

MEMO: Hardwick Select Board, David Upson & Mike Henry

FROM: Tonia Chase

Date: June 26, 2025

Subject: Liquor, Tobacco & Tobacco Substitute Endorsement License Request

Hello Everyone:

Tonight you have the following permits for consideration.

First Class license for:

Second Class Licenses for:

DG Retail, LLC d/b/a Dollar General

Third Class Licenses for:

Outside Consumption Permit for:

Tobacco License:

Tobacco Substitute Endorsement:

The above is a renewal and has no infractions.

Hardwick Emergency Management Plan – 2025

What This Is

- A complete emergency planning package:
 - **The Hardwick Plan – 2025:** Local, detailed, flood-informed.
 - **2024 LEMP Addendum:** Required state compliance document.
- Together, these documents fulfill all **Vermont and FEMA requirements** for emergency preparedness.

Why It Matters

- Ensures Hardwick is **eligible for FEMA and state disaster recovery funding**.
- Unlocks a higher **ERAF reimbursement rate**, reducing the Town's post-disaster costs.
- Prepares the Town for **coordinated, efficient response and recovery**.
- Based on actual experience and input following the 2023 and 2024 flood events.

Key Features

- Defines emergency responsibilities for Town staff, volunteers, and community partners.
- Includes **flood-specific protocols** for evacuation, sheltering, and public communication.
- Identifies emergency shelters and cooling centers: Hazen Union, Elementary School, Jeudevine Library.
- Lays out communication strategies, volunteer coordination, and recovery guidance.
- Provides a practical tool for managing real-time response and long-term recovery.

What This Does for Hardwick

- Maintains state compliance and funding eligibility.
- Streamlines coordination during emergencies.
- Strengthens relationships with schools, civic groups, and nonprofits.
- Helps Hardwick **recover faster and more effectively** from future disasters.

Recommended Motion

Motion to adopt *The Hardwick Plan – 2025*, including the 2024 Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) Addendum, as the Town of Hardwick's official emergency operations and recovery framework. This adoption affirms that *The Hardwick Plan – 2025* constitutes the Town's current LEMP, with the 2024 Addendum serving as a supporting annex for compliance and operational reference.

Local Emergency Management Plan

Municipal Adoption Form

The Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP) must be (re)adopted annually, after town meeting day, and submitted to the appropriate Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) Regional Coordinator by June 1st.

If VEM needs to contact municipal leaders to determine status and support requirements during an emergency, the Emergency Management Director (EMD) and two other local points of contact who should have authoritative local information and authority to request resources are listed at right. VEM will share the town's contact information with emergency partners who have a life safety need during an emergency.

☐ Mark this box to request Vermont Emergency Management not share the town's contact information with emergency partners (Dam owners, utility providers, elected officials, neighboring EMDs, American Red Cross, and FEMA) outside of an emergency.

REMC Representatives			
REMC Emergency Services Appointee	David "Opie" Upson	Municipality	Hardwick
Email	David.upson@hardwickvt.gov	LEMP Adoption Date	June 26, 2025
EMD REMC Representative	Mike Henry	NIMS Adoption Date	January 8, 2015
Email	mhenry@hardwickpolice.com	EMD Name	David "Opie" Upson
Additional REMC	Kristen Leahy	Position	Town Manager
Email	Zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov	Primary Phone	802-472-6120
		Alternate Phone	802-535-8299 (Cell)
		Email	David.upson@hardwickvt.gov
		Public contact information	
		POC 2 Name	Mike Henry
		Position	Police Chief
		Primary Phone	802-472-5475
		Alternate Phone	802-522-4050 (Cell)
		Email	Mhenry@hardwickpolice.com
		POC 3 Name	Tom Fadden
		Position	Road Foreman
		Primary Phone	802-472-6029
		Email	Tom.fadden@hardwickvt.gov

Once completed, send adoption form and copy of Local Emergency Management Plan to VEM Regional Coordinator

I hereby certify that the LEMP meets Vermont National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements and current LEMP Implementation Guidance as on page 2:

Signed* _____ Printed Name: _____
Certifying individual must have taken, at a minimum, ICS402 or ICS100/IS-100 training.

