



Cornwall Newsletter

Town of Cornwall

Volume 9, Issue 4

Dogs, Homestead Declarations, Vacation and Taxes!

So first, if your dog isn't sporting the new purple 2013 dog tag, it is past time. Dog licensing is an annual event that is required by state law, and needs to be done by April 1. In order to register your dog, you must provide a valid rabies certificate. The fee is now \$12.00 for an altered dog and \$14.00 for an unaltered dog. If your dog is not registered by the end of May, the fee for registration increases dramatically because the Dog Officer will visit you. Stop by!

Second, I will be on vacation from April 16 through April 23. I return to the office on April 24, only to go to a meeting the next day, April 25. Joan Bingham will be in the office during my absence. I fully expect to return with a tan!!

Lastly, the second installment of property taxes will be due on May 1, 2013. This

will be one of several notices that I will utilize to remind people about the deadline. I will put a notice in the newspaper. I will put the signs up around town. I will put a notice on the website and send a reminder through the Cornwall Connection. I will not be sending out individual post cards this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me. Also, don't forget that you must file a Homestead Declaration with your State Income taxes this year. This is something new this year.

Take Care and Enjoy the rest of spring. Sue



VT Gas Proposed Natural Gas Pipeline Information

Included in this issue of the Newsletter is a great deal of information about the proposed pipeline. Please take time to read through the various informational pieces as well as some editorial pieces. If you have specific questions about the proposed

pipeline project, you can speak to Jim Duclos, Abi Sessions or Sue Johnson. If one of these people can't answer your questions, they will be able to refer you to someone who can. There will be a Cornwall community meeting with VT Gas at

some point, but to date no specific date or time has been set.

See pages 9—14.

Selectboard Report. What has been happening with the VT Gas Project?

The Pipeline Route. Jim Duclos, for the Cornwall Planning Commission, and Abi Sessions, for the Select Board, are participating in weekly Phase II route planning meetings with VT Gas and representatives from Middlebury and Shoreham. (Phase I = Colchester to Middlebury, Phase II = Middlebury to I.P. at Ticonderoga, Phase III = Middlebury to Rutland.) This Friday's (April 5) meeting may confirm the preferred route through Middlebury. Then we would know at least the starting and end points for the pipeline if it is to go through Cornwall. (A route which would avoid Cornwall was still being mentioned at last Monday's meeting in Middlebury.) When a Cornwall route is proposed, there will be a meeting in Cornwall with VT Gas representatives, Cornwall landowners and concerned citizens.

The Town Plan The Cornwall Planning Commission has completed work on updating our Town Plan, including language specifically addressing the natural gas pipeline issue. The Select Board held a hearing on March 19 with helpful comments from several citizens. The CPC will forward the revised Town Plan to the Select Board for a second hearing and approval.

Advice. Our Select Board Chair has actively sought advice from community members with experience from both the business and legal sides of the energy business. We feel fortunate to be able to draw on their knowledge as we find our way through this arcane and complex process. Landowners in the path of a pipeline will have many decisions to make, and are advised to seek legal counsel.

Stay Informed. Ask Questions. Information is available at Town Hall, at cornwallvt.com, at The Public Service Board website (<http://psb.vermont.gov/>), and at (addisonnaturalgas.com). You can watch videos of the route planning meetings and pipeline informational meetings on Middlebury Community TV's website (middleburycommunitytv.org).

Tell people how you feel. The final authority for a natural gas pipeline in Cornwall will rest with the Public Service Board's determination that it is in the best interest of the people of Vermont and the issuing of a Certificate of Public Good. The Public Service Board needs to know how you feel about a pipeline. So does your Select Board.

Judy Watts, Vice Chair for the Cornwall Selectboard

Planning Commission News!

Updated Town Plan

The Planning Commission has focused this winter on the draft Town Plan public hearing process and the proposed pipeline project that VT Gas hopes to run through Cornwall on its way to serve International Paper in New York. There have been two public hearings thus far for the draft Town Plan. A good crowd participated in the Select Board's Public Hearing on March 19th and they brought strong ideas and positive suggestions. These improvements are currently being incorporated into the plan. Hopefully, there will be another public hearing held soon with improved language and final adoption is within sight.

Vermont Gas Proposed Pipeline

The CPC has been on a sharp learning curve with respect to the potential impacts of a proposed VT Gas transmission pipeline through town. CPC has attended informational meetings in

Middlebury and Shoreham. We hosted a meeting with potentially affected landowners in Cornwall to better understand the impacts of the proposed transmission pipeline and the public service board process. We have met with ACRPC to understand the roll of the Planning Commission, our town zoning and our town plan with regards to a Public Service board filing. We have added language to the Town Plan to address Cornwall's concerns for the safety of our residents and their homes, as well as Town facilities, public spaces and resources. We are working with the select board to advocate for Cornwall's interests. Jim Duclos has been active in communicating information as it becomes available and adding it to a new pipeline section on the Cornwall website. He is also attending a series of meetings with representatives from other towns in the purview of VT Gas Phase II to discuss possible route outcomes. We encourage anyone with questions or concerns to contact any CPC

member and/or attend our next meeting on April 17th at 7:00pm at the Town Hall.

Cornwall Farmers' Market

Farmers, gardeners, producers, chefs, bakers, crafters and organizers are all invited to the April 17th Planning Commission meeting to explore the possibility of launching a farmers' market here in town. Whether big or small, occasional or frequent, let's support our neighbors and enjoy Cornwall's bounty. The meeting will be held at 7pm in the Town Hall. If you are interested but can't make the meeting, contact Sue Johnson at 462-2775.

