



Glossary

- **AAFM** - Agency of Agriculture and Farm Markets / Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets
- **ACBC** - Addison County Bike Club
- **ACCD** - Agency of Commerce & Community Development
- **ACCoC** - Addison County Chamber of Commerce
- **ACORN** - Addison County Relocalization Network
- **ACRPC** - Addison County Regional Planning Commission
- **ACRWC** - Addison County River Watch Collaborative
- **ACSWMD** - Addison County Solid Waste Management District
- **ACTR** - Addison County Transit Resources
- **Act 200** - The 1988 amendments to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117; the Vermont Municipal and Regional Planning and Development Act
- **Act 250** - (10 V.S.A. §6001); Vermont Land Use and Development Law; the state environmental review process conducted by a District Environmental Commission to consider a proposed development's impact using 10 established criteria
- **Adaptation** - Adjusting to the current or anticipated climate impacts by making improvements to, or preventing the deterioration of, natural and man-made systems and structures. 10 V.S.A. § 590
- **Adaptive Forest Management** - Management practices that optimize forest structure, composition, and function to increase levels of forest resiliency
- **Adaptive Reuse** - The process of repurposing an existing building or structure for a new use, often preserving historic or valuable architectural elements while meeting modern needs
- **Affordable Housing** - Housing is affordable when households with an income below the county median income pay no more than 30% of their income on housing costs. Housing costs for renters include rent and utilities. Housing costs for homeowners include principle and interest, property insurance, and property taxes / Spending no more than 30 percent of household income on housing. 24 V.S.A. § 4303 (1)
- **Agricultural Land** - Real estate capable of supporting commercial farming (10 V.S.A. §331 [2])
- **Agritourism** - Tourism in which tourists take part in farm or village activities, as animal and crop care, cooking and cleaning, handicrafts, and entertainments. 12 V.S.A. § 5871
- **Agroecology** - The application of ecological principles to agriculture, with attention to how agricultural practice will affect habitats or ecosystems. 6 V.S.A. § 4710
- **ANR** - Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- **AOT** - Agency of Transportation
- **Aquifers** - Underground layers of water bearing rock or sediment that store groundwater. 10 V.S.A. § 1391
- **Archaeology** - The study of physical evidence of past human activity, often unearthed through excavation or analysis
- **Area-Based Zoning** - A type of zoning ordinance that establishes a formula for the number of non-farm dwellings permitted per acre, with houses typically built on small lots
- **Areas of High Flood Risk** - Areas of High Flood Risk are Special Flood Hazard Areas as mapped by the U.S Federal Emergency Management Agency and River Corridors as mapped by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. 10 V.S.A. § 752

- **Audubon Vermont** - State program of the National Audubon Society, focused on bird conservation, habitat protection, and environmental education
- **Benefit Cliff** - The sudden decrease that can occur from a small increase in earnings that can make people ineligible for benefits, but not making enough to sustain themselves
- **Berm** - A raised barrier or shelf of land, often made of compacted soil, that separates areas vertically
- **BGS** - Buildings & General Services
- **Biological Rhythms** - Natural cycles in living organisms, such as sleep-wake cycles or seasonal behaviors, influenced by environmental cues
- **BIPOC** - Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (used as a unifying identity label for people of color that also emphasizes the unique racial experiences of Black people and Indigenous people)
- **BMP** - Best Management Practices
- **BRELLA** - Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act
- **BRIC** - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant
- **British Thermal Unit (Btu)** - The quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 pound of liquid water by 1 degree Fahrenheit at the temperature at which water has its greatest density (approximately 39 degrees Fahrenheit)
- **Brownfield** - A property where the presence, potential presence, or perception of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants complicates its expansion, redevelopment, or reuse. 10 V.S.A. § 6642
- **Brownfields Reuse Program** - A program that aims to assess, clean up, and reuse sites that have the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances
- **BTN** - Bristol Trails Network
- **Building Height** - The vertical measurement of a building, as measured from ground elevation to the highest point of the structure
- **BWQC** - Basin Water Quality Council
- **Bylaw** - Zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, shore land and flood hazard by-laws, an official map and capital budget/program adopted under 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 § 4401
- **Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)** - Short-range plan that identifies capital projects and equipment purchases, provides a planning schedule, and identifies options for financing the plan. 24 V.S.A. § 4382(a)
- **Cascading Disaster** - Occurs when an initial event, such as a natural disaster, triggers a series of subsequent events that lead to further crises, often compounding the overall impact
- **CCRPC** - Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
- **CCoVT** - Community Capital of Vermont
- **CDBG** - Community Development Block Grant
- **CEDS** - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- **CERT** - Community Emergency Response Team
- **Certified Local Government (CLG)** - A local government recognized by the National Park Service and state preservation office for meeting standards in historic preservation; eligible for grants and involvement in federal reviews
- **CIP** - Capital Improvement Plan
- **Clean Water Service Provider** - A regional entity responsible for overseeing and implementing non-regulatory water quality projects within a designated water basin. 10 V.S.A. § 924
- **Climate Change** - Long-term shifts in average temperature, humidity, and rainfall patterns for local, regional, and/or global environments