I hereby attest that the municipality has adopted NIMS and the LEMP at a warned public meeting, as stated above:

Signed* _____ Printed Name: _____ Attesting _____

*A typed name is acceptable as an electronic signature if it represents an act of that person in accordance with 9 V.S.A. § 278.

Required Elements

Check boxes below indicate the plan has the required elements and, if not using a template, fill in page numbers to report completion of required elements.

Municipal Adoption		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Adoption Form	
X	Completed Municipal Adoption Form	9-10
X	Required Elements form (this page). If not using a VEM template, this form must include the page numbers where the LEMP Required Elements are listed in your plan.	11
LEMP Required Elements		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emergency Management Planners	
X	List of people who wrote or maintain the LEMP. Must include EMD.	12-13
<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	
X	EOC activation authority (minimum 1)	15
X	EOC staff positions and corresponding duties (minimum 1)	16-19
X	Potential EOC staff members (minimum 1)	25-28
X	Facility information for potential EOC locations (minimum 1), including address, phone number, and available equipment	23-24
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resources	
X	Emergency purchasing agent and spending limits	32-33
X	List of town or city owned resources, municipal contracts, or other local resources that can be used during an emergency (if any)	68
X	National Incident Management System (NIMS) Typed Resource List (if applicable)	70
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Information and Warning	
X	Local VT-Alert managers (if applicable)	38
X	Local website or social media information (if applicable)	39-40
X	List of local media outlets (if applicable)	40
X	Public notice sites (minimum 3 – 2 in town, 1 near town clerk's office)	40
X	Note that the public can call Vermont 2-1-1 for resources.	41
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organizations and communities requiring additional coordination	
X	List of organizations or communities and contact method	69
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelters	
X	Local Shelter address, facility contact, shelter manager, staff requirements, services, daytime capacity, overnight capacity (if applicable) (minimum 1)	34-35
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contact Information	
X	Local contacts for emergency management team, response organizations, public works, municipal government, and others including neighboring EMDs	71, 73-74
X	Note that municipalities can call 1-800-347-0488 if they need assistance with a shelter, VT Alert, or resources, but they will usually have to pay for supplies, equipment, or personnel.	42-43

Fuel Bids FY26

Gallons:	9,000	5,300	27,000
	Heating Oil	Propane	On-Road Diesel

Dead River			
Fixed	\$ 3.0277	\$ 2.4770	\$ 3.1973
Variable	cost + .28	cost + 1.19	cost + .28
Today's	\$ 3.0820	\$ 2.3527	\$ 3.0940
Total Cost	\$ 27,249.30	\$ 13,128.10	\$ 86,327.10

Irving (current vendor for all)			
Fixed	\$ 2.8470	\$ 1.6190	n/a
Variable	n/a	n/a	Cost + .025
Today's	n/a	n/a	\$ 2.5910
Total Cost	\$ 25,623.00	\$ 8,580.70	\$ 62,184.00

*if price stayed stable

Fred's Energy			
Fixed	\$ 2.8290	\$ 1.8700	n/a
Variable	n/a	n/a	Cost + .035
Today's	n/a	n/a	\$ 3.1190
Total Cost	\$ 25,461.00	\$ 9,911.00	\$ 74,856.00

*if price stayed stable

*FY26 budget for Diesel is \$65,000

Town of Hardwick – Flood Recovery and Resilience Project Summary

Prepared by Kristen Leahy, Zoning and Floodplain Administrator; Resilience & Adaptation Coordinator

1. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Grant

Lead: Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC)

Year Awarded: 2023

Scope: Flood modeling of the Lamoille River (to the edge of Hardwick) and Cooper Brook

Consultant: SLR Consulting

Timeline: Completion by end of 2025

Outcome: Technical foundation for all future flood mitigation efforts; five alternatives to be selected – see attached alternative list.