Tracy Himmel Isham & Holly Noordsy for the Cornwall Planning Commission

Road Commissioner's Report

Dare I say another winter has come and gone without a whole lot of excitement or calamity... No busted equipment or accidents, no real mud season. We did tear up some real estate the first couple storms before the ground was frozen, a tough thing to avoid. That said, chances are if your roadside did get rearranged, its because it wasn't the best shoulder profile to start with. We could have corrected that profile in the past with the disks, loader or excavator, but in the interest of avoiding conflict chose not to. In the end it happened anyways. So rather than putting it back, haul it away and seed down what's left so it's less apt to happen again. We'll talk more about the town's right of way in a bit.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Clark Road saga is nearing a conclusion. That is to say we have a plan and the money we need to put in the tube that will make most of the bureaucrats happy. So sometime this summer when the aquatic organisms are done their great migration, because there's little or no water flowing, we'll dig out the existing culverts and put in the one that suits ANR, fill it back up with a foot of mud and call it good. The next fight is whether we'll need guardrails.

We've cautiously started spring work. We'll be hauling what little gravel there's budget left for and with the right conditions, start chasing around with the demonic disk harrows. I'm hoping the roller on the grader will pound down some of the material making it less intimidating.

Paving this year is still up in the air until prices are available. We will also have to do a few culverts and some ditching in preparation, At this point, I expect to do Cross Street and another section of West Street.

It has been suggested that I write a bit about the town's Right of Way. I have a folder here full of statute and lawyer talk if anyone really needs bathroom reading material. Otherwise here's the jist of it. Every town road has a Right of

Way (ROW), either by charter, survey or statute. Present state statute allows the town to assume a 3 rod (49 1/2 ft.) ROW, a rod being 16 1/2', an old surveying term and implement. That is 3 rods, if there is not a survey or standing document stating a wider ROW. There is in fact a statement in an early Cornwall Town document saying east-west roads shall be 6 rods (99') wide and north-south roads, 5 rods (82 1/2') wide. It is not known if that document was ever superseded by another. One can see places around town where the old fences were in fact that far apart. Oh wouldn't that be sweet to have that much room to work. Reality check, I'm not up for that fight but the town does control most everything that goes on in the ROW, that is to say the Selectboard does. They are legally the ones that are responsible for the roads and their maintenance, etc. The Road Commissioner is then the one that gets the work done. What the town can do within the ROW is limited pretty much only by not causing damage to abutter's property. So paving, cutting trees, ditching and utility work can all be done in the interest of the traveling public, within the ROW without the landowner's approval. All that said, we typically work within that 3 rod ROW. Some town roads are surveyed which may give a wider ROW, but at this time that has not been researched. So the landowner may own to the center of the road but can't technically do anything in it without Selectboard approval. Should the road be discontinued or 'thrown up' you get it back, but I wouldn't look forward to that. So before planting trees, shrubs, etc. or building a fence and the like, you might want to check it out. Speaking of ROW's...find elsewhere in the newsletter the Town's public notice to apply herbicide in the ROW. This is primarily guardrails and areas where controlling undesirable trees and brush is not practical with the town's mower. Folks on town roads

with concerns on their property only need to contact me and we'll skip that area. Spraying will only be in certain areas, not from one end of the road to the other, so for some it is moot, but check if you have concerns. Also the organic farmers should check the map at the town hall to see that the marked off areas are correct and make adjustments if necessary. We will avoid those areas, but we need to know where they are. It is the farm's responsibility to make us aware. This information about organic parcels will be made available for mapping as it was not available last fall during the EEE fracas



While a final decision hasn't been made, we will be taking delivery of a new, 'return from lease' loader, in the next month or so, as per the capital plan.

Beyond that not a lot of excitement expected this spring and summer... and that's okay.

Stu

Green Up Day, May 4, 2013

Please join us as we hold our 43rd Annual Green Up Day on Saturday, May 4 at the Cornwall School. Volunteers will be at the School from 9 AM – 1 PM to assist you. Coffee and donuts also will be available. See the separate article for the Plant Exchange Program that also will be taking place.

We strongly encourage all volunteers to drop by the Town Hall before Green Up Day (anytime from Tuesday, April 16 on) to pick up their materials. While there, please indicate on the map with a magic marker those sections of road your group wishes to clean. Routes 125, 30 & 74 will be done by the State Highway Department. The remaining 32 miles of roads need to be cleaned by us!

All paper, cans, bottles etc. should be put into the official Green Up bags. The Transfer Station may charge the Town for any materials in regular black bags. Once your bags are full, bring them to the School together with any tires, scrap metal or other man-made materials you find on the roadside. Leave natural materials where they lie.



Need additional help? Members of the Cornwall Congregational Church have agreed to assist you.

Uniform? We strongly encourage everyone to wear old clothes, gloves and waterproof boots. Reflecting vests also are available.

Any questions can be

directed to "T" Tall at ahmic@shoreham.net or by calling him at 462-2003.

Roadside Herbicide Spraying Notice

The Towns of Addison, Bridport, Cornwall, Rochester, Shoreham, and Starksboro

2013 PUBLIC NOTICE

HERBICIDE SPRAYING

The above mentioned municipalities have each requested from the Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets a permit to apply the following herbicides: Garlon 4 ultra (Triclopyr), Oust Extra (Sulfometuron) and Rodeo (glyphosate) to control unwanted vegetation along town owned highways. Selective spray operations will start approximately May 20, 2013. The applications will be made by certified pesticide applicators using mechanically controlled equipment and hand control methods. Residents along the right-of-way are encouraged to protect sensitive environmental areas, organic farm land and water supplies from spray. It is the resident's responsibility to notify the town of the existence of these situations adjacent to the town right-of-way. Citizens wishing to inform the town are urged to contact the contact person for their respective town as follows: Addison- Bryan Nolan 759-2570, Bridport- Dusty Huestis 758-2113 Cornwall- Stu Johnson 462-2752, Rochester- Dan Gendron 767-4732, Shoreham- Jason Paquette 897-5451, Starksboro - Tom Estey 453-2319,

The appropriate place to contact with comments, other than the towns is the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Agriculture Resource Management and Environmental Stewardship, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, telephone 802-828-2431. Their link Web page that would describe the town's spray permit request can be found at www.VermontAgriculture.com

