

Vermont Climate Council  
Rural Resilience and Adaptation Subcommittee

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“Best Practices for Municipalities”

*Chad Farrell, Ann Lawless, David Snedeker*

*(with assistance from Alison Low)*

Our charge:

*2. Develop best practices for reducing municipal fossil fuel consumption.*

*2B. Evaluate the availability of municipal fossil fuel consumption data and develop recommendations as necessary to obtain it.*

*2C. Refine cross sector mitigation recommendations on reducing GHG emissions for rural communities.*

**Municipal consumers** – town/village buildings, vehicle fleets, utilities (water, sewer, and electric), public schools, and libraries.

**Data collection resources** – utility bills (fuel and electric), Efficiency VT, fuel suppliers(?), energy audits, town energy committees, town reports, and volunteers/students (as a school project?)

**Best Practice Recommendations:**

Conduct thermal energy audits and work to implement audit recommendations.

Collect usage data for buildings, vehicle fleets, and utilities to establish base usage and for measuring change (ideally reductions) going forward.

Form a local energy committee (if one doesn't exist).

Engage the public for assistance – volunteers and/or students.

Draft a local energy plan with clear goals and strategies to reduce fossil fuel usage.