Cost Benefit: No local cost; supports data-driven decision-making and project prioritization across the watershed

2. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Submitted by: N/A

Scope: Three proposed flood mitigation and stabilization projects (upstream, central corridor, downstream)

Status: No longer viable

Update: Miscommunication – RPC was not prepared to submit the \$1.4 million request and thought the Town would be handling the submission.

Cost Benefit: ~~If approved, these projects could reduce long-term flood damage and lower flood insurance rates~~

3. Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) – NRCS

Years Awarded: (2023) and 2024

Status: Program will probably not be available in the future due to funding and staff cuts at the federal level.

Scope: Engineering and construction for five sites—three private properties and two town-owned sites (former Inn by the River, and 41 Brush Street)

Timeline: Engineering managed by Hardwick; construction to conclude in late 2025

Cost Benefit: Protects vulnerable municipal and private properties, reducing future emergency response and repair costs

4. Municipal Planning Grant (MPG)

Status: Received

Use: Planning updates related to flood resilience and emergency response in the Granite Street Historic District.

Timeline: Request for Qualifications has closed – Steering Committee will review and make recommendations to the Select Board at the July 10 meeting. A free Emergency Response workshop series is being developed and will be at Atkins Field this summer. The inventory of the properties will begin tomorrow with the assistance of CAE.

Cost Benefit: Enables flood resilience planning at low direct cost to the Town

5. Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR)

Scope: Federal disaster recovery funds in response to 2023 floods

Hardwick Status: Limited access due to MID designation status

Next Steps: Pursue targeted application for projects in the Fall of 2025

Cost Benefit: Opportunity to access federal resources for critical infrastructure planning projects.

6. Vermont Land Trust Collaboration

Scope: Potential floodplain restoration on former agricultural land downstream of Jackson Dam

Status: Ongoing discussions; no active funding request

Cost Benefit: Preserves open space for natural floodwater storage with conservation partners' support

7. Jackson Dam Feasibility Study

Lead: Caledonia County NRCD

Consultant: SLR Consulting

Scope: Assessment of potential dam removal to reduce upstream and downstream flood risk

Governance: Task force and steering committee engaged

Cost Benefit: Informs major resilience decision with no direct municipal cost; potential elimination of future maintenance liabilities for HED

8. Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Fund (CRDMF)

Scope: Elevation of six residential structures in the floodplain

Progress: Base Flood Elevations complete

Cost Benefit: Preserves housing, reduces long-term flood risk, and minimizes future recovery costs

9. Private Enterprise Flood Mitigation

Scope: Three floodplain-based businesses pursuing elevation or floodproofing

Support: DRB review and permit coordination provided by Town

Status: Active

Cost Benefit: Private investment leveraged with municipal guidance, reducing potential business disruption and economic losses

10. Property Buyouts

Programs Used:

- FRCF: For non-floodplain properties (4 completed and 2 in process)

- FEMA: For mapped floodplain properties (14 in process or closing stages)

Town-Owned Sites from 2024: 41 Brush Street – demolition preparation underway, 24 Sawmill Lane, and 115 VT Route 14 South

Status: Buyout program currently closed to additional properties due to funding depletion

Cost Benefit: Removes repetitive loss properties from inventory; reduces future emergency costs and community risk

11. Public Education Series

Location: Jeudevine Memorial Library

Topics: Beavers, Dredging, Dam Removal, Climatology on Thursday Evenings in September and on October 1

Additional Offering: Writing for Flood Recovery class in July

Cost Benefit: Builds community knowledge and resilience at no cost; fosters informed public participation and preparedness

12. Hardwick Gazette Articles

Scope: Informative articles authored by the Zoning and Resilience Office

Cost Benefit: Free and ongoing public communication to keep residents informed and engaged

13. Stream Gauge Initiative

Lead: LCPC in coordination with watershed towns and USGS

Scope: Installation of low-cost manual gauges in the Lamoille Watershed

Status: Funding proposal in development

Cost Benefit: Provides essential data for decision-making without high annual operations costs of satellite-linked gauges