Home Energy Challenge

The Home Energy Challenge is Efficiency Vermont's latest program to encourage and motivate people to complete comprehensive energy efficiency improvements in their homes, their long term goal is to achieve 25% energy saving in 80,00 homes by 2020. Cornwall's target for the challenge is to complete 13 projects and have 44 households pledge "to take action to improve the energy efficiency of my home by December 31, 2013". Are your heating bills high, your home drafty and cold? Now is the best time to have a comprehensive energy audit completed that will identify the measures to improve your homes efficiency. Why is it the best time? Because there is an opportunity to have an energy audit completed for the unbelievably low price of \$100, these audits typically cost from \$300-500. If you'd like to take advantage of this great opportunity please give me a call and I'll work with you to get the ball rolling, and by next winter you could be saving both energy and money. I know there are plenty of homes out there in need, take the first step, give me a call at 462-3669 to start the process rolling. Thanks. Gary Barnett, Cornwall Energy Coordinator

Library News!!

New books and DVDs have arrived! Come over to the library and look them over OR check out the Library Section of the town website, cornwallvt.com, to see the complete listing.

A **sampling** of recent additions added this winter include:

ADULT FICTION

A Week in Winter - Maeve Binchy, **The Aviator's Wife** - Melanie Benjamin, **The Last Runaway** - Tracy Chevalier, **Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker** - Jennifer Chiaverini, **Threat Vector** - Tom Clancy, **The House Girl** - Tara Conklin, **The Suspect** - Robert Crais, **Touch and Go** - Lisa Gardner, **Benediction** - Kent Haruf, **The Dinner** - Herman Koch, **Me Before You** - Jojo Moyes, **Private Berlin** and **Alex Cross, Run** - James Patterson, **The Storyteller** - Jodi Picoult, **The Yellow Birds** - Kevin Powers, **Calculated in Death** - J. D. Robb, and **Tenth of December** - George Saunders

NON FICTION

Hello Goodbye Hello - Craig Brown, **America Again** - Stephen Colbert, **Francona** - Terry Francona and Dan Shaughnessy, **Salt Sugar Fat** - Michael Moss, **The Signal and the Noise** - Nate Silver, and **My Beloved World** - Sonia Sotomayor

YOUNG ADULT

Scarlet – Marissa Meyer and **What We Saw At Night** – Jacquelyn Mitchard

CHILDREN

The Critter Club: Amy and the Missing Puppy and **All About Ellie** - Callie Barkley, **This Is Not My Hat** - Jon Klassen, **Wonder** - R. J. Palacio, **Big Nate Flips Out** - Lincoln Pierce, **First the Egg** - Laura Vaccaro Seeger, **Hokey Pokey** - Jerry Spinelli, **Polar Bear Morning** - Lauren Thompson, and **Navigating Early** - Clare Vanderpool

AUDIO BOOKS

The Forgotten – David Baldacci, **One Shot** – Lee Child, **Suspect** - Robert Crais, **Who I Am: A Memoir** - Pete Townshend, and **Collateral Damage** - Stuart Woods

DVDS

Anna Karenina, **Argo**, **Beasts of the Southern Wild**, **Doc Martin - Series 3**, **Downton Abbey - Season 3**, **Frankenweenie**, **The Hobbit: The Unexpected Journey**, **Life of Pi**, **Lincoln**, **Skyfall**, and **Zero Dark Thirty**

Donate Your Used Books, DVDs, CDs, and Audio Books To The Cornwall Library! The Book Sale Is Coming!

Do you have books piling up in corners? Stacked in piles on desks or on the floor? Overflowing from your bookshelves? Donate them! "Recycle" books you'll never read again and pick up others that you've always wanted to read - at bargain prices! Help our library keep a great collection of books and other materials and support a local independent bookseller. That's a win-win-win for everyone!

Our annual book sale will be held in June, and we welcome donations of books, audio books, CD's, and DVDs, new or used, and other materials. In particular this year, we are in need of children's books. And, again, **the proceeds from the sale go directly to stock the library shelves with new releases** purchased from the Vermont Book Shop in downtown Middlebury.

Drop off your unwanted books, DVDs, CDs, and audio books (please no LP's, textbooks, magazines or encyclopedias) at Cornwall Town Hall any time during regular hours (Tues-Fri, 9-5) before the sale. PLEASE make sure that your donated books are in good, resale condition - we cannot use items that have mold or mildew on them, or ones that are in really bad condition. If you have some of the latter, tear off the covers and drop them off at the Addison County Recycling Center in Middlebury.

Books, Books, and More Books for Sale!

The Cornwall Library Book Sale will be held toward the end of June and will be open from 9AM to 3PM at the Town Hall. Check our website, cornwallvt.com, as well as the Addison Independent and the Cornwall Connection for the exact date. A wide variety of donated books across all genres will be available, and prices will range from \$.50 to \$2.00. Everything is a bargain, and proceeds from the sale go directly to **stock the library shelves with new releases** purchased from the [Vermont Book Shop](#) in downtown Middlebury. Come early for the best selection, but for those who wait, once the clock strikes ONE the **BAG SALE** begins! Fill a bag with books for only \$4.00. Come check it out!

Library Books



www.tothetop.com

From the Lister's Office!

First, Sue Burdick and Stephenie Pyne would like to thank Liam English for volunteering, then being elected to become the third lister. It takes quite a while to understand all that is involved with different aspects of the position, but Liam has brought the necessary sense of humor with him. We all depend in countless ways on Sue Johnson. Need we say more about her, other than to give her our thanks too?

The Listers are required by state law to set appraisals as of April 1 for tax purposes for the upcoming year. Those appraisals then become the basis for the Select Board to set the new tax rate.

Whose appraisal may be changed? The Listers will inspect improvements or additions made to the property of anyone who filed a Zoning Permit. The re-appraisal will be based on the amount of work that has been completed as of April 1. Such property owners will receive a Change of Appraisal Notice no later than June 4. Property owners may 'grieve' their appraisals by following the directions that will be on the Change of Appraisal Notices.

