Individuals & Households Program](#)
- **USDA Rural Development** [Disaster Assistance Website](#)
- **VT Community Foundation** [VCF Special & Urgent Needs](#)

## Emergency Resources

- **Farm & Ag Producers** VT Agency of Agriculture [Ag Flood Response & Recovery](#); Farmer Emergency Fund [nofavt.org](#); VT Farm Fund [vtfarmfund.org](#); Farm First <https://www.farmfirst.org/> - Post flood [Technical Assistance Toolkit for Agriculture](#)
- **(CAE) Ctr for an Agricultural Economy** [Emergency Loan Program](#)
- **Forest Businesses** VT Dept Forests, Parks & Recreation [Flood Recovery Resources](#)
- **Cultural Sector** VT Arts Council [Flood Disaster Resources](#)
- **KURRVE** - Neighbor-to-neighbor Networks [KURRVE](#)

## BEGAP Portal is Open!

The Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP) portal is open. The grant program is for businesses, nonprofits, landlords, and farms that suffered physical damage from flooding in 2023 and/or 2024. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are expended. NVDA's partner, Central VT Economic Development Corporation, will be providing assistance with applications. If you need help, fill out the support request form [Here](#). After you register you'll receive follow-up information and an appointment to meet CVEDC staff at two local walk-in clinics hosted by NVDA: **Sept 5th** @ NVDA office, 36 Eastern Ave, St. Johnsbury; **Sept 9th** @ Do North Co-working, 930 Broad St, Lyndonville. Clinics will be open from **9:00 am to 4:00 pm**. Applicants are encouraged to visit the [BEGAP](#) website to learn how the program works and what information is needed for the application process. Questions? Contact [amclean@nvda.net](mailto:amclean@nvda.net)

## Flood Relief for Individuals - Locally Social Gives, Inc.

The nonprofit based in St. Johnsbury has set up a flood relief fund to provide quick, flexible flood relief (up to \$1,500) for NEK residents in need of support. A direct link to the fund is [Here](#) If applying online is a barrier, reach out to Cari Carlet - Donations Welcome! [caricarlet@yahoo.com](mailto:caricarlet@yahoo.com) (or) Brooke Pierce [brooke@momentumbusinessvt.com](mailto:brooke@momentumbusinessvt.com).

## VT Main Street Flood Recovery Fund for Businesses - Donations Welcome!

The Fund has been **reopened** to support Vermont's small independently owned businesses with grants of up to \$2,500 for equipment replacement, operating expenses, supplies, clean-

up, etc. [Grant application](#) The Fund was developed last year in the wake of 2023's flooding event and is actively accepting additional donations for 2024 damage. [Learn more](#) Donors may send checks to: Capstone Community Action, 20 Gable Place, Barre VT 05641 (Make a notation on the check that the donation is for *Main Street Recovery Fund*) **Questions?** Contact Annie McLean [amclean@nvda.net](mailto:amclean@nvda.net)

### **Flood Relief for Businesses - NCIC Impact Loan Program**

NCIC has established a small emergency loan fund for businesses in the NEK impacted by July flooding. Borrowers may apply for up to \$3,000. Limited funds will be disbursed on a first come, first served basis. Contact Aimee Quimby [aquimby@ncic.org](mailto:aquimby@ncic.org)

### **Let Efficiency Vermont Help: Technical & Financial Assistance**

Efficiency Vermont is providing businesses with technical and financial assistance with energy efficient technologies. Rebates offered for damaged water heaters, refrigeration, commercial kitchen equipment, and heating & cooling units. What are your business's electrical and mechanical recovery needs? [Learn more:](#)

### **SBA Loan Programs for Disaster Recovery**

The U.S. Small Business Administration is making available two loan programs to businesses that suffered flood damage on July 9-11. Applications may be submitted online using the [MySBA Loan Portal](#) Please contact SBA disaster assistance customer service 1-800-659-2955 for more help. [SBA Disaster Assistance](#)