

VERMONT WING 2025



Col. Brian Benedict, the new Vermont Wing commander, observes the October 2025 Binary Blizzard Full-Scale Training Exercise conducted by Vermont Emergency Management.

Wing Works Closely with State Agencies While Expanding Capabilities

Fiscal year 2025 began with a new boots-on-the-ground Civil Air Patrol wing commander, Col. Brian Benedict, whose primary effort is to energize and motivate members of the Vermont Wing to better serve the organization and general public.

Emergency Services – Much of 2025 was spent conducting outreach and demonstrations to various state agencies. The wing sent multiple teams to observe training exercises conducted by Vermont Emergency Management.

While this has established the wing's commitment to serving the state, Civil Air Patrol's real-world capability was fully demonstrated on May 7 when the wing was tasked to find an emergency locator beacon in the area of Edward

F. Knapp State Airport. From the initial notification to finding the target, the mission was completed in just six hours.

Also noteworthy is the assignment of 2nd Lt. Preston Huntington to lead the wing's new small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) program. Huntington brings extensive experience to the wing and will be responsible for training CAP personnel, on-going relationships with emergency management, public safety, and more.

Cadet Programs – There was a 24% increase in cadet membership during the year, bringing the total to 108. A core achievement was the completion of the wing's annual training encampment, 2025 Green Mountain Academy, held at the Vermont Police Academy. The cadets were visited by Lt.

Gov. John Rodgers, who spoke highly of their discipline and dedication to volunteering.

Aerospace Education – For the second year in a row, the wing participated in the CAP/NASA Aviation Weather Mission, providing data that will be studied by scientists for years to come. More locally, there has been a 1300% increase in the number of cadet orientation rides – from 14 in 2024 to 184 in 2025. Plus, there were another 42 O-rides for Norwich University cadets. These introductory flights can be life-changing for young adults and often result in a career interest in aviation or a related STEM field.



VERMONT WING 2025

VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

104

Adult members

111

Cadets

23

Aircrew personnel

153

Emergency responders

SQUADRONS/UNITS

5

Bases

6

Squadrons

1

Legislative Squadron

1

Flight-Norwich University

1

Wing HQ

AIRCRAFT

3

Single-engine

VEHICLES

11

Vehicles

INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS

4

VHF/FM repeaters

98

VHF/FM stations

13

HF stations

MISSIONS

1

Search and rescue mission

1

Search and rescue find*

2

CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Junior ROTC cadet orientation flight missions

3

Other Air Force support missions

15

Training missions

1

Other state support mission

SIGNIFICANT EVENT SUPPORTED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025

- ▶ Vermont Division of Forests survey support

CADET FLYING

262

CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Junior ROTC cadet orientation flights

TOTAL HOURS FLOWN

442

Hours

FINANCIAL

\$60,000

In state funding

\$1,339,246

Value of wing's volunteer hours

* Includes find credited with national team support

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Maj. Gen. Regena M. Aye
raye@cap.gov

REGION COMMANDER

Col. James A. Ridley, Sr.
jridley@ner.cap.gov

WING COMMANDER

Col. Brian Benedict
bbenedict@vtwg.cap.gov

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ADVISOR

Lt. Col. Scott Lowe
slowe@vtwg.cap.gov

WING INFO

P.O. Box 2078
South Burlington, VT 05407
802-660-8057

WEBSITE

vtwg.cap.gov