14. The Hardwick Plan

Scope: A unified approach to community resilience that includes both local involvement initiatives and the Hardwick Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)

Components:

- Community-driven emergency preparedness, planning, and education
- Integration of municipal protocols with neighborhood-level action
- Coordination with state emergency guidance while addressing local priorities

Cost Benefit: Strengthens whole-community preparedness and reduces response and recovery costs through planning, volunteer coordination, and local ownership of emergency actions



July 7, 2025 @ 6:30PM

FLOOD MITIGATION & MODELING 101

Please join the Johnson Planning Commission, LCPC, and Lamoille River watershed partners to learn what communities can do to mitigate future flood impacts - and what to expect from local projects - from sustainability experts, SLR International Corporation.

- ✓ What is hydraulic modeling and how is it used?
- ✓ What is flood mitigation?
- ✓ What projects have been successfully implemented in Vermont?
- ✓ What are some ongoing projects in the Lamoille River Basin?
- ✓ What is the process for implementing a flood mitigation project?
- ✓ Time for Questions & Answers

WHEN: July 7, 6:30PM

WHERE: Vermont State University
Johnson Campus
Bentley Hall, Rm 207
337 College Hill Rd, Johnson VT 05656

VIRTUAL MEETING INFO:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86306908335>
pwd=alEgop3gC1MrDybDeDUfD5lusQALCl.1

Meeting ID: 863 0690 8335

Passcode: 736695

One tap mobile

+13126266799, 86306908335# ...+1736695# US (Chicago)
+16468769923, 86306908335# ...+1736695# US (New York)

Hosted by Northern Vermont Economic Development District, Lamoille County Planning Commission, and the Village & Town of Johnson Planning Commission.
Funded by the United States Department of Commerce- Economic Development Administration.

Writing for Flood Recovery

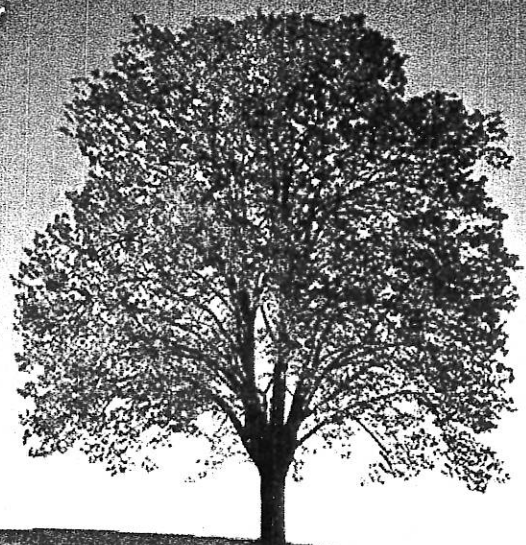
**WRITING WORKSHOPS FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED
BY THE SUMMER FLOODS**

WORKSHOPS LED BY BESS O'BRIEN AND GARY MILLER

Through 7 minute writing prompts, we will write together and share the memories, the struggles and the process that we are going through as individuals, families and as a community to heal from this difficult experience.

Through writing and sharing, we help each other as we recover. No writing experience needed. The workshops provide a safe and powerful space to share our stories.

And a place for laughter and joy.



Come to all workshops – come to both – drop in's welcome!

**THURS, JULY 10 & 11
JEDEVINE MEMORIAL
LIBRARY, HARDWICK
WRITING, DESSERT AND COFFEE!**

FREE!