- **Climate Justice** - Links sustainable development and human rights to achieve a rights-based approach to addressing climate change. 3 V.S.A. § 6002
- **Co-Benefits** - The additional positive outcomes that arise from a single action or intervention
- **Community Lifeline** - The most fundamental services in a community that enables the continuous operation of critical government and business functions and is essential to human health and safety or economic security
- **Community Resilience** - The overall ability of a community to prepare for, withstand, respond to, and adapt readily to any kind of adversity, such that people are capable of surviving and thriving
- **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)** - Community-supported agriculture organization or CSA organization means a farm or group of farms each subject to regulation under the Required Agricultural Practices that as part of the business of the farm stand or CSA organization grow, raise, or produce agricultural products for consumer shareholders or subscribers who pledge or contract to buy a portion of the agricultural products of the farm or group of farms. 6 V.S.A. § 2776(6)
- **Complete Streets** - Streets which provide for the safety and accommodation of all transportation system users (motorists, pedestrians, cyclists & transit riders), regardless of age, ability, or modal preference. 19 V.S.A. § 10b
- **Conflict** - When the Regional Plan allows for the project but the Town Plan doesn't, or vice versa
- **Cooling Sites** - A community-provided resource for those needing extra assistance to stay safe during hot weather; this can include air-conditioned buildings with amenities or an outdoor location providing shade, swimming, spray water, and/or drinking water
- **Creative Economy** - Economic activity derived from human creativity, including the arts, culture, design, and innovation
- **Criteria Pollutants** - A group of six common air pollutants regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency due to their harmful effects on human health and the environment
- **Cross-State Pollution** - Air pollution that originates in one state and travels across state lines, impacting air quality in other states
- **CSA** - Community Solar Array
- **CUD** - Communications Union District
- **CWSP** - Clean Water Service Provider
- **Cyanobacteria Blooms** - A rapid increase of a type of photosynthetic bacteria in a water body that can potentially release toxins harmful to humans and animals
- **DA** - Designated Agency/Designated Mental Health Agency
- **DEC** - Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
- **DEI** - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
- **Demand Side Management** - Planning, implementing, and monitoring activities of electric utilities which are designed to encourage consumers to modify their level and pattern of electricity usage (US Dept. of Energy)
- **DEMHS** - Vermont Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- **Development** - The division of a parcel into two or more parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation or landfill, and any change in the use of any building or other structure, or land, or extension of use of land
- **Development Constraint** - A factor that limits or prevents the development of a piece of land
- **DHCD** - Department of Housing and Community Development
- **DIBG** - Design/Implementation Block Grant

