

Vermont Public Radio

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Quarterly Issues / Program List

1st Quarter - January 1, 2018 to March 31, 2018

The Community Issues listed in this section of the report aired during local VPR newscasts. This listing is illustrative of the programs aired on VPR and is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of programs responsive to issues of importance to the community. A daily programming and local newscast schedule is provided at the end of this report.

Issue	VPR News Story Narrative	Air Date(s) & Length
Agriculture	Talk to any dairy farmer and ask what worries them these days and they all say the same thing: it's the low price of milk. But it's not just conventional dairy farmers who are feeling the economic pinch. Organic milk prices are also down.	1/31/18 8:44 am, 8:25 & 12:04 am, 1 min
Arts/Culture	Weekly Conversation On The Arts is your window into the Vermont arts community. Every week, we talk with authors, actors, playwrights, musicians, artists and the people who make the arts happen in our area.	Thursdays at 4:50 pm; 1/5/18, 6:00 min; 1/18/18, 6:00 min; 2/1/18 6:05 min; 2/8/18, 5:41 min; 2/22/18, 5:58 min; 3/1/18, 5:53 min; 3/16/18; 5:17 min
Business / Economics	About three thousand Vermont maple producers are in the midst of their annual rush to produce a commodity that is conservatively estimated to represent upwards of 300-million dollars in sales each year. After two banner years, they're trying to walk a fine line between price and production.	3/8/18 7:44 am, 5:09 min
Education and Schools	Student's in Vermont's religious schools can't take part in the dual enrollment program, which uses public money to pay for high school students who take college courses. But as VPR's Howard Weiss-Tisman reports, now lawmakers are trying to figure out including those religious schools would violate the Constitutional separation of church and state.	1/22/18 6:44 & 8:04 am, 3:00 min
Elections	It is Town Meeting Day, in many towns voters are headed to the polls to weigh in on municipal business, other towns vote from the floor in town meetings. In Burlington, voters will pick a mayor. Democratic incumbent Miro Weinberger is being challenged by independent candidates Carina Driscoll and Infinite Culcleasure.	3/6/18 6:04 am, 1:00 min; 8:04 am, 1:00 min; 12:04 pm, 1:00 min; 5:44 pm, 2:15 min; 6:04 pm, 1:00 min; 7:04 pm, 2:00 min; 8:04 pm, 1:00 min; 9:04 pm, 1:00 min
Energy / Fuel Costs	The more than 50 breweries in Vermont use a lot of water, grain, and energy. Enough that state environmental officials are inviting Vermont beer makers to their second annual "Brewery Day" to discuss sustainable brewing.	2/6/18 8:04 am, 2 min
Environment	For years state officials have been expecting a destructive insect called the emerald ash borer to turn up in Vermont. Today the state announced it has found the insect in an area in the town of Orange.	2/27/18 5:04 pm, 2 min; 2/28/18 6:04 am, 1 min, 7:04 am, 1 min, 8:20 am 1 min
Health Care / Public Health / Medicine	A bill that passed the House, allowing police to stop drivers for not wearing a seatbelt, faces opposition from the powerful chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee. Grand Isle Senator Dick Mazza says Vermont does not need what's know as "primary" enforcement of the seat belt law.	2/5/18 5:04 pm, 2 min; 2/6/18 6:04 am, 3 min, 3:44 am, 3 min; 8:04 am, 1 min

Health Care / Public Health / Medicine	The Vermont Senate is considering a bill that could open the door to so-called safe injection sites in Vermont. Bennington County Senator Dick Sears is the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which held a hearing last week on the legislation.	1/8/2018 6:20 am, 1:00, 8:44 am, 5 min
Law Enforcement	The state Senate has passed comprehensive legislation designed to restrict Vermonters' easy access to firearms. The bill is now on its way to Governor Phil Scott, who has said he will sign it.	3/30/18 5:04 pm, 3 min, 6:04 pm, 2 mins; 3/31/18 9:04 am, 2 min
Politics and Government	With warmer weather and rain in the forecast this week, the Johnson Select Board has decided to take proactive measures to prevent flooding. On Friday the board voted to spend more than \$20-thousand dollars from an emergency fund to hire specialized excavators to remove jammed ice from the Lamoille River.	2/19/18 6:04 am, 1 min, 7:20 am, 1 min, 8:20 am, 1 min
State Finances	Live coverage of Governor Phil Scott's Budget address.	1/23/18 1:00pm, 60 min
Town Issues / Town Meeting Day	At town meetings around Vermont, 34 communities adopted a renewable energy resolution that originated with the climate action group 350 Vermont. The non-binding resolutions vary somewhat by town, but most call for a halt to any new or expanded fossil fuel infrastructure and to commit to reaching at least 90 percent renewable energy statewide	3/7/2018 8:04 am & 12:04 pm, 2 min
Vermont History / Vermont Culture	The Vermont House has given its initial approval to legislation creating a special commission to study the issues facing older Vermonters. The number of Vermonters over 65 will is expected to increase by 50 percent in the next 12 years.	2/28/18 6:20 am, 1 min & 7:20 am, 1 min
Wildlife / Fish / Forests	The Vermont Center for Ecostudies and VPR unite the sounds and science of nature in this monthly feature. The program is hosted by biologists Kent McFarland and Sara Zahendra, who share their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm for wildlife education and conservation.	1/18/18 7:50 am, 8:00 min; 1/19/18 6:20 pm, 8:00 min; 2/15/18 7:50 am, 7:00 min; 2/16/18 6:20 pm, 7:00 min; 3/15/18 7:50 am, 7:50 min; 3/16/18 6:20 pm, 7:50 min