

Vermont Public - News

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Quarterly Issues / Program List

4th Quarter - October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

The Community Issues listed in this section of the report aired during local Vermont Public segments. This listing is illustrative of the programs aired on Vermont Public and is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of programs responsive to issues of importance to the community. Local news pieces range from 4 to 8 minutes.

Issue	Vermont Public News - Story Narratives	Air Date(s) & Length
Financial	Flood Insurance: Many Vermonters lack the main financial backstop for recovering after a flood: that is, flood insurance. Without it, they're left relying on federal disaster aid, which generally pays out much less money. We'll break down why so few Vermonters have the protection. Listen this evening, during All Things Considered.	10/2 at 7:50am and 4:50pm
Seniors	Vermonters lost nearly 8 million dollars to fraud last year. While more young people are victimized by fraud, older adults tend to lose more money. It's why AARP and other advocates say it's so important seniors learn how to avoid being swindled. Hear more on that story from Vermont Public's Nina Keck, this evening during All Things Considered.	10/3 at 7:50am and 4:50pm; length 5:10
Education and Finance	An aging population and older workers retiring early during the pandemic has put a strain on the workforce. To counteract that, states are looking for new ways to entice younger workers. In Vermont, state officials are trying to get recent college graduates to stay by paying their student loans. Hear more on that story from the Hechinger [HECK-in-er] Report and Vermont Public's Liam Elder-Connors... this evening during All Things Considered.	10/4 at 7:50am and 4:50pm
Arts / Culture	Local films from Vermont Public's series – Made Here – are playing every week on our main TV channel. And all season long, we'll be airing interviews to provide more context on the films. The next documentary in the series is called "A Journey to the White Mountains in Words and Music." And it considers how tourism has shaped that region of New Hampshire. Learn more tomorrow, during Morning Edition.	10/5 at 7:50am and 4:50pm
Arts / Culture & Inclusivity	It's not uncommon to see Vermont on the silver screen. But a lot of the movies and shows that take place in the Green Mountain State... aren't actually filmed here. Why is that? Vermont Public's people-powered podcast Brave Little State will answer that question for you... tomorrow during Morning Edition.	10/9 at 7:50am and 4:50pm
Higher Education	Checking in on Vermont State University at the start of the semester + following recommendations to cut majors and faculty. Featuring interim president Mike Smith, alumni and faculty.	10/9 at 12:00pm and 7:00pm
Housing	The issue of homelessness is expected to be at the top of lawmakers' agenda when the Legislature reconvenes in January. That's because a motel housing program serving roughly 12-hundred Vermonters is set to expire at the end of March. Vermont Public's Peter Hirschfeld has been following the situation. Hear him break down the tough decisions facing elected officials, tomorrow during Morning Edition.	10/10; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Politics and Government	Recent polling suggests a wide swath of "Democratically" leaning voters don't want the party to nominate President Joe Biden for a second term in office next year. What message are they sending? Vermont Public's Bob Kinzel asked political scientists and Vermont's congressional delegation. Hear what they said, this evening during All Things Considered.	10/25; 7:50am and 4:50pm

Housing	The Northeast Kingdom has some of the highest poverty rates in Vermont. And for a long time, it hasn't had a homeless shelter. But that's about to change – partly thanks to a new state law. VT Digger and Vermont Public reporter Carly Berlin has that story, listen this evening during Morning Edition.	10/27; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Education and Schools	Vermont State University recently completed a round of faculty buyouts. It's one way the newly-merged school is cutting costs amid a wide budget shortfall. Vermont Public's Mary Engisch spoke to one of the impacted professors, from the Johnson campus' Performance Arts and Technology program. Hear that conversation this evening, during All Things Considered.	11/3; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Food Insecurity	A new federal report out last month [October] says hunger in the U.S. rose sharply last year. And many of Vermont's charitable food providers have said 2023 hasn't been any better. Reporter Sam Jefferson with the University of Vermont's Community News Service visited with local providers to learn more. Hear that story tomorrow, during Morning Edition.	11/9; 7:44am and 4:44pm
Arts & Culture	The South Burlington-based Lyric Theater is raising the curtains on its 50th season tonight. Vermont Public's Mary Engisch spoke to the community-oriented company's executive director and a long-time volunteer. Listen to that conversation this evening, during All Things Considered.	11/9; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Housing/Health & Safety	FEMA is in the process of setting up a temporary housing complex in Montpelier for about 20 families who lost their homes in the summer floods. But government officials say that's a tiny fraction of the Vermonters who are now experiencing housing insecurity due to flood damage. A new philanthropic venture might be their best hope at rebuilding from the floods in the near term. Hear Vermont Public's Peter Hirschfeld break it down, this evening during All Things Considered.	11/14; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Health & Safety	State health officials say the threat of COVID remains low in Vermont. Still, there are indications that the current dominant strain of the virus is more contagious, despite being less severe than other strains. So what's the outlook for this winter, when more Vermonters will be spending time indoors? Vermont Public's Bob Kinzel has been talking to public health experts. Hear what he found out, this evening during All Things Considered.	11/17; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Public Safety / Legal	What constitutes a hate-crime in Vermont?	11/29; 7:44am and 4:44pm and 12:00pm and 7:00pm
Seniors	As families gather for the holidays, some will notice that an aging loved one is not doing so well. Care providers say they get more calls this time of year with questions about how to have difficult conversations with relatives. Vermont Public's Nina Keck has some tips – and you can hear them tomorrow, during Morning Edition.	11/29; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Economy / Housing / Healthcare	Residential care facilities in Vermont are struggling with staffing shortages and historically low Medicaid reimbursement rates... which is leading them to close at an alarming rate. That's a problem, considering the Baby Boomer generation's need for care is growing rapidly in Vermont. Hear more on that story from Vermont Public's Nina Keck, this evening during All Things Considered.	11/30; 7:50am and 4:50pm
Criminal Justice	Checking in with Rutland County Rutland County officials on the benefits and challenges of incorporating drug treatment court into criminal justice.	12/4 at 12:00pm and 7:00pm
Public Safety	After Tropical Storm Irene destroyed much of downtown Waterbury in 2011, town officials looked for ways to prevent similar disasters. Experts recommended turning an empty field along the Winooski River into a floodplain, but the project was shelved after resistance from property owners. Vermont Public's Liam Elder-Connors has been digging into why the project failed – and what lessons it could illustrate for future flood mitigation projects. Listen to that story this evening, during All Things Considered.	12/11; 7:50am and 4:50pm