Other property owners have until the close of grievance hearings to 'grieve' their appraisals as well. Again, such 'grievances' must be in writing and submitted no later than the close of the grievance hearings. Notice of this date will be posted, among other places, in the town Clerk's Office, the bulletin board outside the Town Hall, the Town Garage, and the Addison Independent.

If a property owner fails to grieve by end of the grievance hearings, it is too late to reduce the tax burden for the upcoming year. However, it is not too late to prepare for the following year. The following steps may be helpful to determine if a property may be incorrectly appraised:

First, request a property record card from Sue Johnson or the listers. That card will show basic information about your property—the location and size of your house and acreage, the number of rooms and bathrooms, number of fireplaces, outbuildings, etc.

Check to see that the information on the card is correct. Have you made changes to your home, especially any that may reduce the value of your home (taken out a bathroom, torn down a barn, etc.)?

If the acreage is wrong, provide documentation from previous deeds of the correct acreage.

Contact the listers in writing to make any corrections.

Often the Listers can resolve a situation without a property owner having to 'grieve' an appraisal formally. So the listers encourage anyone with questions to call them at 462-3386 or e-mail cornwall_listers@yahoo.com. Although it may take us longer during our busy time of the year—April, May and June—don't be reluctant to call again if we have not responded to you within a couple of weeks.

Paddle Exploration Otter Creek/Cornwall Swamp Saturday, April 13th, 12:30 PM Swamp Road Boat Access

Join CC's Brian Howlett in exploring Otter Creek by canoe and kayak. Visit places in the Cornwall Swamp that are impossible to reach except when the Creek floods in the spring. Paddlers will put in at the Swamp Road boating access and take out in Middlebury at 3 Mile Bridge. Bring your canoe or kayak and a lifejacket for yourself and any other passengers. For more information, contact Brian: 1-802-558-5860 or drbrianhowlett@gmail.com

Spring News from the Conservation Commission

With the approval at the March Town Meeting of \$5000 in matching funds from Cornwall and a grant of \$500 from Ben and Jerry's Community Action Team, the Conservation Commission is at last able to begin Phase I of an

Inventory of Cornwall's Natural Resources. When completed in its entirety, the Inventory will provide landowners and planners with comprehensive and consistent information about the Cornwall's valuable ecological features.

Here is the projected timeline. In Phase I a consultant will be hired to oversee the project. We anticipate work starting this summer with a review of existing information about the location of core wildlife habitat and travel corridors; rare and uncommon species and natural communities; wetlands and riparian areas of special importance for water quality protection; and habitats for species in need of greatest conservation efforts (which have been identified by the state Fish and Wildlife Department). This information will be analyzed and displayed in a set of working maps that will be shared at a Town Public Forum in the early fall. At this meeting, residents will be invited to comment on the maps and add additional information about particular places and features they know about.

In Phase II, which we hope to complete with the help of additional funding from various grant applications currently under consideration, residents will be invited to assist the consultant in the time-consuming field evaluation of selected sites. We hope that fieldwork can begin this fall and continue through the summer of 2014. When completed, the data will be compiled by the consultant and added to a Cornwall natural resources database. At this point, the Phase I maps will be updated and a second Public Forum will be scheduled to share the results of the Inventory. Based on this work, a final report will be written by the consultant. The CC is hoping that the Inventory will be completed by winter 2014-15. Many thanks to the Planning Commission and the Select Board for their encouragement and help in getting this project off the ground.

Other CC news: the **March Tree ID Workshop**, co-sponsored with Vermont Coverts, was a success with over 25 people attending. And, as this newsletter goes out, CC member Brian Howlett is making final plans for leading the **April 13th Paddle Exploration of Otter Creek/ Cornwall Swamp.** (See additional information on Page 6.)

The CC is joining the **May 4th Green Up Day** activities this year. With the inspiration and help of Shelly Payne, we are sponsoring a **Spring Perennials Plant Swap** from 10:00 to 2:00 on Saturday, May 4th. Since it is a swap, there will be no exchange of money. Perennials are sought, but houseplants are also welcome. For additional information about the exchange, including where extra pots can be picked up, or where plants can be left off, see the information box below.

Your Conservation Commission members are happy to respond to any conservation and education questions or requests. Current members are Marc Lapin and Mary Dodge (co-chairs), Brian Howlett, and Michael Sheridan. We would like to thank Lawrence Pyne who is leaving the CC after many years of loyal service. Few people know the natural features of Cornwall as well as he does and his input has been of great help in consultations with the Planning Commission. We are now looking to fill this vacancy, so please contact Marc Lapin (lapin@middlebury.edu) or Mary Dodge (mdodge@middlebury.edu) if you would like to learn more about how you can help with conservation work in Cornwall.

Green Up Day Spring Plant Swap Saturday, May 4th, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Bingham Memorial School Walkway by the Parking Lot



Help celebrate Green Up Day by sharing extra perennials from your garden with neighbors and see if you can find some interesting new plants to take home!

Empty pots and sticks for plant labels will be available at the Town Hall from Tuesday, April 30th on. Please include the plant's name on the label, any special requirements, and its size at maturity. Houseplants are also welcome.

Plants can be left off at the School on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, or when you drop-off your green-up bags.

For more information or to lend a hand with the exchange, contact Shelley Payne spayne@middlebury.edu or Mary Dodge mdodge@middlebury.edu (462-2899.)

Protecting Yourself From Mosquitoes and Mosquito-Borne Diseases

THE CURRENT PROBLEM:

Last year for the first time in Vermont history, two humans in Rutland County were infected by Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), a mosquito-borne disease that infects the brain. Both people died. EEE is considered to be a rare disease. Cases that require hospitalization generally do not have a good outcome. West Nile Virus (WNV), another mosquito-borne disease that has appeared in our area, is less serious but can be harmful, particularly to the elderly. There have been three reported cases of WNV in humans in Addison County over the past few years. None appear to have long term effects. At this point in time, the State considers EEE by far the more serious of the two diseases and is concentrating its resources on EEE.

