

VERMONT LOCAL ROADS

VLR Learning Opportunities & News August 2022

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Virtual and In-person Trainings Within the LMS

Before clicking on class links via LMS:

Be sure to have your LMS open, and be signed in for the "via LMS" links below to bring you to the proper class pages.

VLR Roadway Fundamentals

This course will cover the basic concerns in roadway design, construction, and maintenance with practical information that Vermont towns can implement immediately. The course will include the basic elements of a well-constructed road, assessment of surface damage and causes, the importance of proper drainage, the necessity for compaction and appropriate repair strategies.

**August 11 - Castleton Fire
Department**

**August 18 - Richmond Town
Center - Conference Room**

August 23 - Newport Public

Learning Objectives:

- Discuss the elements of a well-constructed road
- Understand how water affects roadways from the surface and in the subgrade, and understand the effects of poor drainage
- Recognize common pavement damage and their possible causes and appropriate repair strategies
- Understand the importance of proper construction inspection

Roads Scholar Category - 5 Technical hours

Works Department

**August 30 - Ludlow Town
Highway Department**

**In-Person 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Bring a bag lunch!**

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

VLR Rigging, Lifting, and Securing Loads

The following topics will be discussed:

- Rigging gear
- Overhead lifting
- Design factors
- Working load limits
- Safe working load
- Sling selection
- Inspections
- Center of gravity
- Load attachments
- Federal Motor Carrier rules for securement
- And many more topics...

Roads Scholar Category - 4 Equipment hours

**August 25 - Bennington Public
Works Department**

**September 1 - Ferrisburgh
Town Highway Department**

**September 22 - Ludlow Town
Highway Department**

**October 6 - Montpelier Public
Works Department**

In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

VLR Pavement Management & Contract Writing

This session will discuss the importance of creating an inventory and assessing the condition of your paved roadways.

We will then apply the network approach concept to help you optimize your available roadway funding to best increase the overall condition of your network. And discuss methods of contract writing to promote a fair bidding process.

Instructor: Robert Betsold

Roads Scholar Category - 5 Technical hours

**September 6 - VTrans Training
Center in Berlin**

**September 13 - Menden VTrans
Conference Room**

**In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Bring a bag lunch!**

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

VLR Chainsaw Training: Skills & Safety

This course is a 2-day program focused on safety procedures for understanding the equipment, personal protective equipment, and cutting techniques in felling roadside trees.

The course will consist of both classroom lecture and practicing rating roads in the field.

Instructor: Mike Smith from Chainsaw Strategies

Roads Scholar Category - 6 Equipment hours

**September 7&8 - Bethel Town
Highway Department**

**In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bring a bag lunch!**

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

VLR Chainsaw Training: After the Storm

This is a 1-day course intended to dive deeper into the concepts taught in the beginner course and including chipper safety, bucking techniques, and safely managing storm tree clean up.

The course will consist of both classroom lecture and practicing rating roads in the field.

Instructor: Mike Smith from Chainsaw Strategies

Roads Scholar Category - 6 Equipment hours

**September 9 - Bethel Town
Highway Department**

**In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bring a bag lunch!**

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

VLR Roads Roundtable

This course will cover topics related to the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP).

The following topics will be covered:

- Roadway Management
- Better Ditches
- Drainage Culverts
- Better Roads Program
- Road Erosion Inventory

September 13 - Milton Fire Department

**In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Bring a bag lunch!**

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

[REGISTER](#) via LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 5 Technical hours



VLR eLearning Flagger Certification

We have completed an eLearning version of our Work Zone Flagger course. It meets the requirements established by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and Vermont standard requirements. This enables municipal employees to complete the course in our Learning Management System and receive a flagger certification card via mail.

The full course will take from 3-4 hours to complete. It has 4 modules each with a quiz at the end, after completing the 4 modules there are 4 drag and drop scenarios to demonstrate adequate understanding of work zone setup, and finally the exam at the end.

Roads Scholar Category - 4 Safety hours

REGISTER
HERE

CDL - Entry Level Driver Training - Theory Curriculum

FMCSA's (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Association) Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations set the baseline for training requirements for entry-level drivers. This includes those applying to:

- Obtain a Class A or Class B CDL for the first time
- Upgrade an existing Class B CDL to a Class A CDL
- Obtain a school bus (S), passenger (P), or hazardous materials (H) endorsement for the first time

The ELDT program consists of a theory training which covers 5 main topics, 7 behind-the-wheel range skills, and 12 behind-the-wheel on-road skills. In order to successfully complete the theory portion of the training, participants must score an *80% or higher* on the assessments for each section.