To sign up in advance please contact the Jeudevine Memorial Library.
For more information contact Bess O'Brien at bobrien@pshift.com



**WRITERS
FOR
RECOVERY**

Major Additions in 2025:

1. **New Zoning District Added:**
 - **Village Center (VC) District** introduced for East Hardwick.
 - Purpose: Support small-scale mixed-use development in a pedestrian-friendly setting.
2. **Expanded Article and Section Structure:**
 - More detailed table of contents with clearly labeled sections across Articles 3–8.
 - Article sections were restructured and itemized in greater detail.
3. **Flood Hazard Overlay (FHO) Clarifications:**
 - Additional specificity on prohibited uses, including:
 - Cemeteries
 - Caretaker apartments
 - Critical facilities
 - Salvage yards and storage facilities
 - Fill (except for structure elevation or access)
 - Natural burial grounds
4. **Terminology Update:**
 - Residential uses updated from “Single Family/Two Family” to “**Dwelling/Single Unit, Two Unit, Multi-Unit**” for clarity and consistency.
5. **New Dimensional Standards & Use Classifications for VC District:**
 - Includes front/side/rear setbacks, lot size, and height standards for East Hardwick.

□ Minor Changes and Clarifications:

- **Zoning Table Reference Correction:**
 - In Section 2.1, the table range reference updated from “Tables 2.1 - 2.8” to accommodate the new Table 2.9 (VC District).
- **Internal Formatting and Section Headers:**
 - Adjusted and standardized for uniformity, especially in Tables and subsections across Articles.
- **Spelling and Grammar Adjustments:**
 - Corrected minor wording inconsistencies and redundancies across the document.

□ Removals or Adjustments:

- Some outdated or duplicated phrasing was cleaned from zoning descriptions (e.g., duplicated “Land Development” definitions).
- Redundant legal phrasing simplified for readability without changing regulatory intent.

TO: Hardwick Select Board

FROM: The Hardwick Planning Commission

DATE: June 16, 2025

RE: East Hardwick Better Connections Plan (2025) – Consistency with the Hardwick Municipal Plan (2019)

Overview:

The Better Connections Plan (2025), developed through a comprehensive community engagement process that included participation of three State agencies, delivers a detailed action plan to revitalize East Hardwick. It reflects the broad, town-wide goals of the Hardwick Municipal Plan (2019) through specific, place-based projects that improve livability, mobility, resilience, and economic vitality.

This memo summarizes how the Better Connections Plan supports and complements the Municipal Plan. After thorough review, the Hardwick Planning Commission confirms there are **no conflicts** between the two documents. Instead, the Better Connections Plan provides a valuable implementation framework to realize the community's long-range planning vision at the neighborhood level.

Alignment with Municipal Plan Goals:

1. Land Use & Village Vitality

Municipal Goal: Preserve compact, walkable village centers.

Better Connections Actions:

- Implement sidewalk and streetscape improvements in the village core.
- Propose adoption of a new Village Center Zoning District (U&A-5) to strengthen compact development patterns.

2. Transportation & Access

Municipal Goal: Improve pedestrian infrastructure and connectivity.

Better Connections Actions:

- Replace Main Street sidewalks and redesign intersections to enhance safety and accessibility (A&L-4 to A&L-9).
- Establish a wayfinding system linking the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) to key community destinations (A&L-11).

3. Economic Development

Municipal Goal: Support local commerce and revitalize downtowns.

Better Connections Actions:

- Develop a formal trailhead gateway at the LVRT access point to boost visitation and local spending (U&A-2).
- Create coordinated marketing strategies and provide small business support (U&A-6).

4. Housing

Municipal Goal: Encourage diverse, affordable housing near services.

Better Connections Actions:

- Conduct demographic and housing needs analyses in collaboration with regional partners (U&A-4).
- Promote infill development and housing options within walkable distances to village services.

5. Historic Preservation & Community Character

Municipal Goal: Protect historic structures and scenic views.

Better Connections Actions:

- Invest in streetscape improvements that respect and reflect East Hardwick's historic character (C&I-5).
- Recognize and support revitalization of local landmarks like the Grange Hall (U&A-1, S-3).

6. Flood Resilience & Infrastructure

Municipal Goal: Improve water, sewer, and stormwater systems.

Better Connections Actions:

- Integrate green stormwater infrastructure into Main Street improvements (C&I-3).
- Emphasize climate resilience and infrastructure upgrades in key village locations.

