

# ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM

The Electronic Monitoring Program is designed as a tool to assist an individual while navigating the Vermont judicial system with the ability to reside in a home environment while maintaining the ultimate goal of restricting movement and protecting the public.

Electronic supervision technology alone does not comprise a program. The program needs to include a strategy for end results, public safety, case management, and operational staffing needs. The decisions should be made also on the needs on the county's judicial system including the sheriff's office through a well-trained staff to implement and utilize the equipment and perform case management.

The Electronic Monitoring Program is designed to restrict the movements of pre-trial individuals within the State of Vermont judicial system through a global positioning system (GPS) applied to the individual's ankle. The anklet obtains data by satellite signal triangulation which then transfers the data through cellular phone systems to a monitoring structure on a "real-time" basis. Known as an "active" system, the signals are monitored consistently through a central monitoring center associated with the device vendor, the Windham County Sheriff's Office dispatch center, and the Electronic Monitoring Program staff. Movement is limited to the assigned residence 24/7 with preapproved exceptions by the court or program staff. Deviation from rules of the program may result in immediate response from a law enforcement official or program staff leading to disciplinary actions. Specific violations of the program will result in the individual's immediate return to a correctional facility.

Most electronic monitoring devices communicate through cellular telephone technology. One drawback to the use of such system is "dead spots". In these areas the individual's data will momentarily not be displayed in "real-time" status although data is being collected. When the individual leaves the "dead spot" the data will download and be displayed on the software program. Equipment should be tested in the user's area to ensure the proper cellular carrier is selected for the individual user. This may involve the use of more than one monitoring system. Additional concerns to be evaluated include building construction, weather, and geographical interference.

Electronic monitoring may provide a cost savings to the State of Vermont Department of Corrections budget, eventually impacting the tax payers. The increase of open bed space within the Vermont jail system may lead to the possibility of returning out of state inmates, reducing housing costs per inmate, per day. The impact to the community would include allowing the individual to return to the workforce, thus stimulating the local economy and/or obtaining further educational benefits leading to local employment and economic growth. The opportunity exists to maintain and/or enhance family relationships while continuing or starting medical related treatments if needed.

Pre-trial monitoring allows an individual charged with an offence, and unable to make bail, the opportunity to be released from a correctional facility on conditions of release and electronic monitoring program rules until such time bail is met or the case is adjudicated. Pre-trial monitoring provides strict supervision while allowing family contact, employment, education, and the ability to seek treatment for medical, mental health, or addiction issues that may not be available in a corrections setting. All of these situations will present opportunities for increase in personal, family, and community growth and involvement.

The following manual is developed to assist in establishing and maintaining an electronic monitoring program within Windham County.

## ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM



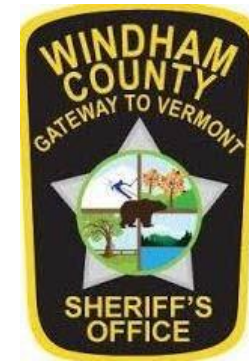
The Windham County Sheriff's Office will provide an Electronic Monitoring Program providing risk control through comprehensive tracking and monitoring equipment. The Electronic Monitoring Program provides a cost effective alternative to incarceration while allowing the offender to maximize their contribution to the community and their family.

## Electronic Monitoring Program Of Windham County

WINDHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

11 Jail Street  
Newfane, VT 05345  
Tel: 802-365-4942  
Fax: 802-365-4945

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Windham County  
Sheriff's Office

# PROGRAM PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

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The Electronic Monitoring Program of Windham County (EMPWC) is a judicial alternative available to eligible participants in lieu of detention, confinement, and/or curfew. It is an excellent opportunity for eligible participants to complete their legal obligations while remaining in the community and with their families. It is expected that, barring unusual circumstances, the participants will exhibit a stable and productive community life. By allowing an individual to remain in (or re-enter) the community as a productive citizen, he/she can continue to contribute to the welfare of his/her family and society as a whole, as well as receive any needed treatment. Since clients are selected into the EMPWC there is no tolerance for manipulation or failure to comply with the program regulations. Those who fail to adhere to the conditions of the EMPWC will face termination from the program, possible revocation of Condi-

tions of Release, and incarceration. It is fully expected that those participants who are chosen to participate will be serious and complete the program without problems.

## PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

- Pass a risk assessment allowing the level of supervision provided.
- The offender must be willing and able to agree, to abide by all conditions of custody in the program.
- Must be able to provide cellular/telephone service connection for tracking device.
- Sentence should be no more than 2 years.
- Have a suitable residence.

## APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

- File application for admittance to program.
- Application data reviewed by Electronic Monitoring Program staff..
- Determination of acceptance or denial into program.
- Upon acceptance, meet with program staff to review additional information to

include, but not limited to:

- Offender Contract
- Home Verification
- Completion/Termination Process of Program
- Overview of Participant Handbook

Additional information about the Electronic Monitoring Program of Windham County may be obtained by contacting:

## Electronic Monitoring Program Coordinator

Windham County Sheriff's Office

11 Jail Street  
Newfane, VT 05345  
Tel: 802-365-4942  
Fax: 802-365-4945