The theory portion of the ELDT is available to municipalities in our Learning Management System. If you have questions about this training please contact Todd Eaton by [email](#) or calling 802-353-0110.

Entry Level Driver Training Curriculum

Upon successful completion of the online theory portion of the training, drivers will understand:

1. Basic Operation
2. Safe Operating Procedures
3. Advanced Operating Procedures
4. Vehicle Systems
5. Non-Driving Activities



Hyperlinks:

[About the Training Provider Registry](#)

[Training Provider Factsheet](#)

[Entry Level Driver Training Rule Implementation](#)

[Checklist](#)

[Training Providers - Register Now](#)

REGISTER
HERE

Rivers & Roads Training

Rivers & Roads Tier I

This eLearning discusses river terms and concepts to provide a background for the Tier 2 class. The eLearning may take 30 minutes to an hour to review and includes some quick quizzes that are not recorded but provide immediate feedback for the user.

[REGISTER](#) via
LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 1 Environmental hour

Rivers & Roads Tier II

Tier 2 is a two-day training and is both indoors and outdoor. Bring, or wear, appropriate field clothes and waterproof boots or old sneakers you can get wet! Each day will be indoors for slide shows, class exercises, river flume table demonstrations, and outdoors on rivers and streams to observe in the field what we've seen and discussed indoors.

**October 5 & 6 - Weathersfield
Town Garage**

In-Person 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) via LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 16 Environmental hours
Must attend both days to receive credit.

Grader Hands-On Training

Stu Johnson has returned to VLR to provide grader training throughout the construction season.

If you or your road crew are in need of hands-on, person to person grader training, you can [request Grader Hands-On training](#) through our website. We are beginning to build our schedule out and we will adjust the schedule for weather challenges on a case by case basis.

This training consists of a 2-hour eLearning that will cover the basics of safety, grader mechanics, and techniques. In addition, we will schedule a day for Stu to join you on your roads to work with your equipment. Many have said that this training really helped them in their development as a grader operator.

Please take advantage of this opportunity while we have Stu back for the season.



[Request Grader Training
Here](#)

TC3 Training



TC3 (Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council)

Did you know that AASHTO has an agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to provide training to local agencies and tribes? The AASHTO TC3 has helped to develop hours of training in almost all highway areas from constructing a project to maintenance. In just a few clicks you can view information on plan reading, math, project inspection, and so much more. There are courses for everyone from new employees to managers, so whatever your position is, it's likely that TC3 has information for you. **To find applicable trainings, [search in the LMS 'TC3'](#) or ['AASHTO'](#), or by [searching for a specific topic.](#)**

Maintenance of Traffic for Technicians

This training presents information about the placement of, field maintenance required for, and inspection of traffic control devices. In addition, drafting work zone traffic control plans and flagger operations are discussed.

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- Identify the correct placement of work zone traffic control devices;
- Perform field maintenance of work zone traffic control devices;
- Inspect placement or operational functions of work zone traffic control devices;
- Generate work zone traffic control plans; and
- Explain the basics of flagging.

Maintenance of Traffic for Supervisors (PDH = 5 hrs)

This training presents information about the placement of, field maintenance required for, and inspection of traffic control devices. In addition, drafting work zone traffic control plans and flagging are discussed. This training focuses on the design of a traffic control plan, and how and why it's needed in the work zone.

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

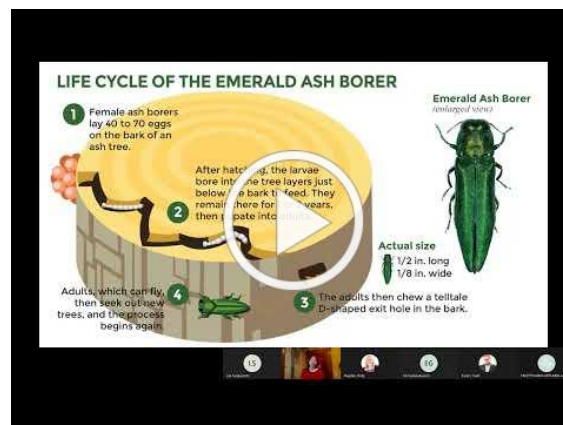
- Describe how to create clear, organized traffic control plans;
- Identify acceptable temporary traffic control devices; and
- Determine good and bad flagging techniques.

