

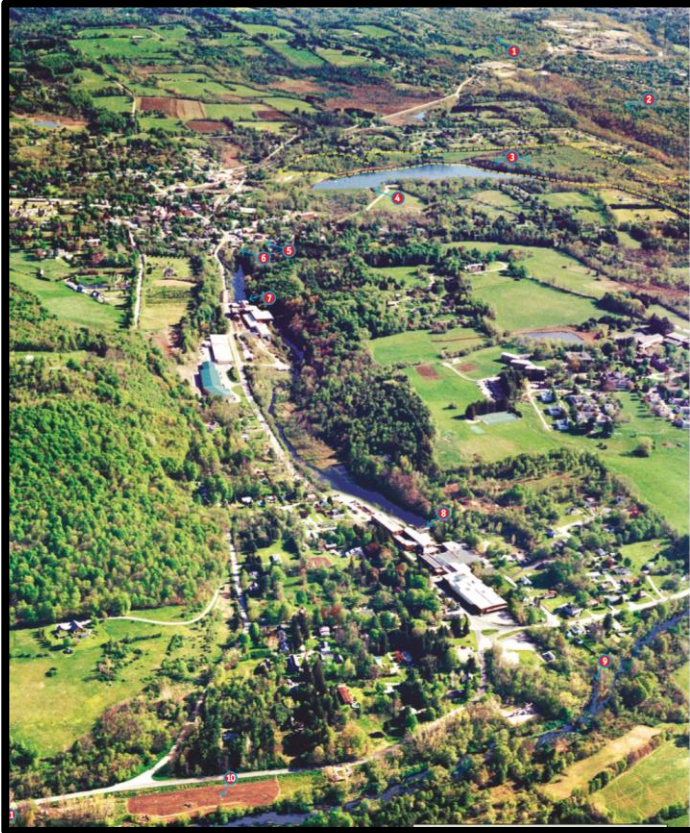


House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Act 250 Committee Bill

Jen Hollar, Policy Director
February 6, 2020



Vermont Housing & Conservation Board



“the dual goals of creating affordable housing for Vermonters, and conserving and protecting Vermont’s agricultural land, forestland, historic properties, important natural areas, and recreational lands in order to improve the quality of life for Vermonters and to maintain for the benefit of future generations the essential characteristics of the Vermont countryside.

10 V.S.A.15 §302



Since 1987, state funding through VHCB has helped protect, conserve and create:

- 267,820 acres of working forests, natural areas and recreational lands
- 12,927 affordable homes – rental and homeownership
- 164,074 acres of farmland on 746 farms
- 70 historic buildings restored for community use

In exchange for the state investment, legal restrictions - conservation easements, historic preservation and housing subsidy covenants - permanently protect the land and buildings.

Additional programs that support VHCB's Mission



Grants to
Farmers for
Capital
Improvements
to Protect
Water Quality

Grant-writing
assistance to
communities
and businesses
in small, rural
towns.



Lead paint
hazard reduction
grants for
apartments and
homes statewide

(K) Development affecting public investments. A permit will be granted for the development or subdivision of lands adjacent to governmental and public utility facilities, services, and lands, including highways, airports, waste disposal facilities, office and maintenance buildings, fire and police stations, universities, schools, hospitals, prisons, jails, electric generating and transmission facilities, oil and gas pipe lines, parks, hiking trails, ~~and~~ forest and game lands, lands conserved under chapter 155 of this title, and facilities or lands receiving benefits through the protected in perpetuity and funded by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board under chapter 15 of this title, when it is demonstrated that, in addition to all other applicable criteria, the development or subdivision will not unnecessarily or unreasonably endanger the public or quasi-public investment in the facility, service, or lands, or materially jeopardize or interfere with the function, efficiency, or safety of, or the public's use or enjoyment of or access to the facility, service, or lands.