EEE is a virus carried by the *Culiseta melanura* mosquito which is known to breed in acidic, hard-wood swamps. This mosquito species primarily feeds on birds. Humans are an incidental host. *Culiseta melanura* larvae live under tree roots and vegetation thus making it difficult to kill them from aerially applied larvicide. Current aerial larvicide treatment applied by the Lemon Fair Insect Control District (LFICD) over the past decade in Bridport, Cornwall, Weybridge, Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury and Goshen targets flood-plain mosquitoes, species that breed in open grass wetlands. While *Culiseta melanura* is not likely to appear in open wetlands, they may move up to 10 miles

from their preferred habitat.

The Vermont State Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health analyzed trapped mosquitoes in the area where the two people were infected and aerially treated for adult mosquitoes in that area in September of 2012. At the same time, these agencies held informational town meetings in Brandon, Sudbury and Whiting to brief local Vermonters on the nature of the disease, its treatment, and how best to protect oneself from becoming infected. In addition, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture and Department of Health are asking for additional funds this forthcoming year to increase surveillance, testing and public awareness of mosquito borne disease.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. There are no human vaccines for EEE or WNV. There are routine vaccines recommended for horses to protect them from EEE and WNV. These vaccines have also been used effectively in llamas, alpacas and emus.
2. Avoid spending extended time outside during dusk or on still, cloudy days when mosquitoes are likely to be around.
3. If you are outside during these times, wear protective, loose clothing that covers your body.
4. Cover exposed areas of skin with



up to 30% DEET. The CDC website has good information on repellants. See below.

5. Empty containers of standing water around your farm or domicile. WNV-bearing mosquitoes tend to breed in standing, dirty water such as are often found in these places.

6. Notice and report to town Health Officers any unusual sightings of dead birds in your area.

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

LFICD: <http://cornwallvt.com/lemon-fair-insect-control-district/>

State Health Department: <http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/arbovirus/index.aspx>

Bridport Health Officer: Barbara Wagner (barbw49@yahoo.com) or 802-758-2420

Cornwall Health Officer: Dave Anderson (davidandersonvt@gmail.com) or 462-3254

LFICD Board Chair: David Dodge (ddodge10708@yahoo.com) or 462-3898

Insect Repellants—CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/RepellentUpdates.htm>

BE SMART! MINIMIZE EXPOSURE TO MOSQUITO BITES.

Cornwall Congregational Church will hold its Annual Tag Sale, May 4, 2013

The Cornwall Congregational Church will be holding its annual spring Tag Sale on Saturday, May 4, 2013 from 8 AM to 1 PM. There will also be a food sale. This sale will include household items and food only, no clothing. The center of town will be hopping with activity between Green Up, the plant swap and this tag sale. Come on Down!!!



Update from Jim Duclos, Member of the Pipeline Route Selection Committee

It's been a while since I've contacted you, so I thought that I'd fill you in on where we are at this time.

Abi Sessions and I are attending the "Route Selection Committee" meetings representing Cornwall. The first meeting on 3/15 didn't accomplish much except to introduce the "players" to one another and to discuss the process and the goals of these meetings. Some questions did arise that VT Gas was not prepared to answer, so they agreed to address them at the second meeting.

At that meeting they brought a team to make an hour long presentation about how they arrived at where they are today (beginning Phase II).

These meetings are now being taped by Middlebury Community TV and you can view them on your computer [here](#).

At this point Cornwall is still pressing for the route to follow the abandoned rail bed through Leicester and Whiting to Shoreham. VT Gas eliminated that route early on because it was too expensive, but at our insistence and a little help from Adam Lougee of ACRPC we have convinced them to take another look at that possibility.

I attended the Public Service Board's public hearing on Phase I on 2/21. It was pretty interesting, and a little discouraging to see how the game is played. VT Gas loaded the room with speakers in favor of the project. Much of the testimony was more about Phase II than Phase I, with several International Paper Employees speaking about how badly IP needs this cheaper fuel in order to remain viable in today's market.

If you have three hours to kill you can view a video of the PSB hearing [here](#).

There will be another Route Selection Meeting this Friday 4/5 and VT Gas is expected to have some preliminary route ideas for us to look at. They should also report on whether the rail bed option is "back on the table" or not. I'll let you know how it goes.

Keep Cornwall Safe

<http://www.keepcornwallsafe.com> is a website maintained by a group of Cornwall citizens concerned about how Phase 2 of the Addison Natural Gas Project might affect our town and its people. The website includes information about: the two phases of the Addison Natural Gas Project, pipeline types, route options, safety concerns, companies behind the project, how to get involved.

We encourage you to visit the website and send your thoughts to keepcornwallsafe@yahoo.com.

CPR & AED—Adult/Child, Infant

American Heart Association

Training & Certification

Thu. April 25, 6-9pm

Cornwall Town Hall

\$10—Cornwall Residents, \$15—Others

Payable at class, to *Town of Cornwall*

Register by April 19th—

Kate: 462-2182, gieges@shoreham.net

Sponsored by the **Cornwall Emergency Management Network**

About the Pipeline: Sarah Pelkey

Project Overview

Vermont Gas proposes to build a natural gas transmission pipeline from Colchester to Middlebury (Phase I) and from Middlebury to Ticonderoga, NY (Phase II) thereby transporting natural gas from Canada to Addison County and New York. Vermont Gas is regulated by the Vermont Public Service Board and is owned by Gaz Metro of Montreal, and in part, by Enbridge of Alberta, Canada. Gaz Metro is the natural gas utility that serves all of Quebec.