If you are having issues with logging into the Learning Management System please email vermontlocalroads@vermont.gov or request your credentials [here](#).

VLR Past Webinar Recordings

NOW AVAILABLE: Recordings of past VLR webinars are now available on our [website](#). They are categorized by Roads Scholar category (Environmental, Equipment, Safety, Supervisory or Technical).

Featured recording for this month is "Ash Tree Management".



Tailgate Talks

Vermont Local Roads in partnership with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is proud to announce the relaunch of "Tailgate Talks." These are intended to be brief 10-15 minute presentations of information, exercises, and opportunities to review important workplace policies and procedures with staff members.

"To Review as a Group:" Use the PDF to the right, once reviewed as a group, please send a sign-in sheet of names [to the VLR team](#). We will enter those names into the LMS to have the tailgate talks added to your transcript.

Search for "VLR Tailgate Talk" to watch recorded tailgate talks via the

PPE - Eye Protection

Large Equipment Safety

News & Resources for Municipalities

In this section you will find news, resources, and sharing from other partners for municipalities.



Stop on Red Week – August 7-13, 2022

Stop On Red Week was created by the Federal Highway Administration in 1995 to reduce the severity of traffic collisions by educating the public. The week highlights the risks of running a red light and how reckless driving can destroy lives.

[Read more](https://www.nationaltoday.com)
nationaltoday.com

SAFE +
SOUND
Week August 15-21, 2022

Safe + Sound Week | Occupational Safety and Health...

Why Participate? Successful safety and health programs can proactively identify and manage workplace hazards before they cause injury or illness, improving sustainability and the bottom line. Participating in Safe + Sound Week can help get your...

[Read more](#)
www.osha.gov



Brake Safety Week Is Aug. 21-27

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) has announced Aug. 21-27 as the dates for this year's Brake Safety Week. Brake Safety Week is an annual commercial motor vehicle brake-safety inspection, enforcement and education initiative conducted ...

[Read more](#)
dmv.vermont.gov



National Water Quality Month - August

National Water Quality Month National Water Quality Month is dedicated to making the most of the relatively small amount of fresh water we have, because having clean water is vital to our individual health, our collective agricultural needs, and...

[Read more](#)

nationalwaterqualitymonth.org



Recognizing National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM)

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages.

[Read more](#)

www.cdc.gov

Other Resources

The NE Chapter Connects webinar series is taking a break from live webinars over the summer.

The NEAPWA is encouraging public works agencies to use the many topics in the video resource library to implement a lunch & learn series for your crews. It is a great way to give the crew a break from the heat and provide an opportunity to learn.



Here is a sample of the topics that are available:

- Preparing for Hurricanes/Storms – Emergency Operations
- Tips for Dealing with the Public
- Sustainable Winter Operations – Are you Prepared?
- New Technologies in Public Works

New England Chapter Connects Lunch & Learn Program

New England Chapter Connects - Virtual Education Series. For the complete video library click "read more" below. Have a great summer! See you in September for the New England Chapter Connects.

[Read more](#)

newengland.apwa.net

Municipal Roads General Permit Newsletter

Here are some upcoming important Vermont Municipal Roads General Permit(MRGP) related schedules and permit requirements, training opportunities, and resources available to towns in 2022.

[Read more](#)

dec.vermont.gov



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

CENTER FOR
LOCAL AID SUPPORT

FHWA/CENTER FOR LOCAL AID SUPPORT: TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Center for Local Aid Support has developed a series of online training modules for transportation professionals. The online training courses are for professional development and to provide solutions for transportation related issues. There...

[Read more](#)

www.fhwa.dot.gov



AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION - BETTER ROADS PROGRAM

The Vermont Better Roads Program provides technical support and grant funding to municipalities to promote the use of erosion control and maintenance techniques that save money while protecting and enhancing water quality around the State.

[Read more](#)

vtrans.vermont.gov



**Vermont League
of Cities & Towns**

Training & Events

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that was founded in 1967 with the mission of serving and strengthening Vermont local government. VLCT provides ...

[Read more](#)

www.vlct.org

Sign up for the Listserv

Visit our website



Vermont Local Roads | 802-828-3537 | [EMAIL](#)

The VLR team is dedicated to providing assistance to municipal highway departments and town governments to improve their road networks by providing training, technical assistance, communication tools and information exchange.