



VERMONT LOCAL ROADS

VLR Learning Opportunities Issue 5 - October 5, 2021

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Trainings Within the LMS



NEW - 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](#)

VLR Game of Logging - Level 5

This workshop is a hands-on review of all techniques learned in Levels 1 & 2. Participants **must** have completed both level 1 and

October 6 - Middlebury Town

level 2 to attend this refresher course. Safety is an ongoing practice to keep skills and awareness sharp, and Game of Logging training should be renewed/refreshed every 5 years.

Items to bring:

- **Hard Hat**
- **Long Pants**
- **Sturdy leather/work hiking boots**
- **Weather/work appropriate clothing**
- **Hearing/Eye protection & Chaps (if possible)**
- **Leather/chain saw gloves (optional)**
- **Well rested mind & a good attitude!**

Roads Scholar Category - 6 Equipment hours

VLR Backhoe/Excavator Safety Operator Training - Step 1

This webinar will cover OSHA, local laws, and regulations. This webinar must be attended in order to attend the hands-on step 2 below.

VLR Backhoe/Excavator Safety Operator Training - Step 2

In this workshop attendees will be rotated through a series of hands on evaluations. The Backhoe evaluations can consist of any of the following:

- Creating a trench.
- Back filling a trench.
- Placement of the backhoe for digging.
- Loading a truck and Unloading a truck. (if the host agency is agreeable)

Loader evaluations will consist of:

- Digging from a pile with out spinning the tires.
- Picking up loose material from a simulated roadway.
- Loading a truck.
- Leveling material on a simulated roadway.
- Stacking material in a pile.

If time allows, a confidence skills challenge will be included at the end of the day.

Roads Scholar Category - 6 Equipment hours

VLR Game of Logging - Levels 1 & 2

This 2-day workshop discusses:

- Safety/Emergency Planning
- 5 – Point Safety Check
- Felling/Demonstrations at nearby site
- Routine Chain Saw Maintenance

Items to bring:

- **Hard Hat**
- **Long Pants**
- **Sturdy leather/work hiking boots**
- **Weather/work appropriate clothing**
- **Hearing/Eye protection & Chaps (if possible)**
- **Leather/chain saw gloves (optional)**
- **Well rested mind & a good attitude!**

Roads Scholar Category - 12 Equipment hours

VLR Game of Logging - Storm Damage

This workshop will teach safe techniques for working with trees under extreme compression/tension or damage due to weather or other situations. Understanding the hazards that trees with attached root balls, tangled and/or split stems or other dangerous situations

Highway Garage, 1020 Route 7 South

October 7 - Westminster Fire Department, 103 Grout Ave
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

**Max 10 participants per day.
Bring a bag lunch!**

October 12

Virtual 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

Max 20 participants.

October 15 - Middlebury Town Highway Garage, 1020 Route 7 South

October 22 - West Windsor Town Highway Garage, 2305 Route 44
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

**Max 10 participants per day.
Bring a bag lunch!**

October 12 & 13 - North Bennington Town Highway Garage, 56 Mechanic Street

October 19 & 20 - Wolcott, 3991 East Hill Road
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

**Max 10 participants per day.
Bring a bag lunch!**

October 14 - North Bennington Town Highway Garage, 56 Mechanic Street

October 21 - Wolcott, 3991 East Hill Road
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

can present. Dismantling of these dangerous situations with various cutting techniques, using ropes and winches to manage different situations safely will be included in this training.

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

**Max 10 participants per day.
Bring a bag lunch!**

Prerequisite: Students must have completed Game Of Logging 1 & 2 prior to attending this Storm Damage Cleanup workshop.

Roads Scholar Category - 6 Equipment hours

VLR Virtual Environmental Round Table National Weather Service

This webinar will cover the basics in navigating and understanding the information presented by the National Weather Service.

October 20
Virtual 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 1 Environmental hour

VLR Virtual Snow & Ice

This webinar will cover:

- The preparation and pre-planning stages leading up to winter and a storm.
- Discussion on the importance of calibrating equipment, for cost savings, salt use reduction, and environmental concerns.
- Discussion of plowing strategies on paved roads.

October 28
Virtual 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 2 Technical hours

VLR Virtual Safety Round Table Common Winter Hazards

This webinar will have discussion about common winter hazards and how workers can stay safe.

Hazards & Situations include:

- Shoveling snow
- Winter driving
- Stranded in a vehicle
- Preventing slips on snow and ice
- Working near downed or damaged power lines
- Removing downed trees

November 3
Virtual 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 1 Safety hour

VLR Virtual Technical Training Drainage & Ditches

In this webinar we'll cover basic ditch design, ditch function, and best management practices.