- **DOHHS** - Vermont Department of Health and Human Services
- **DOJ** - Department of Justice
- **DPS** - Vermont Department of Public Service
- **EAS** - Emergency Alert System
- **ECO** - Environmental Careers and Opportunities
- **Ecosystem** - All the living and non-living parts within an environment and the interaction between those parts. Two of the main types of ecosystems are those for freshwater and terrestrial systems
- **Ecosystem Services** - Any positive benefit that wildlife or ecosystems provide to people
- **Ecotourism** - Tourism to places having unspoiled natural resources, with minimal impact on the environment being a primary concern
- **EECBG** - Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant
- **Effective Forest Management** - Maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations. 10 V.S.A. § 2601
- **Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)** - Electric Vehicle chargers
- **Emergency Management Cycle** - A continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action to ensure effective coordination during incident response
- **Emergency Relief Assistance Fund (ERAF)** - An incentive where state funding is provided to match FEMA aid after federally declared disasters; the match ranges from 7.5% to 17.5% depending on which flood mitigation measures have been adopted
- **EMPG** - Emergency Management Planning Grant
- **Enterprise Areas** - Locations of high economic activity and employment that are not adjacent to planned growth areas. 24 V.S.A. § 4348a(2)(F)
- **Environmental Benefit** - As defined in state law. 3 V.S.A. § 6002 (1)
- **Environmental Burden** - As defined in state law. 3 V.S.A. § 6002 (2)
- **Environmental Stewardship** - Responsible use and protection of the natural environment through active participation in conservation efforts and sustainable practices. 6 V.S.A. § 4963
- **EOC** - Emergency Operations Center
- **EOP** - Emergency Operations Plan
- **EPA** - Environmental Protection Agency
- **Equitable Access** - The principle that all individuals should have fair and just opportunities to resources, education, and professional support. 3 V.S.A. § 6002
- **Expected Annual Loss** - The average economic loss in dollars resulting from natural hazards as it relates to buildings, people, and agriculture
- **False Spring** - Occurs when a stretch of unexpectedly warmer temperatures occurs in late winter/early spring, followed by sudden freezing events
- **Family** - A family consists of a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption
- **Farmland Access Program** - The Vermont Land Trust's Farmland Access Program is an innovative, successful, and evolving tool for the transfer of farmland to the next generation
- **Federally-Declared Disaster** - Any disaster subsequently determined by the President of the United States to warrant assistance by the Federal Government under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
- **FEMA** - Federal Emergency Management Agency
- **FEMC** - Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative

- **FHWA** - Federal Highways Administration
- **FIRM** - Flood Insurance Rate Map
- **Flash Flood** - A sudden, violent flood that is caused by intense rainfall events and can occur anywhere
- **Flood Hazard Area Bylaws** - Local laws that restrict or regulate construction and land use in Special Flood Hazard areas to minimize the risk of flood damage to property and infrastructure. 24 V.S.A. § 4424
- **Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** - FEMA-mapped floodplains that are used to determine whether flood insurance is required for property owners
- **Floodplain** - The land in the community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A on the National Flood Insurance Program maps / An area of low-lying land adjacent to a river that absorbs water during heavy precipitation events, thus reducing the risk of downstream flooding. 10 V.S.A. § 753
- **Fluvial Erosion** - The movement and deposition of soil and rock by flowing water in stream and river channels; often precipitated by flash floods
- **Food Deserts** - An area, usually low-income, in which many residents cannot easily get to stores that sell affordable, healthful foods
- **Food Hubs** - A centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distributions, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products
- **Food Insecurity** - Limited or uncertain access to sufficient, nutritious food. Contributing factors include economic disparities, rural isolation, and limited access to affordable, healthy food options
- **FTE** - Full Time Equivalent
- **Full Value** - The total value of a property, including both land and improvements (e.g., buildings), as determined by the tax assessor for property tax purposes
- **GHG** - Greenhouse Gas Emissions. 10 V.S.A. § 578
- **GIA** - Grants in Aid (transportation and water quality)
- **Gig Towns** - A community that has completed fiber expansion and has access to high-speed internet
- **GIS** - Geographic Information Systems
- **GMC** - Green Mountain Club
- **GMP** - Green Mountain Power
- **GPD** - Gallons Per Day
- **Grand List** - Compilation of all taxable properties within a municipality or state
- **Groundwater** - Means water below the land surface in a zone of saturation but does not include surface waters within the meaning of 10 V.S.A. §1251 (13)
- **GSWI** - Green Stormwater Infrastructure
- **H-2A Visa** - Non-immigrant visa program that allows US employers to bring foreign nationals to the US to fill low-skill, temporary or seasonal agricultural jobs for which US workers are not available
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** - Federal funding that is provided to state and local governments following a federally declared disaster to protect eligible public or private property through various impact reduction measures
- **HCA** - Vermont Health Care Authority
- **Highest and Best Use** - The most profitable and efficient use of a property, based on its physical, legal, and financial characteristics, as determined by tax assessors for property tax purposes