The proposed project, known as the Addison Natural Gas Project, is divided into two phases. Phase I will impact towns from Colchester to New Haven and will serve Vergennes and Middlebury as well as other population centers along the route. The final route for the Phase II has not yet been determined, but Vermont Gas is currently looking at a preferred route that would go through Middlebury, through the center of Cornwall and Shoreham, underneath Lake Champlain and, ultimately, to International Paper in Ticonderoga, NY. To reach Ticonderoga, Vermont Gas will install a directionally drilled transmission line approximately 30 feet below the bottom of Lake Champlain. Phase II, as currently proposed, would provide service only to International Paper.

The current schedule for Addison Natural Gas Project Phase I is to bring gas service to anchor customers in the Middlebury Industrial Park by late 2014. The distribution networks in Middlebury and Vergennes would be constructed in 2015, with residential and commercial customers in Middlebury receiving service by 2015/2016. In order to achieve these milestones, Vermont Gas must file all associated project permit applications in the next few months. The primary permit for this project is a Certificate of Public Good issued by the Vermont Public Service Board under Title 30, Section 248. Vermont Gas must also obtain other required permits including those from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) and local towns. The permitting and construction of a substantial portion of the Addison Natural Gas project (\$70 million) is being funded by International Paper.

For details about the project please visit the town's website at www.cornwallvt.com. Of particular note is the "Citizens Guide to the Vermont Public Service Board's Section 248 Process" also available online at <http://psb.vermont.gov/statutesrulesandguidelines/guidelines#248>. This document summarizes the Vermont permitting process for utility scale energy projects.

What this means for Cornwall

If permitted, the potential impact this project has on the Town of Cornwall, and its residents, is significant. Please take the time to learn about what is being proposed in your community.

A few key facts:

The pipeline is a high-pressure TRANSMISSION line (not a distribution line) with the following specifications: Size: 10" diameter - For a sense of this size check out the bottom of a 5-gallon bucket. Pressure: 1,100 PSI - This is in comparison to a distribution line, which requires as little as 3 PSI. A service pipeline requires as little as 1/4 PSI.

Currently there are NO plans to distribute natural gas to Cornwall residents.

Vermont Gas would pay taxes to the Town of Cornwall for the pipeline easement, however, the value of the line is adjusted, and will depreciate, each year. Please bear in mind that any tax revenues will be offset by decreases in property values and the resulting reduction in the grand list. There are a number of studies that suggest that there may be long-term loss of property value due to the presence of a transmission line.

Experts have deemed the blast radius of 12" transmission pipes can be up to and above 500 feet.

Currently, the Town of Cornwall (represented by Abi Sessions and Jim Duclos) is taking part in Route Selection Meetings with Vermont Gas representatives and other stakeholders. The Town is advocating for a route that follows the existing VELCO Corridor from south of Middlebury to the abandoned rail bed through Leicester and Whiting and on to Shoreham.

About the Pipeline, continued

Citizen Involvement

A group of concerned citizens has organized to oppose siting this industrial, high-pressure natural gas transmission line through Cornwall with particular regard to safety and proximity to homes, wells, and septic systems. A petition has been in circulation since Town Meeting and currently has over 140 signatures. If you would like to add your name to the petition please stop by the Town Office.

The petition reads:

The undersigned request that the Cornwall Select Board oppose the siting of an industrial, high-pressure natural gas pipeline in Cornwall, Vermont, as laid out in Phase II of the Addison Natural Gas Project, unless any Certificate of Public Good permitting construction, ownership, or operation of the pipeline contains the following conditions:

- 300' minimum setback from homes, town buildings, and wells
- No removal of public trees without prior authorization
- No use of eminent domain to obtain private property

In addition, we ask that the Select Board use all means at their disposal as our elected representatives to:

- Participate in any Public Service Board Proceeding related to Phase II of the pipeline, and
- Negotiate a favorable siting outcome with Vermont Gas, and take all steps necessary to protect the lives and property of Cornwall citizens consistent with these proposed conditions.

Unsuitable Location

While we understand the benefits of making natural gas available to more Vermonters, we feel the proposed route through Cornwall is an unsuitable location for a transmission pipeline. In addition to the Town Hall, school, and church, there are many homes and wells in very close proximity to the right-of-way of the proposed route(s).

Safety Concerns

Of utmost concern is the safety of the people of Cornwall. Although it is a low probability event, the consequences of a transmission pipeline failure are potentially very severe. Pipeline safety experts agree the best way to ensure public safety as well as safeguard pipeline infrastructure and reduce tragic incidents is to keep people and pipelines separated. Elsewhere in Vermont, gas transmission pipelines are clearly situated to avoid residential areas.

A website has been created to provide a forum for concerned citizens to share information.

Please visit: keepcornwallsafe.com for additional information.

The Railroad Expansion—short fiction by Colin Kriwox

In 1883, Buzz Turner spent every minute of his time thinking, writing, and speaking about the benefits of connecting a railroad line between Adelaide and Sydney. He was employed by the Australian government to expand the New South Wales Government Railroad. Residents of Sydney often heard Buzz talking with shop owner, saying, “Adelaide has excellent beef, wool, fruit, and wheat - and it’s cheap! We need your support in building this railway!” Buzz put every ounce of energy into the railway expansion project, and his passion was visible in his red cheeks and the little beads of sweat on his forehead.

The Sydney shop owners responded with vigor because the demand for good, cheap products was overwhelming. Their support was partly fueled by the Australian gold rush, which was responsible for unprecedented growth in Sydney. Buzz thought the support was the fruit of his labor, but it was the hidden force of economics that drove the railway expansion.

Nevertheless, Buzz worked hard. He gained public support from elected officials and businesses in NSW. He started planning a route for the new railway line. He said, “We already have a railway line that connects Sydney and Melbourne. We need a mid-point to connect our spur railway to Adelaide.” He forcefully tapped his finger at a town on the map. “Here! Albury is where we’ll connect.”

Nearly every business in Sydney was in favor, and soon the key stake holders in Albury were in full support of the railway expansion.