November 9
Virtual 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website
[REGISTER](#) vis LMS

Roads Scholar Category - 1 Technical hour

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](#)

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,

October 12 & 13
In-person 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

class exercises, river flume table demonstrations, and outdoors on rivers and streams to observe in the field what we've seen and discussed indoors.

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

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

VTrans Training Center is hosting this workshop.

Rivers & Roads Tier III

Tier 1 and Tier 2 River and Roads trainings are a prerequisite to register for Tier 3.

- Each training subject is a one-day class. There is no requirement to take them all and/or one topic prior to the other.
- Participants are encouraged to review the "Vermont Standard River Management Principals and Practices version 1.3" prior to the trainings.
<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/rivers/river-management#principles>
- Trainings held at the VTrans Dill Building at 2178 Airport Rd, Berlin, Vermont (options for attending these trainings remotely are currently being developed to allow us both in-person and remote participation; details to come in Sept/early Oct.)

VTrans Training Center is hosting these workshops.

Roads Scholar Category - 8 Environmental hours per topic

November 3 - Sediment and large wood removal - VTrans Training Center in Berlin 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

December 1 - Bridge and culvert replacement - VTrans Training Center in Berlin 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

January 20 - Floodplain Restoration - VTrans Dill Building in Berlin 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

February 17 - Channel stabilization - VTrans Dill Building in Berlin 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

[REGISTER](#) via VLR Website

TC3 (Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council)

A technical service program within AASHTO that focuses on developing training products for technical staff in the areas of construction, maintenance, and materials. TC3 online courses continue to be a great way to achieve PDH's and do so in a self-paced learning environment. **To find applicable trainings, [search in the LMS 'TC3'](#) or 'AASHTO', or by searching for a specific topic.**

Find TC3 trainings in the following categories: Construction, Employee Development, Maintenance, Materials, Pavement Preservation, and Traffic and Safety.

- Global Positioning System (GPS) technology is becoming a commonly used tool for construction and maintenance. This course will provide the participant with a general understanding of GPS and the accuracy that can be obtained with this new technology. GPS is used for surveying, rough and fine grading, utility locations, excavation and grading, paving, and much more. [GPS Technology in Construction](#)
- There are sometimes legal ramifications in highway maintenance sometimes, which is why the TC3 course 'Maintenance and Tort Liability' is a must-take. This course provides an overview of highway maintenance as it relates to tort liability, including definitions of legal terminology and liability proceedings typically faced by many state departments of transportation. [Maintenance and Tort Liability](#)

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 Control Systems.](#)



Tailgate Talks

Vermont Local Roads in partnership with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTTrans) 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 Learning Management System. We have Chainsaw Safety and Stress Management available.

Large Equipment

High Voltage

News & Resources for Municipalities

In this section you will find news and resources for municipalities.

Innovation Exchange

Conversations Launching Change

Presented by the Federal Highway Administration Local Aid Support

Federal Highway Administration Local Aid Support presents Build a Better Mousetrap 2021 Winners Showcase

Thursday, October 21, 2021 | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET

In transportation, Build a Better Mousetrap means going outside the box to solve problems. These solutions improve safety, save money, decrease time and move processes to become more efficient. The Federal Highway Administration recognizes local and state agencies who have used innovation to improve transportation programs for their communities. For this webinar, we will hear from the [2021 winners](#) on how they stepped away from their norms to creatively solve problems.

Speaking during this webinar:

1. Illinois Tollway – Bold Steps Award – Road Electric Training System
2. Independent Highway District, ID – Pioneer Award – Recessed Lane Indicator

No registration required. To access the webinar:

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#); Passcode: 796747

Or call in (audio only)

US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646 828 7666 or +1 551 285 1373 or +1 669 216 1590 Webinar ID: 161 471 5296 Passcode: 796747

If you have questions about this upcoming webinar, email CLAS@dot.gov. For more information on Build a Better Mousetrap, visit: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/clas/babm/>. For information on future Innovation Exchanges, visit: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/clas/training_tools/webinars.aspx. To learn more about local agencies successfully using innovation in their programs, visit <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/clas/newsletters/>.

- [FHWA CLAS Innovation Exchange Flyer - 2021 BABM Winners -FINAL.pdf](#)



Roadway Safety Industry Continues to Face Workforce,...

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have lasting impacts, workforce and materials shortages are hitting businesses across the nation hard-and the roadway safety industry is no exception. As the industry comes together to get through these...

[Read more](#)

www.roadsbridges.com

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



Show Me the Money!

Vermont Agency of Transportation Grants – A guide for Municipalities



Vermont League of Cities & Towns

Training & Events

Serving and Strengthening Vermont Local Government

[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.