- **Historic Preservation** - The act of protecting, conserving, and restoring historic buildings, landscapes, or objects of cultural significance
- **Household** - A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. Occupants in this category include a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements
- **HSU** - Homeland Security Unit
- **HUD** - Housing and Urban Development
- **IC** - Incident Commander
- **ICP** - Incident Command Post
- **ICS** - Incident Command System
- **Impact Fees** - As defined in state law. 24 V.S.A. § 5201(3)
- **Individual Assistance** - A suite of federal programs providing financial or direct assistance to impacted individuals and households following a federally declared disaster
- **Infrastructure** - The system of public works (including roads, transit routes, power lines, sewer and water lines etc.) for the Region
- **INS** - Immigration and Naturalization Services
- **Inundation Flood** - The often-gradual rise of water on low-lying land
- **Invasive Species** - An organism introduced to non-native ecosystems that is capable of causing harm to the environment, the economy, or human health
- **IPP** - Independent Power Producer
- **Kilowatt-hour (kWh)** - A unit of energy equivalent to using one kiloWatt of electricity for one hour, equal to 3,412 BTU's / A measure of electricity defined as a unit of work or energy expended for 1 hour. One kWh is equivalent to 3,412 Btu
- **kw** - Kilowatt
- **Labor Markets** - The supply of and demand for labor
- **Land Value** - The value of just the land, excluding any improvements or structures, as assessed by the tax assessor to establish the property's taxable land value
- **Landscape Scale Conservation** - Conservation that considers the broader landscape, recognizing the interconnectedness of ecosystems and the importance of movement and migration for wildlife
- **LCA** - Lewis Creek Association
- **LCBP** - Lake Champlain Basin Program
- **LEC** - Local Exchange Carrier
- **Legislative Body** - The selectboard in the case of a town, the trustees in the case of an incorporated village, and the mayor and City Council members in the case of a city, and the supervisor in the case of an unorganized town
- **LEMP** - Local Emergency Management Plan
- **LEPC** - Local Emergency Planning Committee (statewide in Vermont)
- **LESA** - Land Evaluation and Site Assessment
- **Level of Service (LOS)** - A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream; generally described in terms of such factors as speed and travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruptions, comfort and convenience, and safety. Level of service is reported as being in the range of A to F, with A the best and F the worst
- **LHMP** - Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
- **Light Pollution** - The excessive or inappropriate use of artificial light outdoors which disrupts the natural darkness of the night sky

- **Living Wage** - Minimum income necessary for a worker to meet their basic needs. 2 V.S.A. § 526
- **Local Food Systems** - Collaborative network that integrates sustainable food production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management in order to enhance the environmental, economic, and social health of a particular area. 10 V.S.A. § 330
- **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)** - A prerequisite for federal funding, this plan identifies all natural hazards facing a community, ranks them according to local vulnerabilities, and develops strategies to reduce risks
- **LoS** - Letter of Support
- **Low-End Estimate** - A conservative or minimal projection
- **LPG** - Liquid Petroleum Gas
- **MALT** - Middlebury Area Land Trust
- **Managed Retreat** - An adaptation strategy that proactively moves people, homes, and infrastructure away from high-risk areas to avoid damage and minimize recovery costs
- **Marble Slurry** - A byproduct of marble processing, consisting of fine particles suspended in water
- **Marshes** - Wetlands dominated by herbaceous plants, often found in low lying areas. 10 V.S.A § 902
- **MCI** - Multiple Casualty Incident
- **Meaningful Participation** - As defined in state law. 3 V.S.A. § 6002 (6)
- **Mechanization** - The act or process of introducing machines into an industry or other area of activity in order to replace human labor
- **Megawatt-hour (MWh)** - One thousand kilowatt-hours or 1 million watt-hours. 30 V.S.A. § 202b
- **MERP** - Municipal Energy Resilience Program
- **Meteorological Parameters** - Variables such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, and precipitation used in weather climate analysis. 10 V.S.A. § 554
- **MGD** - Million Gallons per Day
- **Microgrid** - A local energy system
- **Microplastics** - Extremely small pieces of plastic debris resulting from the disposal and breakdown of consumer products and industrial waste
- **Microtransit** - On-demand transit that does not operate on a fixed route, but operates on a dynamic route based on rider demand with riders booking trips using an app or calling a phone number
- **Mitigation** - The reduction of heat-trapping emissions and/or the enhancement of carbon sinks to stabilize and reduce global temperature rise. 10 V.S.A. § 590
- **MMBtu** - One million British thermal units. 30 V.S.A. § 202b
- **MPg** - Municipal Planning Grant
- **MRGP** - Municipal Roads General Permit
- **Municipal Ethics Requirements** - Act 171, Municipalities must adopt a standardized code of ethics. 24 V.S.A §§ 1991-1999
- **Municipality** - A town, a city, or an incorporated village
- **MVRT** - Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail
- **mw** - Megawatts
- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** - Provided to property owners, renters, and businesses to share the risk of flood losses through flood insurance and reduce flood damages by restricting floodplain development