Around the same time, Swan Hill, a small town to the west of Albury, was struggling to keep their SH Salt Co. profitable. The cost to transport salt by horse and wagon was both expensive and inefficient. On the other hand, the cost to transport salt by railway would be less than half when compared to horse and wagon. It seemed too good to be true to be so close to the railway expansion. The SH Salt Co. approached Buzz and offered to pay the entire cost to install the railway between Albury and Swan Hill.

Buzz was elated. He opened his map and marked a straight line between Albury and Swan Hill. The route would pass through some small towns along the way, but the primary goal was to get the railway to Swan Hill, and then eventually to Adelaide. Everyone would win, or so he thought.

However, Finley was one of the small towns along the proposed railway line between Albury and Swan Hill. It was a small agricultural town with a focus on wheat and sheep. Most residents were farmers and lived on their homesteads in a typical rural setting.

When residents of Finley first heard about the railway, they exclaimed, “Yes, we can finally sell our wheat and wool in Sydney. We’ll all be rich!” Others started thinking about the possibility of riding a train into the big city for shopping. Yet, others were concerned about the negative effects of a railway in their small town.

The residents of Finley quickly realized the railway would pass in close proximity to their school house, town buildings, and many homes. “They’ll need to cut down those black locust trees on the town square,” said one young resident who had seen railways constructed outside of Sydney. The town was divided on the railway project.

Just prior to construction, Buzz Turner decided to visit Finley for a site visit, with plans to explain all the benefits to the town. He told residents that the railway would be very good for the small towns because the government would pay taxes on the railroad land. He explained how it would benefit commerce in Sydney and Adelaide. He delivered the benefits in a very concise, practiced manner.

One resident asked, “Where will you put the train station?” Buzz smiled and said, “A station is very expensive. At this time, the railway will just pass through Finley.” The residents looked at each other in dismay. Another resident asked, “Why are you going so close to our school house and our homes?” Buzz was prepared. He paused for a moment, gave a firm look and then said, “We have been in the railroad business for a long time, and we are going to do the right thing. The railway should not have a negative impact on Finley.

The room was buzzing with whispers as people conversed privately.

“They’ll cut down our old locust trees!”

“Won’t it be dangerous to have a track where our children play?”

“Can they take my land from me?”

“What? It’s not a passenger train?”

Finally, someone stood up and said, “Shepparton has said they are interested in hosting the railway. Why don’t you put it there?” The residents of Finley nodded and looked at Buzz, who said, “we have a tight budget and it will cost us significantly more if we run it South through Shepparton. We considered that route, but it’s just not feasible.”

The Railroad Expansion—short fiction by Colin Kriwox, continued

The room erupted with the noise of upset residents. Buzz realized things were not going well. He thought for a moment and then said, “Listen! I understand that you’re upset. I think the best approach would be for the town to come up with a proposed route through Finley. How does that sound?”

The residents started whispering again.

“Maybe we can put it on Mr. Halladay’s land. He has plenty of open pasture.”

“I don’t want it near my house.”

A civil war broke out in the town meeting hall as residents suggested routes that would place the railway line on each other’s property.

Suddenly, an old man with a white beard stood up. Everyone paused to listen. The old man looked around the room and asked, “Why can’t we just say no?”

More Pipeline Information. Jeff & Holly Noordsy

As many of you are aware, a Canadian owned company is hoping to install an industrial, high pressure natural gas transmission line running through Cornwall in order to provide fuel for the paper plant in Ticonderoga, NY. Although Cornwall and its residents stand to benefit little, if at all, from this pipeline (NOBODY in town would have access to the gas), the project would generate serious long-term safety issues, permanently alter the landscape and devastate property values. As we have learned from our neighbors in Monkton, this gas company does not

operate in good faith and it has shown that it will do anything, including invoking the ugly threat of eminent domain, in order to fill the coffers of two profit hungry businesses – one in Canada and one in New York. Because the gas company has yet to divulge the exact path of the pipeline, every landowner in this town faces the possibility of widespread negative impacts from this proposed project. This potentially lethal 10 inch transmission pipeline could be placed within several feet of private homes, public buildings, water sources and septic systems. I would

urge every Cornwall resident to involve themselves as this process moves forward by attending meetings, contacting legislators, writing letters to the editor and doing anything they can to educate themselves about this proposed project. We need to do everything in our power to insure the safety of the townspeople, protect our property and preserve our rights. I strongly believe this to be one of the greatest threats this community has ever faced and that now is the time for us to band together in order to fight for our rights, our homes and our town’s identity.

Contacting the Department of Public Service, submitted by Stan Gryzb

Cornwall residents who have complaints about the proposed gas pipeline can call the Vermont Department of Public Service at 1-800-622-4496.

The office staff will take your name and will take your complaint verbatim and pass it on to the attorney in the department who is responsible for reviewing the merits of the pipeline. I have done so and the office staff were very cooperative.

Thoughts from Stan Grzyb

Vermont Gas has proposed building a natural gas transmission pipeline through Cornwall on its way through Shoreham and under Lake Champlain to serve International Paper in Ticonderoga, New York as part of Phase II of its Addison Natural Gas Project. There would be minuscule or no benefit to the residents of Cornwall emanating from such a pipeline. We could be forced to give up the use of our land by eminent domain should the Public Service Board grant a certificate of public good to Vermont Gas for this project. The principal beneficiaries of the Phase II project would be the Canadian owned Vermont Gas Corporation and International Paper whose profits would be in the millions of dollars. In addition to safety and environmental issues associated with this proposed pipeline there are genuine ethical and fairness questions. Why should the residents of Cornwall be required to host a transmission line for two international corporations? Why should the residents of a small rural Vermont village become subservient to the profit motives of mega-corporations? The time has once again come for David to defend himself against Goliath.

A Narrative by a Family Directly Affected by an Enbridge Pipeline. Submitted by Jeff & Holly Noordsy

This is the ENBRIDGE dig - We purchased our home in 2000 on land contract from my dad, this was the house I grew up in. The entire time I lived here - we had never experienced any construction or disturbance with the pipeline. The same year Vector pipeline purchased additional easement from my dad (which wasn't optional) - allowing a high pressure gas line to be installed and devastating our land - removing 30+ mature hardwoods and evergreens from our side and front yard.

