

Windham Region Emergency Management Committee (REMC) Agenda

Date: Tuesday, February 18th

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Zoom

Attendees: Greg Lakis (Jamaica EMD); Kelsey Zaengle (Presenter); Dummerston Fire Department; Dave Emery (Vernon EMD); Gig Zboray (Whitingham EMD); Pamela Corbett (VDH); Paul Fraser (Jamaica); Dan Miller; East Dover Fire Department; Trevor Houle; Keats Dieffenbach; Taiga Christie (VEM); Alyssa Sabetto, WRC Senior Planner and REMC Staff

Topic: VT Forest, Parks and Recreation Department assistance for local fire departments in fighting wildfires

Each year Vermont experiences many wildland fires during its two primary fire seasons, spring and fall. The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) provides operational support and specialized forest firefighting equipment when requested to assist towns in suppressing large or difficult wildfires. Kelsey Zaengle, Wildland Fire Control Staff for Southern Vermont, will discuss the capabilities and equipment that FPR can bring and the logistics of how best to engage with FPR if your local fire department needs additional assistance. Bring your questions to Kelsey and learn more about this vital resource. Special request to have Fire Personnel attend this meeting.

Guest Speaker(s):

- Kelsey Zaengle, Wildland Fire Control Staff for Southern Vermont

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Kelsey discussed the fire season in Vermont, the capabilities and equipment that VT FPR can bring and the logistics of how best for town fire departments to engage with FPR if a department needs to request additional assistance.
3. Updates and other items:
 - Topic suggestions/requests for meetings/events/trainings/speakers
 - Meet with Rescue Inc's technical rescue team
 - Communication options during emergencies (such as FirstNet and Starlink); Zach Borsht at VEM is a good contact and is developing a LEMP template around this topic
 - Good for EMDs to get a list of options for emergency communications
 - Future of dispatch in the region was discussed and answers would be helpful; where is the statewide review report at?
 - [Local Emergency Management Plans](#) reminder
 - New template
 - New support protocols – Taiga Christie and VEM are the support for towns
 - [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#) update
 - The latest [Vermont Emergency Management newsletter](#)
 - REMC business - none
4. Our next REMC session will be May 20th, in-person at the Dummerston Fire Department on East West Road.
5. Thank you for attending! REMC meeting agendas and minutes can always be found [here](#).