- **Natural Hazard** - A naturally occurring event or phenomenon that has the potential to cause harm or damage to human life, property, or the environment
- **NEPA** - National Environmental Policy Act
- **NFLC** - Northern Forest Land Council
- **NFLS** - Northern Forest Land Study
- **NIMS** - National Incident Management System
- **NMC** - Northwestern Medical Center
- **NRCD** - Natural Resources Conservation Districts
- **NRCS** - Natural Resource Conservation Service
- **NRPC** - Northwest Regional Planning Commission
- **NVDA** - Northeastern Vermont Development Association
- **NWI** - National Wetlands Inventory
- **O&M** - Operations and Management
- **OCTBP** - Otter Creek Tactical Basin Plan
- **One Hundred Year Flood** - A flood event that has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year on average
- **Open Meeting Law** - All meetings of public bodies must be open to the public at all times. 1 V.S.A. § 312
- **Option to Purchase at Agricultural Value (OPAV)** - Voluntary legal agreement that restricts the sale of land to only certain farmers or to family members, and restricts the sale price to agricultural value. 10 V.S.A. § 6303a(7)
- **Orderly Development** - The planned growth or change of an area through an organized process that creates outcomes aligned with the goals and values of the community. 24 V.S.A. § 4302c(1)
- **Organic Food** - Organic food refers to fresh or processed products grown using organic farming methods. These methods avoid synthetic chemicals, such as artificial pesticides and fertilizers, and prohibit the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
- **PAHCC** - Patricia Hannaford Career Center
- **Parcelization** - The division of larger parcels of land into smaller ones, often for the purpose of sale or development
- **Payroll Tax** - Taxes paid on wages, tips, and salaries by employees and employers
- **PDM** - Pre-disaster Mitigation
- **Peak Demand** - Amount of capacity required during the single moment when the grid as a whole experiences the highest demand for power
- **Pedestrian** - Any individual afoot or operating a wheelchair or other personal mobility device, whether motorized or not, and including an electric personal assistive mobility device. 23 V.S.A. § 4(67)
- **PEL/PELS** - Planning and Environment Linkages Study
- **Percolate** - Process of a liquid slowly passing through a filter or porous substance
- **Per-Pupil** - Total amount of money spent on each student's education
- **Physiographic Region** - An area of land defined by its unique geology, topography, and the native plants and animals that inhabit it
- **PIO** - Public Information Officer
- **PL** - Public Law
- **Planned Unit Development** - As defined in state law. 24 V.S.A. § 4303(19)