Conclusion:

The Better Connections Plan embodies the goals of the Hardwick Municipal Plan and transforms them into actionable, community-backed investments. By focusing on revitalization, connectivity, and resilience, this plan positions East Hardwick for sustainable growth and long-term vitality.

Motion approved by the Hardwick Planning Commission on June 10, 2025:

To recommend to the Hardwick Select Board the adoption of the 2025 Better Connections Plan as an addendum to the 2019 Hardwick Municipal Plan. Furthermore, the HPC supports a dedication of the 2025 Better Connections Plan to the memory of Meredith Holch.



Kristen Leahy <zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov>

VT CCB: Application S-000012298 LCC Submission

VCCB Applications <ccb.applications@vermont.gov>

Mon, Jun 9, 2025 at 9:17 AM

To: "david.upson@hardwickvt.org" <david.upson@hardwickvt.org>, "zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov" <zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov>

Cc: "hopngarlic@gmail.com" <hopngarlic@gmail.com>

The Cannabis Control Board has received an application for licensure, S-000012298, Mixed Cultivator Tier 1 Small Cultivator Renewal, that falls within the jurisdiction of your Local Control Commission. The Board's Guidance for Municipalities explains applicable laws and procedures.

The Local Control Commission may request further information about the proposed cannabis establishment directly from the applicant.

Business Legal Name and Registered: Alternatives: All Bliss Cannabis, LLC

Address: 43 Bean Ave Hardwick Vermont 05843

Principals and Controlling Entities: Michael Parker

Primary Contact's email address: hopngarlic@gmail.com

Primary Contact's phone number: (802) 473-2376

For this license type, the applicant is asked the following questions which may be relevant to your review:

- *Do you comply with required inspections or permits from other state and local agencies (for example, certificates of occupancy)?*
 - Yes

- *Is your proposed Cannabis Establishment project in a public building?*
 - No

- *Is the physical site of operation on a municipal water supply?*
 - No

All applicants are required to comply with Division of Fire Safety (DFS) requirements. The CCB documents compliance a non-jurisdictional letter or fire safety inspection report.

When your Local Control Commission has acted on the license, please share minutes recording the action by emailing CCB.Applications@vermont.gov

Thank you,

Cannabis Control Board

For assistance, contact: (802) 828-1010
CCB.Applications@vermont.gov



1 Circus Road
Greensboro, VT 05841
802-533-7443
tour@smirkus.org

June 15, 2025

Town of Hardwick, VT
20 Church St.
P.O. Box 523
Hardwick, VT 05843

To the Hardwick Select Board,

I am writing to submit a request to display a banner to promote our 2025 Big Top Tour in Hardwick, VT.

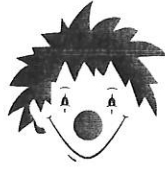
Circus Smirkus is a traveling youth circus based next door to Hardwick in Greensboro. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, our Big Top Tour strives to connect New England's residents with the magic of the circus arts. Hosting a banner in Hardwick is a tool for us to promote our performances and provide the region with this beloved family-friendly circus arts event — one that has occurred here for over three decades. Successful performances provide Smirkus the revenue to continue growing the quality and access to our unique circus programs.

Circus Smirkus will be raising the tent twice in Greensboro: Saturday June 28 & 29 for our three opening shows, and again on August 17 for our two closing shows. This year's show theme is "Game On!" and is a family-friendly show, appropriate for all ages.

We would ideally like the banner to be hung for the full week before each show date: June 20 - June 29, and August 8 - August 17, to get as much exposure as possible for our shows.

The person in charge of picking up/dropping off the banner is Tawnya Sauer, who can be reached at tawnya.sauer@smirkus.org or 602-820-8144.

We will send a check to the Hardwick Electric Department for the fee associated with hanging the banner upon approval.



Thank you for your time and consideration and please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tawnya Sauer

Big Top Tour Planner and Assistant General Manager

Circus Smirkus