

# Granite Street Neighborhood Utility Elevation Assistance

*A Quick Guide for Participating Households*

The Town of Hardwick has received funding to help households in the Granite Street Historic District and FEMA-mapped floodplain elevate critical building utilities above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). This work is focused on improving safety, reducing damage to essential systems, and supporting faster recovery after floods.

This program is intended to help buildings recover more quickly after flooding. It does not stop flooding or remove flood risk.

## What Kinds of Improvements Are Included

This program typically supports the elevation or relocation of:

- Electrical panels and service equipment
- Furnaces, boilers, and hot water heaters
- Fuel tanks and related connections
- Generators and related electrical work
- Platforms, supports, and anchoring needed to meet code

All work must meet building and floodplain requirements and be elevated above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). The BFE is the mapped height floodwaters are expected to reach during a major flood, as defined by the Town.

## What to Expect: Step by Step

### 1. Intake Form

Interested households submit a completed Intake Form to the Town by March 23, 2026.

### 2. Sign-Up and Agreement

Participating households sign a simple agreement with the Town outlining the scope of work and responsibilities for both the Town and the homeowner.

### 3. Home Visit

The Town, or a contractor working with the Town, schedules a visit to review existing utilities, understand past flooding, and discuss practical elevation options.

### 4. Planning the Work

Using information from site visits, the Town develops a proposed scope of work for each home. Projects may be grouped or phased so funding can be used fairly and efficiently.

## **5. Permits and Coordination**

The Town handles required permits and reviews, including floodplain and historic considerations when needed.

## **6. Construction**

Work is completed by qualified contractors. You will receive advance notice, and the Town will coordinate timing to reduce disruption as much as possible.

## **7. Wrap-Up**

After completion, the Town confirms that utilities meet elevation requirements and provides documentation for your records.

## **What Homeowners Help With**

- Allowing reasonable access for site visits and construction
- Maintaining elevated utilities after installation
- Covering any costs outside the approved scope, if applicable
- Understanding that this work reduces damage risk but does not prevent flooding

## **A Few Important Things to Know**

- Program funding is limited and shared among participating households
- Not every requested improvement may be possible within available funding
- Projects may be prioritized based on flood risk, past impacts, feasibility, and program requirements
- Elevating utilities may support future mitigation efforts, but does not guarantee changes to flood insurance

## **Questions?**

If you have questions or would like to talk about your situation, please contact:

Kristen Leahy  
Zoning and Floodplain Office  
802-472-1686  
zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov

The Town of Hardwick will do its best to keep this process clear, predictable, and respectful of your time and choices.