- **Polyfluoroalkyl** - A group of synthetic chemicals used in industrial and consumer products, known for persistence in the environment and potential health risks. 18 V.S.A §§ 1661 - 1695
- **ppm** - Parts Per Million (equal to milligrams/liter)
- **PPP** - Public Participation Plan
- **Prime Agricultural Soils** - An important farmland soils map unit that the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (NRCS) has identified and determined to have a rating of prime, statewide, or local importance, unless the District Commission determines that the soils within the unit have lost their agricultural potential. 10 V.S.A. § 6001(15)
- **PSD** - Vermont Department of Public Service
- **PSB** - Vermont Public Service Board
- **Public Assistance** - A federal grant traditionally given to state, local, territorial, and tribal governments for disaster response and recovery following a federally declared disaster
- **Public Subsidy** - Public program or benefit designed to stimulate economic development, create or retain jobs, provide assistance to corporations, industries, or sectors
- **Public Water System** - A water supply system with 10 or more connections or that serves an average of at least 25 individuals for at least 60 days per year / Any source(s) or combination of sources owned or controlled by a person, that provides drinking water through pipes or other constructed conveyances to the public and that has at least 15 service connections or serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily for at least 60 days out of the year. 10 V.S.A. § 1671(5)
- **Public Wastewater System** - The collection and treatment of municipal wastewater originating from a combination of domestic, commercial, and industrial activities. Wastewater is treated to established standards before discharge to a receiving water. 10 V.S.A. § 1972(5)
- **RAP** - Required Agricultural Practices
- **RDC** - Regional Development Corporation
- **REI** - Road Erosion Inventory
- **Resilience** - The capacity of individuals, communities, and natural and built systems to withstand and recover from climatic events, trends, and disruptions. 10 V.S.A. § 590
- **Resilience Hub** - A community-serving facility outfitted to support residents, coordinate communication, and distribute resources both in everyday life and during disaster events
- **Retrofits** - Modifying existing equipment, buildings, or systems
- **RFP** - Request for Proposals
- **RFQ** - Request for Qualifications
- **Risk Index Value** - A FEMA metric rating a community's overall level of risk by multiplying the expected annual loss value by the community risk factor (social vulnerability score divided by community resilience score)
- **River Corridor Plan** - These plans identify locations where restoration and conservation projects can improve or maintain river stability. Restoration projects include a variety of activities, such as stream bank plantings, bridge and culvert upgrades, and floodplain restoration
- **River Corridors** - State-mapped areas adjacent to the river that represent the space required to accommodate the load of a river and minimize erosion-based hazards. 10 V.S.A. § 1422(12)
- **RPC** - Regional Planning Commission
- **RRPC** - Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- **RRP** - Rapid Response Plan
- **RSMS** - Road Surface Management Systems

- **Rutland Region** - Rutland County is made up of 28 towns in southwestern Vermont. The Rutland Regional Planning Commission has responsibility for 27 of these towns—a jurisdiction referred to as the Rutland Region
- **Section 248** - Vermont law contained in 30 V.S.A. granting judicial power to the Public Service Board to hold proceedings and to determine facts upon which to issue a Certificate of Public Good for new electrical or gas transmission lines, or generation facilities in the state
- **SERC** - State Emergency Response Committee
- **SHPO/SHIPO** - State Historic Preservation Officer
- **Smart Growth Principles** - As defined in state law. 24 V.S.A. § 2791 (13)
- **Smog** - A type of air pollution caused by the interaction of sunlight with pollutants like nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds. 10 V.S.A. § 554
- **SNAP** - Need-based federal program to help low-income households supplement their budget to buy food. 33 V.S.A. § 1701
- **Social Cohesion** - Refers to the quality of inter-human relationships; indicators include strong social networks, trust in people and institutions, and expressions of solidarity
- **Social Vulnerability** - The susceptibility of social groups to adverse natural hazard impacts, including disproportionate death, injury, loss, or disruption of livelihood
- **Source Protection Area** - A surface or subsurface area through which contaminants are reasonably likely to reach a public water system source including both surface and ground water supplies (formerly referred to as Wellhead Protection Areas in the Vermont Water Supply Rule, ANR)
- **SPA** - Source Protection Areas
- **Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)** - Demarcated areas on flood insurance rate maps that have a high-risk of inundation flooding
- **Sprawl** - Unplanned, low-density village expansion into rural lands
- **SRP** - Standard Response Protocols
- **Strip Development** - Linear, low-density development that typically occurs along major roads or highways. 10 V.S.A. § 6001(38)
- **Subdivision Regulations** - Local rules governing the division of land into smaller parcels, including the layout of streets, provision of utilities, and requirements for environmental protection. 24 V.S.A. § 4418
- **Substantial Regional Impact** - This is the threshold for precedence of this Regional Plan as the primary planning document to consider in Act 250 proceedings if a 'conflict' exists between the Town Plan and Regional Plan. 24 V.S.A. § 4345a(17)
- **TAC** - Transportation Advisory Committee
- **Tactical Basin Plan** - These plans describe the projects or actions needed to protect or restore specific waters and identify appropriate funding sources to complete the work, based on monitoring and assessment data
- **Telecommunications** - Communication over a distance by means of the internet, telephone, radio, television, etc.
- **Tetrachloroethylene** - A chlorinated solvent commonly used in dry cleaning and metal degreasing. It is a hazardous air and groundwater contaminant known for its health risks. 10 V.S.A. § 554
- **Three-Phase Power** - Type of power supply used in commercial and industrial facilities
- **TIP** - Transportation Improvement Program
- **TMDL** - Total Maximum Daily Load
- **TOEC** - Town Officers Education Conference