In late summer of 2010 we decided that as our family was expanding we needed to move to a larger home, even though we dearly love our home so and have neighbors we consider family, we placed it up for sale by owner. In fall of 2010 we noticed foliage on either side of the Enbridge easement dying, then Enbridge showed up saying they needed to do an integrity dig to check for anomalies. Needless to say when the stakes showed up there were no more interested buyers) and Enbridge probed the ground for any possible leaks... which was kind of ridiculous - hand held probes that likely didn't even go down to the depth of the pipe. Later to be told because of the amount of anomalies found in the line across our property they were going to need to replace an 800ft section across our land - which eventually occurred in early 2011. They were complete with replacement by February 2011 and left our land abandoned - restoration to our property and yard did not begin until the last week in July. (this left us with half a driveway, no drainage, absolutely no use of any of our property as we were unable to access our back or side yard - with any kind of lawn mower - our home looked abandoned. Three kids, 120lb dog, mud and water everywhere and un-announced strangers and heavy equipment (not FUN! for anyone) and I was pregnant!!! In the meantime they parked equipment, left construction debris and a port-a-john for months. (both in and outside of their easement during and after construction) Their equipment while left on our property was even used by strangers - because it was not stored safely.

Just before frost in the fall of 2011 our lawn was seeded. However as of this summer we had yet to have our lawn grown in or our land fully restored, nor compensated at all for this project. Enbridge returned requesting 25ft of additional easement (Thank God we appealed this which was originally granted). They now own easement down my front sidewalk - 2ft from our garage and 6ft from my front porch. Our well sits 15ft from the proposed and planned new pipeline. Enbridge sued us this past fall - under condemnation. Due to our previous experience with Enbridge we felt it was our only course of action. As of January 17th, 2013 Enbridge cleared the last 2 trees I planted as a little girl with my dad... and has cut 6-8ft up one side of all the evergreens along side the easement, you can imagine what that looks like. However the story and our experience is long and quite horrific. Currently Enbridge is requiring all our day to day construction and safety concerns to go through our attorney's because of litigation. Being that we are experienced with this, this is a very unreasonable approach to address any of our concerns to protect our family or work with or cooperate with Enbridge during construction. We have requested since March of 2012 for details in writing so we may understand fully. We have requested a schedule and 24hr notification to plan appropriately. As we are unable to access our home when construction is active due to how the easement runs diagonally across our land and entry way. (to date resolution or discussion is yet to take place with our concerns) As of January 18th Enbridge has denied Livingston County Health Departments request to replace our well.

**There are pictures with this article that are not printed in the newsletter. They can be viewed at the town hall.

Cy's Podium by Gary Margolis

This year, it's not here.

It's loaned, down
the road, to Whiting,
our near enough next
town. When we need it
most. When we need
Cy, our March town
moderator, to lean on us
to speak up, civilly, to cast
our voice-raised votes.
She's standing there
alone, tall enough to see
out to us, when we raise
our hands. So she can call
on one of us to stand,
Norman Rockwellish.
Here in our children's
Cornwall gym. Next
to a field the cows,
Holsteins, still wander in.
To see who's raising her
hand, speaking up.
Without a podium to stand
behind. Who's saying all
he can, in front of neighbors
he agrees to live next door to,
even when there are good things
they disagree on. Except
the right of our firemen,
say fire fighters, our next door
men and women, to now
walk-in, between votes, carrying
Cy's podium, Whiting-returned.
Say what we're here for.
Say what we've, one vote
at a time, town and city-bred,
earned.

Mapling the Snow after Matteson's "Sugaring Off" By Gary Margolis

It's the first day
of everything.
You can tell by
the spring
in your step.
By the snow
covering
your tracks.
The tree-laden
crows.
Its crowing
branches.
Everything cold's
supposed to be
done. The month-
long argument
when Spring's ready
to come. Who can
own the barrel
of a gun. Who decides
how much snow
is magazine-full.
Not *The Saturday Evening Post*.
Not *Life*.
A clip is a clipper wind
and a clip, cheek-cold.
Overnight everything can go.
The wind is that slick.
The sun crowing.
And those men and women,
shadows in the woods,
inviting you in.
Carrying pails.
boiling sap.
blood-thin,
they appear to be us.

Hay wine, By Gary Margolis

you could say
walking by the rolled bales,
the hay cooking in the twine,

field-fermenting. These rolls
line the edge of the road,
some white-plastic-packaged,

some just blue-netted.
How much does it cost to
age, package a field, leave it

like a giant stone about to roll,
a kind of Cornwall Stonehenge?
How much should we pay

for everything the hay
goes through, a poem means
for us to see and know

That cow, licking the wrapper,
knows, eating everything
the baler's baled. A ball,

a wire thorn, a cork thrown
into the field and meant to
float, not stopper a field,

flowering this summer for
the third time.
Bottled you could say

for a winter's day,
when cows are standing
like stones, frost-breathing.

When they're shredding
their field vine, March-
surviving.

Town of Cornwall

2629 Route 30
Cornwall, VT 05753

We're on the Web
cornwallvt.com

Cornwall/Red Cross Local Shelter Initiative

The American Red Cross is providing towns with Shelter Kits to open and operate shelters during disasters.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to set-up and assist at shelters
Sign up for a 2.5-hour training to become prepared to help during a crisis.

Upcoming Trainings in various communities,
Currently Scheduled—

ORWELL, Tue April 23rd, 6-9^{pm} at the Fire House

Contact Bob: 948-2502 or tckorwel@sover.net

CORNWALL, Thu May 16th, 6-9^{pm} at Town Hall

Contact Kate: 462-2182 or gieges@shoreham.net

Sponsored by **Local Emergency Management Committees & American Red Cross—VT/
NH Upper Valley Chapter**