- **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** - The maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive while still meeting water quality standards. 10 V.S.A. §§ 1250 - 1284
- **TPI** - Transportation Planning Initiative
- **TVT** - Tri-Valley Transit
- **Ubiquitous** - Present or found everywhere
- **Undue Adverse Effect (or Impact)** - An unnecessary or excessive net effect or impact that (1) violates a clearly stated community standard including policies of the regional plan and (2) which cannot be avoided through site or design modifications, on or off-site mitigation, or other conditions of approval
- **Unified Development Bylaws** - A single regulatory document for all land use regulation types. At minimum, it combines zoning regulations and subdivision regulations. 24 V.S.A. § 4419
- **USDA-RD** - U.S. Department of Agriculture-Office of Rural Development
- **Use-Value Appraisal** - Value of a property assuming a specific use, which may or may not be the property's Highest and Best Use, on the effective date of the appraisal. 32 V.S.A. §§ 3750 - 3763a
- **UVM** - University of Vermont
- **VACD** - Vermont Association of Conservation Districts
- **VAL** - Vermont Adult Learning
- **Value-added** - A product whose value has been increased by special manufacturing, marketing, or processing
- **VAPDA** - Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies
- **VCEP** - Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan
- **VCF** - Vermont Community Foundation
- **VCGI** - Vermont Center for Geographic Information
- **VCIC** - Vermont Criminal Information Center
- **VCLF** - Vermont Community Loan Fund
- **VCTN** - Vermont Community Thermal Networks
- **VCWE** - Vermont Center for Women Entrepreneurs
- **VDHA** - Vermont Department of Health and Human Services
- **VDHP** - Vermont Department of Historic Preservation
- **VDPS** - Vermont Department of Public Service
- **VEDA** - Vermont Economic Development Authority
- **Vector-Borne Diseases** - Diseases that are carried, transmitted, and spread by bites from "vectors" like mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas (e.g. West Nile)
- **VEPC** - Vermont Economic Progress Council
- **Vermont Wetlands Rules** - Rules that identify and protect significant wetlands and their buffer zones
- **VGS** - Vermont Gas Systems
- **VHCB** - Vermont Housing and Conservation Board
- **Viewshed Analysis** - A GIS-based method for determining what areas are visible from a specific location, often used in planning to preserve scenic views
- **VLCT** - Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- **VMT** - Vehicle Miles Traveled
- **VORec** - Vermont Outdoor Recreation Grant
- **VPOC** - Vermont Professionals of Color

- **VSBCD** - Vermont Small Business Development Center
- **VSCPT** - Vermont School Crisis Planning Team
- **VSA** - Vermont Statutes Annotated
- **VTACCD** - Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development
- **VTAFM** - Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets
- **VTANR** - Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- **VTDC** - Vermont Diversity Council
- **VTDOH** - Vermont Department of Health
- **VTDOL** - Vermont Department of Labor
- **VTDOT** - Vermont Department of Transportation
- **VTP** - Vermont Telecommunications Plan
- **VTrans** - Vermont Agency of Transportation
- **WBCAC** - Walk Bike Council of Addison County
- **Wetlands** - Those areas of the state that are inundated by surface or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support significant vegetation or aquatic life that depend on saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction / Areas saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally, that support distinct ecosystems. 10 V.S.A §§ 902 - 928
- **WHPA** - Wellhead Protection Area
- **WHPP** - Wellhead Protection Program
- **WMZ** - Waste Management Zone
- **Working Landscape** - Cohesive unit of land that is ecologically, socially, and economically connected. 6 V.S.A. § 4603
- **Zoning Regulations** - Local rules that define how properties in specific geographic zones can be used. 24 V.S.A. § 4414